



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

July/August 2023



COME TO

Chet Valley Churches
Holiday Club 2023



Godwins

**Holiday Club: 31st July to 4th August 2023
from 09:30 to 12:00 in All Saints, Chedgrave.
Registration forms available in school offices;
book soon, only a few places remain.**

**More information from Rev Alison
ball880am@btinternet.com or 01508 528126**



Food In the School Holidays (FISH)

There will be another FISH event on

Tuesday 22nd August

at All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave.

Booking Essential.

For further information, contact Rev Alison:
ball880am@btinternet.com or 01508 528126



We are aware that money is tight for some families at the moment. It can be hard to put a meal on the table every day. To help counter that, we are running FISH (Food In the School Holidays) for one day during the Summer holidays. We will be serving a meal which is for everyone in the family, not just children.



Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
Ros Hoffmann:	01508 548200	roshoffmann2011@gmail.com
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Jill Haylock:	01508 520248	jillhaylock@aol.com
Martin Keenan:	01502 560178	martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk
Andrew Eburne:	01508 494770	frandreweburne@gmail.com



Church Office—closed at present.

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB

Phone: 01508 520897, Email: website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

The e-mail account is being monitored regularly.



Weddings, Baptisms, Thanksgiving Service for the Gift of a Child

To arrange any of the above please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.

Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches
The Diocese of Norwich

www.chetvalleychurches.org
www.dioceseofnorwich.org



Chet Contact

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Email submissions to c.magazineloddon@gmail.com.

Please include your name and telephone number.



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From the Editor

Summer is upon us and I am hoping for some sunny days, not the least so that the vegetables we have planted have some chance of growing and being productive. The grey cloudy weather we're having at the moment is not doing them any favours.

It seems that in coronation year there are fewer events than usual planned over the next couple of months. Perhaps we have all run out of energy having planned and executed so many things earlier on. There are still some things that you might enjoy.

I, for one, am delighted that the Brownies strawberries and cream coffee morning is back on—always a lovely occasion. Afternoon Tea on a Sunday at Sisland is also wonderful—my husband will be hoping that this year he doesn't arrive just as the last slice of Victoria Sponge has been taken.

If the environment is your thing, then the wildlife afternoon is a good bet—it was a lot of fun last year. Of course, we are blessed by beautiful green spaces all around us in the Chet Valley. Why not just go outside and enjoy a stroll along the river, or a walk in the lanes or on one of our areas of common land?

Alternatively you could just curl up in the sun with a good book. The library are running their usual summer reading scheme for youngsters and there are several suggestions in the 'Read Any Good Books Lately' section.

Have fun!



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Ministerial Musings

What does the month of July mean to you? The halfway point of the year, warm days, light evenings? For me, after a lifetime's career in teaching, it will always mean school holidays, and, most importantly, FREEDOM! No early morning traffic queues, no timetable, no bells... what a treat!

Being able to do what we want, when we want to do it, can be a rarity. In some ways the time when we are at our most liberated is during childhood: yes, there are all sorts of restrictions on what children can do, but they do not put pressure on themselves, as many adults do. That pressure can mean that switching off and taking time to relax is a difficult thing to achieve, but it is vital, isn't it? Many of us came to realise that during the first lockdown, with the glorious Spring weather and the Government ordering us not to go about our normal, busy lives. The taste of freedom then (ironically, at a time of such restrictions) was a real revelation to some of us. Seeing the beauty of our surroundings perhaps for the first time, having time to really look, was a great gift at such a hard time.

It would be a shame if that lesson in life, experienced just three years ago, was lost to us now. It didn't cost anything, because there was nowhere we could go (remember the five mile limit?) so we just had to stop and rest. At this point, to avoid incurring the wrath of those parents who were juggling working from home and administering home schooling, I hasten to add that this was not the case for everyone!

Resting, taking time out, is an essential element in mental health and our spiritual lives depend on it. In the Twenty-third Psalm, one of the best loved psalms, we hear of a God who 'makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.' Just envisaging such an experience for a few minutes in a busy day can transform a hectic day into something manageable, as the stress level begins to subside. It is even better to see those things for ourselves. When children look at something, they take time and see details many adults have not spotted: the poet William Blake put it like this:

*'To see a World in a Grain of Sand
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand
And Eternity in an hour.'*

Try taking a bit of time out to really look at the world around us this month: it will make a breathing space—and may restore your soul too!

Belinda Barwick



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Across the Chet Valley Churches

Worship in the Chet Valley

You are welcome to join us at any of our services



Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at one or other of the Chet Valley Churches: either Book of Common Prayer (BCP) or Common Worship, with an informal Holy Communion service once a month in Chedgrave.

Morning Worship is held regularly in Loddon and Hardley.

Evening Prayer (BCP) is on the third Sunday of the month in Sisland.

XPRESSIONS CAFÉ is on the first Sunday of the month at All Saints Chedgrave. This is a relaxed and contemporary way of 'doing church'. Open between 10:00am and 12:00 noon you can come and go as you please for coffee, cake, discussion, crafts, games, stories, reflection and much more.

All Together Worship is on the third Sunday every month at All Saints, Chedgrave, starting at 11:00am. January, March, June and September are followed by a shared lunch. The service is designed to be as inclusive as possible: a mixture of formality and informality; traditional and modern; activity and stillness. We hope it will have points of contact with people of all ages and all backgrounds.

Last Sunday Praise is held on the last Sunday of the month in Loddon: a chance to worship together including hymns and songs, old and new.

XTRA! is an exciting, informal service every Thursday after school in St John's Church. Refreshments from 3:15pm, service starts at about 3:45pm. Open to all; particularly suited to children and young people.

In Loddon and Chedgrave there is the chance to enjoy a chat over refreshments after services. There are toilets and baby-changing facilities at St John's, Loddon and All Saints, Chedgrave.

Families are welcome at all of our services, but are particularly catered for on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in Chedgrave.

Home Communion: If you would like home communion, because you are unable for any reason to get to a Sunday service, please contact the Rector or one of the clergy.

Times and details of the services can be found in the centre pages of the magazine.



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Thanksgivings & Baptisms



You are welcome to talk to us about thanksgiving and baptism (christening) for your children. Thanksgiving Services give an opportunity to come to the church and give thanks to God for the gift of a new child. Baptisms (Christenings) are an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the new life we have in Jesus and to welcome a child into God's family, the Church.

Baptisms and Thanksgivings are both held within Sunday morning worship in our churches.

