



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

June 2022



XPRESSIONS CAFE

JUBILEE STREET PARTY

Sunday 5th June 2022

starting at 11:30am

All Saints, Chedgrave

Please bring a plate of finger food to share and something to sit on.

Enjoy the company of others in the community as we celebrate together.

Our informal church, XPRESSIONS CAFÉ, will be open as usual from 10:00am. Before the Street Party you can:

- Relax with tea, coffee and cake;
- Make yourself a crown;
- Explore what the Bible says about Jubilee;
- Listen to hits from the jubilee years;
- Help to re-invigorate our community garden.



Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
Louise Morrissey:	01502 717797	delilah.morrissey@gmail.com
Ros Hoffmann:	01508 548200	ros@hoffmann2011.plus.com
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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	www.chetvalleychurches.org
The Diocese of Norwich	www.dioceseofnorwich.org
The Methodist Church	www.methodist.org.uk
The RC Diocese of East Anglia	www.rcdea.org.uk



Chet Contact

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Email submissions to c.magazineloddon@gmail.com.

Please include your name and telephone number.



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Disclaimer

Advertisements are included in good faith, but Chet Valley Churches do not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised. Similarly, the opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Chet Valley Churches.

From the Editor

Well I guess the front cover says it all this month. The first week in June is going to be rather taken up with the celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Anniversary as monarch.

Wherever we sit on the topic of democracy, monarchy and republicanism it has certainly been an outstanding seventy years of personal commitment to our nation, with all the huge changes that have run through it.

If only we could rely on our political leaders, past and present, to give us the same level of service. Through thick and thin, all the while presenting her calm and comforting image to all, she has met her responsibilities to us, the British people.

I hope you find time to get involved with any, many or all of the events scheduled—most of which appear on various pages through this month's issue.

Apart from that there are other exhibitions and early warning of a request to get involved in a community consultation exercise in July on page 52.

I'm also feeling smug after last month's editorial dream of much better weather—It's hot in my conservatory writing this!

Roger



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Ministerial Musings

This month we are celebrating the platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth the Second. There are all sorts of events planned including Trooping the Colour with a royal gun salute, a flypast to coincide with the balcony appearance of the royal family, the lighting of Jubilee beacons, a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, the Platinum Party at the Palace, the Platinum Jubilee Pageant and street parties up and down the country. It is good to celebrate the dedication with which Her Majesty has served the country, through good times and all manner of crises both national and personal, for 70 years.

We do like to gather to celebrate. As well as national events, we get together for family events joyful and sad. One of the sadnesses of the Covid lockdowns was that people were prevented from being together for life-events, particularly funerals when mourning and memories would have been shared. Now as restrictions have been lifted, there is a flurry of weddings that had been postponed not once but sometimes two or three times.

As a church we like to gather to celebrate too: our major festivals of Christmas and Easter; celebration of the land and its fruitfulness at Rogation (22nd May this year) and Harvest; Holy Communion. This month, coinciding with the Jubilee weekend, it is Pentecost.

What is Pentecost? It is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us and within us. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter, hence the name. It is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world.

Pentecost comes from a Jewish harvest festival called Shavuot. The disciples were in Jerusalem celebrating this festival when the Holy Spirit descended on them. It sounded like a very strong wind, and it looked like tongues of fire. The disciples found themselves speaking in foreign languages inspired by the Holy Spirit. At first some people thought that the disciples must be drunk. But one of them, Peter, told the crowd that the disciples were full of the Holy Spirit. And he went on boldly to explain all that had happened, telling them about Jesus's ministry, his miracles and teaching; about Jesus's wrongful arrest, trial and crucifixion; about his resurrection and return to God; about the promise of the Holy Spirit. Many people were persuaded then and in the following days, being baptised and joining a growing band who were 'following the way', a band who became known as Christians, followers of Christ.

On June 5th we will be celebrating Pentecost in our churches. Celebrating the fact that after 2000 years people are still being filled with the Holy Spirit, still joining the followers of the way, Christians. Why don't you come and join us?