Please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126 ball880am@btinternet.com

Noah's Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers at St John's, George Lane, Loddon.



Wednesdays 9:15am-12:00noon.

All are welcome. For further details please call Rev Alison on 01508 528126 or e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com

Small Groups

Some of us like to meet during the week in small groups where we can enjoy each others' company, study the Bible together and pray for one another and for others.



Those who attend find their small group a real help and support.

To join or just to know more, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.

XTRA! Join us in St John's Church for an exciting, informal service every **Thursday after school**. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm.

More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126

Friends and Neighbours

If you've been widowed or have lost your life partner join us at St John's Lecture Hall on the **first Thursday of the month**. Make new friends, enjoy tea or lunch together.

Next Meetings:

6th July 12:30pm Salad lunch and talk on Hales Hall by Terry and Judy Read.

3rd August 1:30pm Afternoon Tea in the garden by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Dover. Applebough, 26 Norton Road Loddon.

If you'd like to join the group, please ring Rev Jill on 01508 520248.

Monday Mardles

If you like a relaxed and informal chat with others or are looking to meet some new friends, join us at a Monday Mardles for refreshments and to swap books at Chedgrave Church Rooms.



Mardles are held every **Monday 10:00am-12:00 noon**. Come and go as you choose. On average, there are about 8-12 people who come to Mardles, and there's room for more! You will be made very welcome.

(*'Mardle'—in Norfolk it means a good old natter!*)

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From the Parish Registers

Baptisms & Thanksgivings

Asuna Pilmore

Baptism: 25th June at All Saints, Chedgrave

Heavenly Father, we praise you for all children.

*Surround them with your blessing that they may know your love,
be protected from evil, and know your goodness all their days.*

Adult Baptism & Confirmation

Amanda Hegarty

Jessica Pilmore

25th June at All Saints, Chedgrave

Weddings

Abby Palmer & Christopher Binks

10th June at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Funerals

Ronald Edwin Mervyn Carpenter who died on 14th May 2023

Funeral: 15th June 2023 at All Saints, Chedgrave

Keith Leslie Evans who died on 18th May 2023

Funeral: 15th June 2023 at Waveney Crematorium

David Wilfrid Minister who died on 19th May 2023

Funeral: 28th June 2023 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Janet Ann Perry who died on 30th May 2023

Funeral: 20th June 2023 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

*Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring
with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever.*

I Thessalonians 4:14, 17b

To arrange a thanksgiving or baptism (christening), please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126, or ball880am@btinternet.com.


To arrange a wedding, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com.

To arrange a funeral, at any of the churches in our area or at the crematorium, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com.

Rev David can also be contacted about interment of ashes.

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News From Your Local Councillors



I love living here at all times, but there is something particularly magical about Norfolk in June. It's certainly thought to be the finest month for finding flowers, particularly orchids. As well as flora, look out for marsh harriers and bitterns, the nightjar and, in damp patches on heaths and in woods, adult glow worms shining through the night.

As part of my work as District Councillor, I've been selected by the Full Council to serve as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee at South Norfolk. This is a really important role on behalf of residents; I'll keep you posted about what we do.

Soon I'll be starting to allocate the £1000 each Councillor receives annually to promote local groups and causes; I've been delighted to be able to help dozens of groups over the last four years. Please get in touch if your group would like any help.

I'll put the dates of my regular surgeries here next month, and, of course, will continue to reply to every communication as well as regularly attend meetings of every Parish Council when I can.

Finally, our superb ChetChat group volunteers are always on hand, giving help and support to our over-60s friends and neighbours. If you ever need any help give us a ring on 07944 858929.



Councillor Jeremy Rowe

Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emma Webster
Tel: 07516 361239 Email: langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com
Website: <https://langleywithhardley.pc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>
NEW Facebook page now available.



There has been no news from The Langley with Hardley Parish Council this edition.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

To view the hall, to look at the facilities, to enquire about costs, or to book the hall, please phone Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184.



Chet Valley Community Larder



JUST ONE TIN

If everyone who lives in the Chet Valley community, who can afford to do so, put just one tin into the community larder each week, just imagine how many tins that would be.

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Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson.

Tel: 01508 528310 Email: chedgrave.pc@gmail.com

Website: <https://chedgrave-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chedgrave-Parish-Council>



Chedgrave Parish Council held its meeting on 1st June 2023

Coronation Best Dressed House Competition: The winner of the competition was “Pebblers”, Norwich Road. Congratulations! The hamper has been delivered and the council thanks all who entered – it was lovely to see all the decorations.

Easter Egg Hunt: The refreshment stall at the Easter Egg Hunt raised £35.16 towards parish funds. Thank you to all who contributed.

Chet River Circular: This circular route has been waymarked as part of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. While the route may not be new, having it marked up and advertised as a trail might encourage visitors to the area which will hopefully benefit local businesses such as shops, pubs and cafes.

Parish Council Annual Audit: The council considered the findings of the internal audit and governance review and approved the annual accounts. The accounts will be sent to the external auditor for consideration and the public also has a right to inspect them. Access will be advertised on the parish website and noticeboard.

Bulb Planting: The council has ordered various bulbs and plants as part of the Coronation celebrations. These are likely to be planted in the autumn. Any volunteers wishing to help are kindly asked to contact the clerk. Thank you!

Brian Clarke Room: A well-equipped modern bright room, including access to free WIFI and table tennis tables. Booking enquiries should be made to Georgina Buckle via brianclarkeroom@gmail.com or 07981 856270.

Next Meeting: Thursday 6th July at 7:00pm in the Brian Clarke Room. All welcome!

Highways issues such as potholes, footpaths or public rights of way, road safety, flooding and overgrown trees and verges should be reported to Norfolk County Council on 0344 800 8020 or online at www.norfolk.gov.uk. Criminal & illegal activities, public disorder & nuisance, anti-social behaviour, speeding, uncontrolled dogs, should all be reported to the Police on 999 or 101 (non-emergency) and can be reported online at www.norfolk.police.uk.

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All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emily Curtis.

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Website: www.loddonpc.org.uk;

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LoddonPC



Local Elections: Thank you to the candidates who stood for election in May 2023. Congratulations to Kay Mason Billig, June Strickland, Colin Binfield, Liz Marsham, Jane Hale and Julie Appleby on their re-election. Welcome and congratulations to our new councillors: Alex Bostock, Andy Woodman, Laura Bolderston, Mervyn Pointer and our newly co-opted Natalie Henry. Congratulations to both Andy Woodman and Colin Binfield on their appointments to Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Thanks to previous councillors who did not wish to stand for re-election: Jessie Powell, Arthur Morris and Alan Wildman.

Loddon Town Council: Loddon is a market town (market charter, town hall, town sign, High Street) and is classified as a town by Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Council. At the May 2023 meeting, the Council resolved to rename itself 'Loddon Town Council'.

Chet Neighbourhood Plan: The Regulation 14 Consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan will take place from the 5th June-30th July. This is your opportunity to provide comments on the policies we've written to influence planning decisions in Loddon & Chedgrave. For more details see: www.chetnp.info/news.

Flower Towers: We are looking for volunteers to assist with the watering at the Staithe, Church Plain and Farthing Green. If you could spare a few minutes, please get in touch.

Planning Application 2021/2437 & 2021/2522, Beccles Road, Loddon: Amended plans have been submitted, and the application will be considered at South Norfolk Council's Planning Committee meeting on the 5th of July. If you wish to comment on the application, please submit your comments asap via email: planning@s-norfolk.gov.uk, quoting the above planning reference numbers.

Chet Valley Community Larder: Thank you so much for the donations that are being received for the Community Larder. The larder is in Loddon Library/LPC's lobby and is open to everyone. Open Monday to Friday: 8:00am-7:00pm, Saturday: 8:00am-4:00pm, Sunday: 10:00am-4:00pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with the larder, please get in touch.

Small Grants

We have recently awarded several small grants to local organisations. If you would like to apply for a local group/organisation (generally up to £100), please see the website for more information.

Meeting dates, contact information and updates can all be found on the Council website: www.loddonpc.org.uk or call 01508 522 020.



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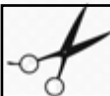
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Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Martine Storey
Tel: 07538 738095 Email: clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk
Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Hales & Heckingham Parish Council](https://www.facebook.com/Hales%20&%20Heckingham%20Parish%20Council)



Next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 18th July at 7:30pm.

All our meetings are held at the Hales Assembly Hall, Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the brick bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on our website three days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same place.

HALI Development, Yarmouth Road: In response to residents' feedback on Phase Two of the Yarmouth Road development (HALI), we have taken their concerns, worries, and wishes into account and have submitted two letters outlining these issues. We value ongoing input on these plans and strongly encourage all residents to visit: <https://www.fw-properties.com/current-projects/yarmouth-road-hales-phase-2/> for more information. The Phase Two development will include the construction of 36 new homes, seamlessly extending the existing Phase One development that is currently underway.

Community Volunteering Scheme: We continue to seek your help in supporting community projects to improve village life. Please let us know if you would like to get involved by emailing our new clerk.

Hales Green Common: We kindly remind residents and visitors to abide by the bylaws which are displayed on the public notice boards around the common.

Dog walkers: Please pick up your dog's poo. If you or your dog have walked somewhere, chances are others will too. Thank you.

1st Loddon Brownies are fundraising for their Brownie unit,
with the return of the



Strawberries and Cream

Coffee Morning

Saturday 15th July 2023,
10:00-11:30am

At the main hall, Loddon and Chedgrave Jubilee Hall,
George Lane, Loddon.

Includes a cake stall, tombola and more...

Everyone welcome, so why not pop in for refreshments



Chet Valley Photography Club Annual Exhibition

St John's Lecture Hall
George Lane
Loddon NR14 6NB

Sat. 22nd July 10am-5pm
Sun. 23rd July 10am-4pm

Free Admission!!!

**Raffle &
Refreshments**



www.ChetValleyPhotography.org.uk



Sunday Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Sisland

Come and join us every Sunday in
August for delicious tea and cake,
and conversation, 3:00-5:00pm.



ADVERTS

Local Groups for Babies and Toddlers

From time to time I run into new parents or grandparents who are looking for groups for small children. It seems that there is no place with all the information and if you don't know other people to ask then it can be difficult to find out. Consequently, I have done a bit of a round up from local parents to discover those groups that are either free, cheap or not-for-profit groups. Here are the results:

Monday

Bounce & Rhyme Loddon Library 10:15-10:45am

Just drop in and stay for refreshments afterwards. It is free.

Hales Toddlers Hales Christian Community Hall, Briar Lane, Hales

10:30am-12:00noon

Wednesday

Noah's Ark St John's Loddon 9:15am-12:00noon



Just drop-in; refreshments available throughout the morning. There is circle time with story and songs at about 10:30am. Donation of £1.50 per family.

Not open in August.

Thursday

Noah's Ark Music Saxon House, Loddon 10:00-11:15am

Half an hour of songs with the residents followed by cake and drinks. If you would like to join this group, phone Rev Alison (01508 528126) as there is a limit on the number who can attend. It is not a drop-in.

Bounce & Rhyme Loddon Library 10:15-10:45am

Just drop in and stay for refreshments afterwards. It is free.

Friday

Stay & Play Jubilee Hall, Loddon 11:30am-12:30pm

This is a free drop-in group.

Norton Toddlers Norton Chapel 9:30-11:15am



This costs £3 for parent and child, plus an additional £1 for every extra parent and child. It runs during term-time only.

Little Ducklings Brooke Primary School 9:00-10:30am

This runs during term-time only.

There is also a new group running at Beauchamp House in Chedgrave on alternate Fridays. It is a drop-in and it is free. I have not been able to find out any more information about this group.

Loddon Bell Ringers

Our ringers have been busy over the last month. We have rung two ten-bell quarter peals of Grandsire Caters and Little Bob Royal on our simulator here at Loddon. This is when we use our two dumb bells ringing in with our eight real bells which are all linked up to a computer which then generates the sound down in the ringing chamber. No sound can be heard outside. This is a useful resource for training purposes as well. We also rang a quarter peal of Superlative Surprise Major on our real bells. We have been out to ring quarter peals at Ditchingham, Woodton, Haddiscoe and at St. Peter Mancroft in Norwich.

One of our members recently had the chance to ring the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Although a daunting prospect for any ringer as the bells are a heavy ring of twelve in one of London's iconic buildings. It proved to be a most rewarding and unforgettable experience.



Steve Rabong

South Yare Wildlife Group

On Saturday 15th July
Wildlife Activities Afternoon



The Jubilee Hall, Loddon: 2:00-5:00pm. There will be activities inside the hall and on the playing field. Put the date in your diaries! There will be things to see and do for both children and adults; under-14s must be accompanied by an adult. This will also be an opportunity to talk about any wildlife issues that may concern you.