Rev Alison



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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 or Common Worship, with an informal Holy Communion service once a month in Chedgrave.

Services of **Morning Worship** are held in Loddon and Hardley.

XPRESSIONS CAFÉ is on the first Sunday every month at All Saints, Chedgrave.

This is a relaxed and contemporary way of 'doing church'. Open between 10:00am and 12 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 shared lunch).

All Together Worship is designed to be as inclusive as possible: a mixture of formality and informality; traditional and modern; activity and stillness. In short, we will attempt to provide a service which will have points of connection for both children and adults—indeed people of all ages and all backgrounds.

Last Sunday Praise is held on the last Sunday of the month at St John's: a chance to sing old and new Christian songs and worship together.

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 an opportunity to enjoy a chat over refreshments after the service, Covid restriction permitting.

There are toilets and baby-changing facilities at All Saints, Chedgrave and St John's, Loddon.

Families are welcome at all of our services but are particularly catered for on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month 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 clergy or the Church Office and we will arrange for someone to bring communion to you.

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.



Friends and Neighbours

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



We recently met for a Spring Meal together.

Next Meeting:

2nd June 2.30pm at the Lecture Hall for Afternoon Tea, and to share memories of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth.

If you'd like to join the group, 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 noon**. Come and go as you choose. On average, there are about 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!)

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

More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126

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From the Parish Registers

Baptisms and Thanksgivings

There were no thanksgivings or baptisms this month in our churches,
so lets pray for all children across the world

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.*

Weddings

There are no weddings to report this month.

Those whom God has joined together let no-one put asunder.

Funerals

Valerie Oxborough who died on 26th March 2022

Funeral: 4th May 2022 at Holy Trinity churchyard

Dorothy Sheila Frances Pipe who died on 30th March 2022

Funeral: 21st April 2022 at All Saints, Chedgrave churchyard

Edna Anna Barber who died on 10th April 2022

Funeral: 18th May 2022 at St Mary's Sisland churchyard

Marion Margaret Hall who died on 13th April 2022

Funeral: 12th May 2022 at Waveney Crematorium

*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.*

1 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. He
can also be contacted about interment of ashes.

Wanted: Volunteer Community Car Drivers



BACT is a not-for-profit organisation offering transport to those in the community who cannot access or struggle to use public services. Based in Bungay, we cover the Waveney district of Suffolk and some areas in South Norfolk. We rely heavily on volunteer drivers but sadly our number of volunteers has diminished significantly over the past two years. Do you have any free time? Could you help? Guaranteed personal satisfaction; helping your local community and meeting new people too. You can make a difference. Expenses paid @ 45p a mile. More information from our website: <http://www.bactcommunitytransport.org.uk/> Contact us on: 01986 896896 or email info@bactcommunity.org.uk

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News From Your Local Councillors



Ukraine I am very proud to report that our District has been the most proactive in the county offering support to Ukrainian evacuees. So far we have taken in 215 guests, and I would like to thank the host families for their generosity to those who have much need of our support. If anyone is considering offering to become a host, contact the Help Hub at South Norfolk, who can provide information. By using the District Council we can ensure government funding for these displaced people and safeguarding for the vulnerable.

The Staithe and Pyes Mill Moving on from achieving the funding for the footbridge, I have also managed to get further funding for more improvements at the Staithe and Pyes Mill. Local residents have been asking me if there was a safe way that we could provide public access to the river for small boats, kayaks and paddleboards. I have asked officers at South Norfolk to look into this as a project and hope we will be able to provide something like a pontoon or a slip way for this purpose. We are talking to the Broads Authority and will come forward with some options soon.

Planning There are some unresolved planning applications still waiting to be determined, one that I am often contacted about is the proposed Beccles Road development. I know that many residents are anxious about these but can assure you that nothing has been decided. If you see activity on the land that is subject to the planning application, it will likely be investigation works and a requirement to be carried out before any decisions can be made.