Look out for the poster around the town during July. We look forward to a pleasant day for everyone.

Chet Valley Art Society

Are there any artists out there that would like to join Chet Valley Art Society? We meet every other week at Highways Garden Centre.

We will book a trip to London in the summer and other days to visit galleries. Do get in touch if you would like to join us. Phone Vee on 0755740221 |

Davy Place

We have bingo every Monday at 2:00pm.

Bowls is now on Wednesdays at 2:00pm.

Hoy is the last Saturday in the month at 7:00pm

15th July— Jumble Sale, 10:00am-12:00 noon. All donations very gratefully received.

More information from Carol Castle on 01508 826488

Notes from Sisland

Hopefully summer has finally arrived, though currently sat with a number of layers on as I write this. The forecast is looking positive for the weekend. In Sisland we are busy planning for the main fund raiser of the year: Sunday Afternoon Teas. We have been running this event for a number of years and it is always lovely to see friends, old and new, from across the county who make the visit on a Sunday afternoon to enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of homemade cake in the beautiful surroundings.



Last year we were incredibly lucky with good, often very hot, weather and, if necessary, we can provide a covered space for those who want to enjoy the location without every aspect of the British summer. We will be open from 3:00pm-5:00pm on each Sunday. Any updates will be available through the weekly news sheet.

As already noted, this event is the main fundraising focus for Sisland each year, but it is also an important part of the fabric of the village. Many people from the village, and beyond, contribute to the provision of cakes each week, and, as such, it brings many of us together with the opportunity to catch-up.

Work should have been completed on a repair to the thatch on the North side of the church by then and we will turn our attention to fund-raising to repair the slats on the tower. It will take us a little time to raise the funds required for both the work and the scaffolding required, but more about that in a later addition of Chet Contact.

The churchyard will be left uncut until the start of August to allow for the wildflowers to seed and provide the stunning display that we are treated to each year. The cooler spring has led to abundant growth for those who have been able to visit us this spring. The cutting and preparation of it is another indication of the important contribution that various friends and locals make to the support of the church.

We look forward to seeing friends, old and new, over the summer.

Rowena Bryce (Churchwarden, St Mary's, Sisland).

Chet Valley Community Larder

JUST ONE TIN



If everyone who lives in the Chet Valley community, who can afford to do so, put just one tin into the community larder each week, just imagine how many tins that would be. And how many struggling people it could feed.



**Loddon & Chedgrave
Neighbourhood Plan
2022-2042**

**Public Consultation
Pre-submission (Draft) Neighbourhood Plan**



**Regulation 14 Consultation Period
5 June 2023 to 30 July 2023**

We hope you have been able to attend one of the Consultation Events and have given the Steering Group your views. If not, you have until the end of July to view The Plan, which is available to view in the library, or via the QR code below.

At the end of the summer, The Plan is sent to The Planning Inspectorate for examination. They decide if it is okay and make any necessary legal changes. You, the residents, then get a chance to vote at a referendum to decide whether or not The Plan becomes part of Chedgrave's and Loddon's Planning Rules. Please do look at The Plan and complete the survey as set out below.

All the consultation documents will be available to view on our website:
www.chetnp.info

Hard copies of The Plan and Summary Document will be available in Loddon Library and Chet Stores. The Summary Document will also be available in Jubilee Hall entrance, Brian Clarke Rooms, Loddon Garden & Seed and Rosy Lee's.

Scan the QR code to complete a short survey.

Complete the short survey on this link:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ChetSurvey/>

Email: neighbourhoodplan@loddonpc.org.uk
Facebook: Loddon & Chedgrave Neighbourhood Plan



Loddon Flower Club

Tuesday 4th July: 65 Floral Years—A flower-arranging demonstration by Terri Potter. This will be an evening celebrating our Club's 65th anniversary with a special demonstration and celebratory cake and drinks. It will be held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. A raffle will be held at the end of the evening for the arrangements and refreshments will be available. Visitors £7.50.

Our garden visit this year will be to the Sandringham Flower Show in July.

Tuesday 8th August (NB Second Tuesday)—Annual General Meeting held at Chedgrave Church rooms, 7:00pm start. We will also be presenting our trophies to the winners of this year's competitions.

To further celebrate our Blue Sapphire anniversary we are holding a Flower Festival at Holy Trinity Church, Loddon from 22nd to 24th September. The title is Hobbies and Pastimes. We would like to invite clubs who have entries in this magazine to advertise their clubs within the festival. Please get in touch with our Chairman Tricia if you would like to take part and maybe sponsor a flower display.



For more information contact our Chairman, Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Secretary, Alex Pinder on 01508 493869 or nmark@aol.com. We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions. Do take a look at our website at www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk.

Loddon & District Cooperative Day Centre

The Day Centre is meeting again, so if you'd like to get out from your four walls to meet others to chat, play games and have a hot meal, please give Bev a ring on 07826 299290. We'd love to see you at the Brian Clarke rooms in Chedgrave.



Waveney Valley Arts Society

We are a friendly group who meet at the Fisher Theatre in Bungay on the first Wednesday of every month (excluding July and August). Events provide a welcoming place to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge. The theatre is open from 10:00am and our lectures start at 11:00am.



Next meeting: Wednesday 6th September: David Hockney—The Old Master of the Modern World by Douglas Skeggs.

Guests are welcome to join us for an individual lecture but there will be a charge of £10. If you wish to become a member of our society, the contact details are on the Website: <https://theartssociety.org/waveney-valley>.

Church Services

2nd July		
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12noon	XPRESSIONS CAFÉ	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
9th July		
9:30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
16th July		
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland
23rd July		
9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
30th July		
10:30am	Benefice Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon

Chedgrave Church Centre Hire

All Saints Church, Chedgrave has a lovely church centre attached to it which has been open for over 25 years. There are two rooms (one upstairs), a kitchen and a loo. Our wheeled tables are easy to move and put up. It is warm even in the winter! It is available to book with a suggested donation of £8 per hour. If you are looking for a venue for a meeting, a party, or an activity do contact Anne Jackson who is responsible for hall bookings on 01508 502278.

Church Services

6th August

8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12noon	XPRESSIONS CAFÉ	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon

13th August

9:30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

20th August

10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland

27th August

9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

The Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Annunciation

21 Ugate, Poringland, NR14 7SH



Mass Times:

Sunday 9:00am; Tuesday 6:00pm; Wednesday—Saturday 10:00am;
Saturday 6:00pm (Vigil Mass)

Please check newsletter online for latest information.

Priest in charge: Father Andrew Eburne (Tel: 01508 494770)

e-mail: frandreweburne@gmail.com

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches

Prayer at Home	<p>‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p>If you would like to receive the weekly prayer and reflection sent out by email, please contact</p> <p>Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com)</p> <p><i>All are welcome</i></p>													
Thursday during school term	<p>XTRA!</p> <p>Join us at St John’s for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm.</p> <p>More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126</p>													
<p>Every day</p> <p>Morning Prayer</p> <p>9:00am</p> <p><i>All Welcome</i></p>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Monday</td><td>St John, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>St Margaret, Hardley</td></tr> <tr><td>Wednesday</td><td>All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday</td><td>St John, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday</td><td>St Mary, Sisland</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday</td><td>All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> </table>	Monday	St John, Loddon	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave	Thursday	St John, Loddon	Friday	St Mary, Sisland	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave	
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Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave													



Chet Valley Community Larder

*Helping each other out,
reducing surplus food waste,
sharing with the whole community.*

“Just One Tin”

The community larder needs your support. Could you put just one tin (or other item) into the larder every week to help those who are struggling to cover food costs at the moment? It is located next to Loddon Library in the ‘gym corridor’.

Please call Julie on 07976 902487 if you have anything to be collected.
Many thanks from the Volunteer Team.

Sport

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astro Turf every **Thursday** from 8:00-9:00pm for a non-competitive kick about to keep fit and socialise. £3:00 per session. First session free. More information from Terry: tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

At the moment we are taking a summer break.

We will be back on Tuesday 3rd October 2023—so watch this space!

More information from Sara 01508 521958



Loddon Ladies Hockey Club

Feel like you want to get involved in a new sport, or perhaps you used to play when you were at school and fancy giving it another go?

We welcome new members of all ages (13+) and abilities. Come and get fit, have fun and meet friendly women from in and around the local area. We train on **Tuesday** nights at Langley School (NR14 6BJ), 7:00pm-8:30pm.

For more info: www.loddonhockey.com or email hello@loddonhockey.com



Loddon Tennis Club

The launch of the Tennis Club in June has been very successful and there are now over one hundred people regularly playing together in Loddon. Pay and Play is available for £5 per hour via www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub.

Coach Paul Solomon is also delivering junior coaching, group coaching, and cardio tennis sessions; email: loddontennis@loddonpc.org.uk or phone 07368 684806.



Hobart Badminton Club

Players wanted! Come and join our friendly club of all ages from 16+. Playing experience desirable. We meet at Hobart sports hall, **Tuesday** evenings from 7:30-9:30pm. Cost £5:00, first session free!

For more information contact Terry on: tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Loddon Junior Badminton Club

Wednesday evenings 6.45-7.45pm: 8-14yrs

Thursday evenings 7.30-8.30pm: 15-18yrs

Open to all children aged 10-16 years regardless of ability. on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-7:45pm; Jubilee Hall. £4 per session; Rackets and shuttles provided.

For more info contact Paul on paulr2677@gmail.com or 07903 794613



Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch



With the King's Coronation and our National Conference, we've again had a busy time of late. Our Standard Bearer Jimmy with Loddon Standard, will have been to the Suffolk Show on Parade, early June and they have the Royal Norfolk Show, at the end of the month. Also The Desert Rats Memorial Service is approaching.

If you feel you may be interested to join our Branch and help Veterans, please pop along to a meeting. Remembering today's Veterans are getting younger, aged 30 to 60yr olds but we still won't be forgetting our slightly older generation. Who put Service before Self for our tomorrows.

We meet at The Lecture Hall, in George Lane, Loddon. On the third Monday of each month. Next months will be 17th July. Starting at 7pm. If you have any enquiries, please ring Colin, on 01508 521136.

Social Whist

We meet every 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Usual start time of 7:30pm for a 7:45pm start in the back room of The Hollies. A chance to chat, play some whist, enjoy tea/coffee with a biscuit, all in great company. No partner needed or to have played before, just an enjoyable evening out.

If you need a lift, please call me (Jane) on 528875. Looking forward to seeing our regular players and meeting any new ones.



Loddon Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the Old Town Hall in The Swan pub car park, Loddon. It's a members' club with inter-club league matches every evening; roll ups on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons starting at 2:00pm and on Tuesday morning starting at 10:00am (restricted to the first 12 turning up). Just turn up and give it a try. Subs just £12 per year. Rink fee £2 per session. More information from Paul Clemence (chair): 01508 218078.

Chet Valley Voices

Chet Valley Voices is a community choir aged from 15-80+.

We enjoy singing music in a variety of styles from classical to modern. Come along, make new friends and get to know others in the community. Singing is good for your mental health and well-being, so you will leave rehearsals feeling lifted. Rehearsals: Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm (doors open 6:45pm) in St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Subs: £5, £3 for under-18s. Free first session. New members are always welcome.

Contact, Sue 01508 528069; suemartin303@btinternet.com or chetvalleyvoices@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram @ChetValleyVoices, on Twitter @ChetValleyVoice, Facebook, or www.chetvalleyvoices.co.uk.



Loddon Community Gym

The Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX
Tel: 07534 946143 www.loddoncommunitygym.com



From now on the Gym will open at some part of every day Monday to Friday: Monday 1:45–5:25pm; Tuesday 4:45–7:05pm; Wednesday 9:00–11:20am; Thursday 6:00pm–8:20pm; Friday 10:15am–12:35pm.

Do you or your children belong to a club? In Loddon, Chedgrave and the surrounding villages there are football clubs, hockey clubs, tennis clubs, badminton clubs, bowling clubs, cycling clubs, sailing clubs. These activities are great in themselves but in all clubs there are a few people who want to take the sport a bit further and improve their skills and their fitness in order to move to a higher level. The Community Gym can provide a training programme designed for you whether you want more strength or more stamina. The gym is open to all individuals over 16 and can create a class for group training if there is demand.

By the time you read this, the new chair-based class will (hopefully) have got underway. The delay is because we have been trying to access a grant that will enable us to subsidise the class and make it accessible to more people. We hope the benefits will be social as well as physical, increased flexibility and strength in a safe and friendly setting.

For more information visit www.loddoncommunitygym.com or ring Louise on the number above or when the Gym Open sign is on the railings outside the Library on Church Plain, why not pop in and see for yourself what is on offer. We are a relatively compact gym so you will need to book sessions via www.picktime.com/easternriverscommunitygym. Alternatively, to book a first session, ring Louise on the number above.

Tuesday Market

Come and join us in The Hollies for our friendly market selling home bakery, preserves, fresh local eggs, cut flowers, plants and crafts.

We're open every Tuesday from 10:00-11:30am.

We are looking for new cooks to join our team. Interested? Come in and see us on Tuesday or contact Sheila Ford (Chairman) on 01508 520752 for more information.



Chet Valley Community Larder

JUST ONE TIN

Could you put just one tin into the community larder each week? It's located in the 'gym' corridor next to the library in Loddon. Thank you.





Located next to the River Yare in the heart of the Norfolk Broads, The Reedham Ferry Inn & Touring Park is a family run business which was established in 1949 by the Archers.

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To book:

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reedhamferry@aol.com

Please see website www.reedhamferry.co.uk for updated opening hours and menus

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Follow the Gillingham road towards Beccles Quay - just over the bridge on the right; Free parking - call for details

New Branch at 3 Upper Olland Street, Bungay tel:01986 948188

Chet Staithe Probus Club

We are a club for retired gentlemen, and friendship. The atmosphere is relaxed, jovial, with little formality. Dress code, is casual. We have a good mardle, and a different speaker every meeting on varied subjects. Afterwards, members either go home, adjourn to the bar, or stay for a pleasant lunch. Your choice.

We meet at The White Horse every first and third **Tuesday** of every month, start time 10:00am.

Come along to a couple of meetings and try us out; no pressure to join. Clive Boyd, Secretary, 01508 520547

Chet Valley Probus Club

Chet Valley Probus Club welcomes people who are retired, semi-retired or approaching retirement and who have had some measure of responsibility in their working life. We are friendly and excellent company, enjoy fascinating talks on a variety of subjects, good food and meeting others of like mind. Why not come along and give us a try with no obligation? We meet at Chedgrave White Horse and meetings start at 10:30am and lunch is optional.



Upcoming Meetings:

27th June: The Jarrold Story—Peter Goodrum

11th July: The V2 Rocket—Richard Mann

25th July: Crime and Punishment—Rowena Burgess

8th August: Whitehall-The Road to Power and Glory—Peter Lawrence

22nd August: Cannells and other Local Businesses—Elvie Herd.

Hon. Secretary John McCormack 01508 521899,

probusonline.org/chet-valley

Chet Valley Photography Club (CVPC)

We are holding our 11th Annual Exhibition on 22nd and 23rd July at St John's Lecture Hall. Free admission. Please come along and have a look.

Our next club meetings are on 10th July and 14th August.

Please refer to our website www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk for more information or if you are interested in joining the club.

The club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience. You do not need expensive equipment at all—really good images and creative images can be taken using a mobile device (phone, tablet) or a basic “point and shoot” camera. If you want to take photographs and want to know more please come along to one of our meetings.





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Loddon and District Women's Institute

It doesn't seem possible that we're looking forward to the second half of the year!! Where did the first half go? Anyway, there's lots in the pipeline for Loddon WI! As well as our usual monthly meetings, there's an outing to Oxburgh Hall on July 5th, and, looking further ahead, the August meeting will be a garden party with afternoon tea. On September 2nd we're taking part in the WI competition at the Horticultural Society event (we shall also be having an information table and free cupcakes!).

Next meetings:

Thursday 13th July: Knit, Natter & Crochet from 2:30pm–4:00pm, Loddon Library. This is a community event, all welcome.

Wednesday 19th July: Exploring food and drink from the 5th to the 15th Century'. Speaker: Mrs Rosie Wilkin. 7:15pm for 7:30pm St John's Chapel, George Lane.

Thursday 3rd August. Knit, Natter and Crochet (Time as above).

Wednesday 16th August. Members' Garden Party.

If you would like to find out more about our group, why not come along to one of our meetings? We'd be very pleased to meet you. We can be contacted via our Facebook or by ringing 01508 528912.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

There has been no news from the Chedgrave WI for this edition.



Chet Valley

Community Larder

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"Just One Tin"

The community larder needs your support. Could you put just one tin (or other item) into the larder every week to help those who are struggling to cover food costs at the moment? It is located next to Loddon Library in the 'gym corridor'. Please call Julie on 07976 902487 if you have anything to be collected. Many thanks from the Volunteer Team.

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Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Our next meeting will be our Rose, Fuchsia and Sweet Pea Show on 12th July. This show is for members only.

On August 9th one of our members, Dr Joe Perry, is speaking on Sir John Bennett-Laws, The Father of Plant Nutrition. Visitors are £2.

Our meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Jubilee Hall Club Room, George Lane, Loddon and start at 7:30pm, doors open at 7:00pm. There is a raffle held and refreshments available at our meetings.

On Saturday 2nd September we have our Annual Open Show. It is open to both members and non-members and is held at the Jubilee Hall. If you would like a show schedule please contact Tricia on 01508 520273, or at patricialoades@btinternet.com. There are classes for vegetables, fruit, flower arranging, cooking and children. Some of the local WI's take part in the WI trophy.

For more details contact Jean Cope (Chairman) on 01502 710024 or jeancope52@gmail.com or Hazel Copland (Secretary) on 01508 520890 or email happyhaze50@gmail.com. It is £10 per year to join our Society and follow us on our Facebook page.



Loddon Community Cinema

Thursday 6th July: Matilda The Musical starring Alisha Weir and Emma Thompson. 117 minutes and rated PG.

This is a screen adaptation of the hugely popular stage musical, with Matilda up against Miss Trunchbul. It can be quite dark at times but with miraculous results!

Thursday 3rd August: Where The Crawdads Sing starring Daisy Edgar Jones and Taylor John Smith. 125 minutes and rated 15.

Based on the best-selling novel by Delia Owens, the story follows Kya, a child whose parents and family one by one leave her to fend for herself in the hostile North Carolina marshland in the 1950s. Against all the odds she raises herself to adulthood, living mainly in isolation but forming one or two relationships along the way. She becomes an expert in the ways of the marsh and surrounding nature but her world unfolds when she becomes a suspect in the murder of a man with whom she was once involved.

St. John's Lecture Hall, George Lane Loddon. Doors open 7:00pm, the film starts at 7:30pm. Tickets £4, £2 under 16, available on the door or in advance from Loddon DIY. email: loddoncommunitycinema@yahoo.co.uk



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Chet Valley Patient Participation Group (PPG)

We are looking for new members.

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If you are interested and want to know more please contact Sue Mason (Secretary) on: 07484 253201 or 01508 548983.

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the last **Wednesday** of each month. in the back room of The Hollies, Loddon High Street. An annual fee of £10.00 is charged plus £3.00 for each meeting attended. New members always welcome.



Next Meeting:

26th July: RNLB Lifeboats—George Cooper.

There is no meeting in August.

Contact June 01508 528853 or Hillary 01508 520457.

Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

Tuesday 11th July: 2:30pm. Tour and Tea & Cakes at Peter Beales Rose Gardens. An expert rosarian will give us an informative tour round this two-acre garden. £10.00 each. Contact June on 528853 a week beforehand.

Wednesday 19th July: 10:00am, The Bigod Way, Bungay. 5.5 mile walk. Start from the Castle. There is plenty of parking round Bungay, and pubs and cafes for those that would like refreshments. Contact June on 528853.

Sunday 6th August: Walking Treasure Hunt round Beccles. Meet at Roy's car park off Gosford Road, Beccles at 10:30am. Picnic in Betty Potter's meadow afterwards. Contact Sara Green, at least one week beforehand on 521958.

Saturday 19th August: 7:00-11:00pm, Music at the Mill. Bar and BBQ. Walk from Hardley Staithe or catch the minibus from the signposted car park. Bus running from 6:30-7:30pm and 9:00-11:00pm. £1.00 per journey.

We are a friendly group of people who like walking, visiting interesting gardens, historic buildings, and the occasional social evening. Membership fee is £6.00pa. Members will receive a programme. New members welcome.

For more information about our events, contact June on 01508 528853 or at junecs@btinternet.com Tel: For membership, contact Hillary at meredithp3@sky.com Tel: 01508 520457.

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To visit during staffed hours please see below for our opening times.

Monday 8:00am-7:00pm (Staffed 10:00am-7:00pm)

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Thursday 8:00am-7:00pm (Staffed 10:00am-7:00pm)

Friday 8:00am-7:00pm (Staffed 10:00am-7:00pm)

Saturday 8:00am-4:00pm (Staffed 1:00pm-4:00pm)

Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm (Open Libraries access only)

For parents we also have baby weigh scales and changing facilities available during '**Open Libraries**.'

We are excited about the summer reading challenge this year. It is called *Ready, Steady, Read!*

In partnership with The Reading Agency and Youth Sport Trust it has a sports and games themed reading challenge that will encourage children aged 4-11 years old to pick up a book and enjoy reading over the summer holidays, helping to keep children's minds and bodies active.

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Loddon and District Local History Group

Helen Geake's lecture on the *Sutton Hoo Ship and its Reconstruction* was well-attended. In 1939 Edith Pretty commissioned Basil Brown to excavate the largest burial mound on her land. The remains and shape of a 90ft ship was found, (darkened sand and corroded iron rivets), plus objects which suggested the mound was the burial site for a wealthy male, (coins), who seemed cultured, (garnets), and warlike, (helmet). Later research thought this was King Raedwald and that the burial was in approximately 624 AD. Work on this exciting discovery had to be halted between 1939 and 1945.

In the 1960s the British Museum organised another excavation led by Paul Ashby. There was a desire to know what was underneath and around the shape of the ship but the chemical samples taken revealed very little. There was also an interest in the other mounds, particularly mound 2 which was excavated in 1986 using more up to date technology like ground penetration radar and phosphate surveys. This site was found to be both an Iron Age and Bronze Age burial mound with a cemetery dating from the sixth century. All objects found were taken to the British Museum and after that could only be borrowed so replicas like the helmet needed to be built to go on display at the National Trust site that had been built at Sutton Hoo.

This ship was the largest vessel for its age that had been found so far so British Museum researchers wanted to learn about its construction. In the 1960s a fibreglass cast of the ship was made but the records of the earlier excavation were missing some papers that may have been destroyed. Luckily there are some colour photographs that remain and are useful (Lack and Wagstaff). Working on the construction shows how skilled Anglo Saxon craftsmen were as some exquisite work was found. Researchers were interested in the type of oars used and as there was constant traffic at this time between Scandinavia and Great Britain they could visit other ships from this period that still exist in Denmark and Norway. There were some examples of sailing ships but most used oars.

In 2016 the Sutton Hoo Ship's Company was formed by volunteers with the intention of reconstructing the original ship so that sea trials could take place. In 2020 the backbone of the ship was made as well as a computer-generated image of what the ship looked like. The size of the oars was unknown and there were concerns about how to get the ship down the river and out to sea. Three proposed routes that may be tried are down to the Thames and up to Burgh Castle and Humber. These are the sites of battles from that period suggesting that troops may have been sent by boat. The reconstruction is being built in Woodbridge, just across the river from Sutton Hoo.

Next meeting: 19th July--'Sir William Paston of Oxnead Hall (1610-63) by Rob Knee.

All meetings held in the St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon starting at 1.30pm. Admission £3 (includes light refreshments). All welcome.

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

Time's Arrow by Martin Amis

Marking the death of this great author I thought I'd include this possibly lesser-known novel. It tells the life of a Nazi war criminal backwards. Starting with his death and then working towards his birth this experimental novel is very readable, although shocking at the same time. It's quite strange to read because you have to keep reminding yourself of the order life is happening in, he breaks up with his lovers before seducing them, he mangles his patients and sends them home, but it all works towards one horrific moment in time when all these reversals suddenly make sense.

The Science of Living by Dr Stuart Farrimond

The subtitle of this is '219 reasons to rethink your daily routine' and it's a great book to dip in and out of. Advice such as 'if you drink a strong coffee in the first hour of waking, you are pouring much of its potency down the sink' is very helpful and reading about the science behind it is fascinating. And it even tackles questions like 'Why do I sometimes forget why I came into the room?' I'm sure that's a common one!

The Secret History by Donna Tartt

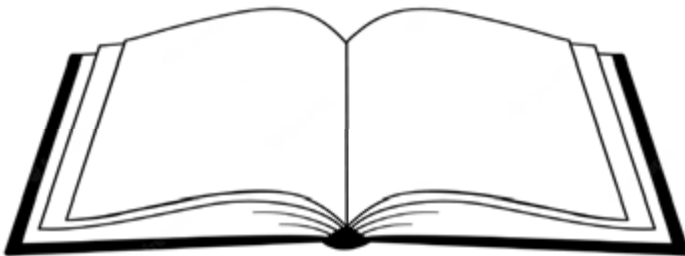
One of my all-time favourites and one I love to revisit – it never fails to enthrall me! It's the story of a group of clever, eccentric misfits at college, who under the influence of their classics professor discover a way of thinking and living that is entirely different to their contemporaries. But when things turn dark, obsession and betrayal bring tragedy in their wake.

I am about to read...

Fairy Tale by Stephen King

I have this ready to read from the library, it's supposed to be one of his best novels for many years and although I haven't read Stephen King since I was a teenager (too much of a scaredy cat these days!), I thought I'd give this a whirl.

Ruth Redford



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Nature Notes

So, what is happening to flaming June? The Northerly and North Easterly winds are certainly making it feel somewhat chilly. On the afternoon of June 1st, I heard that Black Terns and Little Gulls were showing well at Rockland Broad, but unfortunately, I wasn't in a position to drop everything and go and see them. However, they were still around on Saturday morning so you can guess where the dogs had their walk. Meeting a friendly bird watcher in the car park who assured me that both species were still showing well, I set off with eager anticipation. On reaching the point where the cut from the river Yare enters the broad, I joined a group of people and quickly managed to see the Black Tern but was told the Little Gulls hadn't been seen for a while. I was able to get some reasonable photos of the Black Tern as it rested on one of the green buoys. Satisfied with having good views of one of the two species I hoped to see, I was just about to continue walking my very patient dogs when the Little Gulls reappeared. I was particularly pleased as I hadn't seen either of these species since pre covid and both are passage migrants passing through to their breeding grounds in Northern Europe.

During May at dusk, we were entertained through our kitchen window by a pipistrelle bat flying round the garden, I also saw a larger bat while taking the dogs for their bedtime walk just up the road.

Driving up Cock Road in Langley we both became aware of a large, mostly white bird perched at the top of one of the oak trees. We quickly realised that it was a Shelduck, but it did look very out of place. I am aware that some duck species do nest in holes in trees, However, Shelduck nest in old rabbit burrows.

On the 18th of May I had booked myself in for a Butterfly and Moth walk at Hickling Broad. We started by looking at the moths caught in a moth trap, which disappointingly only contained four species of moth. Two of them were Hawk moths, a Popular and Eyed. These reminded me of when I had tried to take a photo of a recently emerged Elephant Hawk Moth. I hurriedly followed it from our back garden to our front only to see it fall prey to a Blackbird! Back to Hickling. Unfortunately, the butterfly walk was no less productive, we managed to observe just three species and one of those was "one of the white ones"! Despite the lack of Lepidoptera, it was an interesting walk around part of the reserve I was unacquainted with. While sitting outside the reception centre eating my lunch after the walk, I saw a couple of Brimstone butterflies and then the piece de le resistance, a Swallowtail, the largest of the native British butterflies, in all its glory flew past.



As you read this, we will have entered the second half of the year and hopefully enjoying some summer weather. So, keep alert, you never know what you might see.

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Allotment & Gardening Notes

From the Allotment

June got off to a slow start with cool winds and overcast conditions so many things are delayed but I'm sure the pace will pick up as usual and we'll all be enjoying picking and eating (and freezing, bottling etc) the results of our hard work in July. I delayed planting out more tender plants like the courgettes, squashes and pumpkins but they need to go in now to have time to grow and ripen. On the other hand, my spinach and radish have done better in the cool as they tend to bolt quickly on my dry sandy soil. You should also be successional sowing to ensure that food is available in a continuous flow. Easier said than done and it's tempting to simply to put all the seeds out at once, but worth the effort as some veg like beans just taste better freshly picked.

As the avid reader of this column knows I like to experiment and last year tried over-wintered spinach and lettuce with good results, but the winter onions did not survive the continual pecking at their green shoots and finally gave up. This year I am trying melons in my polytunnel in friendly competition with my friend Joe. Though if the plant I gave him does better than mine...! Also following Monty Dons advice on block-sowing rather than sowing in lines. It's proved OK so far for radishes, chard and spring onions less so for beetroot, though this may be the seed.

Andrew Milner

From the Garden

As I write this at the beginning of June we are desperate for rain, the pond levels have dropped and the water butts are low. By the time you read this we will probably be experiencing floods as our weather patterns are so unpredictable! The deer are still nibbling the plants, mainly the trees we put in in the spring; a friend has recommended a spray (Grazer) to discourage them, you spray it on the new growth and reapply if it rains, so I will give this a try and let you know in September if it works.

We have just returned from a couple of days in East Yorkshire, where we visited a private garden open for charity. The garden is high on the Yorkshire Wolds with spectacular views over the Vale of York. The gardens were impressive but one plant I didn't expect to see was Abutilon. It was about six feet tall and apparently self-seeds and thrives well. I didn't realise they were so hardy. There are many colours available. I will look online so hopefully I can add this to the garden. July and August is the time to sit back and enjoy all your hard work in the garden and take notes for changes or new planting plans for next year. Many local gardens open for charity and are a good source of ideas and some unusual plants as the owners are often very keen gardeners.

Shirley Cross

Seething WW2 Control Tower Museum Open Days:



Seething WW2 Control Tower Museum will be open on:

Sunday 2nd July;

Sunday 6th August;

Sunday 3rd September.

The museum is open from 10:00am-4:00pm.

A living memorial to those who served in 448th Bomb Group from 1943–45. Read the stories written by those who served here.

Enjoy a 'Bomber' Burger, 'Liberator' Beer plus tea/coffee and cake.

Kids activities; Military vehicles and re-enactment; Former WW2 Control Tower and Nissen Hut; Wide range of interesting exhibits artefacts and photographs.

The Hollies

Right at the heart of Loddon, is a community centre called The Hollies, which comprises two large rooms and a kitchen. The building is set back from the road, behind the holly bushes of its name, between the Post Office and Boots: the Loddon Nursery School is behind it.



Over the last year The Hollies has seen a significant increase in use and currently The Hollies hosts Country Markets (Tuesday mornings), Eight O'clock Club (last Wednesday of the month), Loddon Band (Thursday evenings), Whist (2nd and 4th Friday evenings), Pilates, The Christadelphians (every Sunday), many Parish Council meetings, Dog Training, birthday parties, amongst others.

The trustees of the Loddon Building Preservation Trust, which owns and runs The Hollies, are considering ways to improve the building. If you would like to get involved or if you would like to hire The Hollies for regular or one-off events, contact us on 01508 521173 or loddonbpt@gmail.com.



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