If you have any issues or I can help in any way, you can contact me at kay.masonbillig.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

Councillor Kay Mason-Billig

We're making good progress in our work with Loddon and Chedgrave Parish Councils to create an Emergency Plan, to ensure help is available to every household; let me know if you might be interested in joining the team of community wardens, who will have a very important role if an emergency does occur.

It was a real pleasure to work with the ChetChat team distributing flowers and Easter eggs to our over-60s friends and neighbours; particular thanks go to Loddon Primary Foundation, for the brilliant cards.

As mentioned last month, each District councillor has a members' grant of £1000 for local causes – let me know if part of this could help your group and, as always, if you, or someone over-60 you know, would like some help and maybe just some friendship, please phone ChetChat on **07876050110**.



I'm restarting the regular surgeries I promised when I was elected – the next is in the Loddon library between **2-3pm Saturday 25th June**; please drop in if I can help with anything, or just to say hello!

Ring anytime on **07733323581** if I can help. **Councillor Jeremy Rowe**



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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 Annual Parish Council

Meeting on 5th May 2022.

New Chairman: Councillor Jo Sinfield was elected as Chairman of Chedgrave Parish Council. Former Chair, Colin Gould was elected as Vice Chairman. Congratulations and thank you to both of them for their service to the council.

Litter Pick Event: The council will be holding a litter pick on **Saturday 25th June at 10am in The Pits**. Please come along and help keep our village looking lovely and tidy! All equipment will be supplied and everyone is welcome. All help is greatly appreciated!

Council Vacancies: The council has had one enquiry from a Loddon resident wishing to join the council which is good news. It would be great if the other vacancies could be filled by Chedgrave residents. Please consider giving the council your support and help shape our village and community. It's a friendly group and training and support is available. Please contact the Clerk if you have any questions.

Allotment Vacancies: There is one vacancy for a full-size plot at the allotments. Any Chedgrave residents wishing to apply should contact the Clerk via email. If no Chedgrave resident wishes to take the plot, it will be offered to the next person on the waiting list from outside the village.

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 9th June (one week later than usual due to Jubilee holidays) at 7pm 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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Loddon Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emily Curtis.

Tel: 01508 522020 Email: clerk@loddonpc.org.uk.

Website: www.loddonpc.org.uk;

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LoddonPC



Platinum Jubilee Fete – 04 June 2022, 12.00pm – 5.00pm

Loddon & Chedgrave Parish Councils have united to put on a spectacular day out to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. With over 60 stalls you can expect a mix of traditional fete games like china smashing, hook a duck, toy tombolas and more. Bring a picnic blanket as there will be delicious food and drink, a BBQ, cream teas, and pizza as well as lots of to buy and see from local businesses and groups.

The event is generously sponsored by local businesses and funds have been used to ensure that all the kids can join in the fun for free! This includes faces painting,, bouncy castles, a Punch & Judy show, and getting mesmerised by our amazing magician. We've got a jam-packed entertainment schedule running the whole day from dance groups, gymnastic acts, live music and even a fun dog show!

Parking available at Hobart High School Sports Hall Car Park and Loddon Medical Practice. Any monies raised will be donated to local community causes. More details on website—www.theplatinumjubileefete.com.

Freedom of Loddon Award

Thank you for your nominations. The award will be presented to the recipient at the Platinum Jubilee Fete on the 04 June 2022.

The South Norfolk Big Litter Pick Event – 26 June 10.00– 12.00 midday

Join our annual litter picking event. Meeting at Loddon Library on Church Plain at 10.00am and we will provide you Litter Pickers & Sacks. We'd love to see you!

Kitten's Lane Play Area

Unfortunately, there has been some delay in obtaining parts, but the contractor has confirmed that the refurbishment will take place on the 16 May 2022.

The Staithe Toilets

Steel automatic locking doors installed by early June, followed by internal repairs.

The Parish Council has also installed free broadband to benefit Staithe visitors.

Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council: The next meeting will be at the Library Annexe on Wednesday 08 June 2022 at 7.00pm and all welcome to attend . The Minutes and agendas for the meetings are available on the LPC website.

Contact Loddon Parish Council: Office open 9.00am – 12.00pm on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. , or email; info@loddonpc.org. If there is a genuine Council emergency, please call; 01508 486 128, at any other time, please use 01508 522 020.

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Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Eleanor Bannister.

Tel: 77803 124544 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-&-Heckingham-Parish-Council)



Next Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 28 June 2022 7.30 pm

in 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 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Annual Parish Meeting was held on 10 May: Our thanks to Sir Nicholas Bacon who presented the villages with a Commemorative Plaque and gave a short talk. We had a Village Mardle about how residents see the village now and how they would like it to develop in the future. For more details of what happened look at our website for a meeting report or ask the Clerk for a copy of it.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee: At present, this event is proving a challenge to organise. The Parish Council do not have enough people to do everything that is required. It is difficult to find enough volunteers although we have had very generous offers from Martin Sisley, The Mod One to provide the entertainment, Brian Frost to provide electricity and Masala Garden for the refreshments. Please look at our website and the Facebook page (including Hales and Heckingham things) for up to date information about the event or get in touch with the Clerk.

Parish Council Role: The most important way the villages have a say in what South Norfolk and Norfolk Councils decide about Hales & Heckingham. It is unlikely we would have our roundabout, the improved playground facilities, the defibrillator, the A146 bus stops, the compost site, the speed awareness monitors or the village sign without a Parish Council. Developers would be freer to build properties in the village that residents do not feel provide the best solutions for the community. The Parish Council has been able to request conditions that occupants of new housing have better accommodation and amenities.

Parish Council Future: We are allocated seven councillors and currently have six. It is likely that three members of the Council will not stand for election next year and without more volunteers, there is a risk that Hales & Heckingham could lose its Parish Council. If you do not wish to see this happen please consider whether you would be interested in being involved in the Council. We would love to see projects such as a 20mph speed limit on School Lane and a new village hall which could accommodate more people and a wider range of events but these may not be achievable without a Parish Council. Any of the current councillors or the Clerk would be delighted to talk to you about how it all works.

Composting Group: Contact Alan Mason for more details:

alan_mbc@btinternet.com or on 07738 933316.

Meet the Councillors Drop in Dates – To be advertised on our website, Facebook and notice board.

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Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Vacant

Tel: 01502 730166 Email: langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com

Website: <https://langleywithhardley.pc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Facebook: To be developed



There was no news from the parish council this month.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Queens Celebration Cafe.Friday 3rd June.Opens at 11am.

Children can enjoy icing biscuits,crown making and colouring activities as well as buying lollies and buns whilst their grown ups enjoy a posh afternoon tea. All very welcome.

Dance the night away to 80's duo"Reflex".Friday 3rd June 8-11pm

.Fancy Dress 80's style is optional.Tickets £5,booking essential on 01508 520184 Bring your own alcohol.

Steve Treadway,Clairvoyant. Saturday 11th June.

doors open at 7pm for 7.30 start.

Tickets include hot/cold drinks and buffet for £15.Bring your own alcohol.

Booking is essential on 01508 520184.

Yoga on Tuesday evenings. 7.30-8.30pm

Jive dance classes on Thursday evenings.7-9pm.

To book our hall or enquire about price/facilities call 01508 520184 Tibby or Jane.

Royal British Legion-Loddon & District branch

Loddon Branch has lost it's Haddiscoe,Sub Branch due to lack of members. Head Office decided to amalgamate Sub Branches with their parent branch. The decision was taken last summer, to extend the grace period to Dec 31st. All efforts to recruit new members came to nothing.

Loddon Branch is still here and still recruiting new members. We are still here to help and support Veterans and their Beneficiaries.

We will be having our Gazebo, supported by a Military Vehicle, at the Queen's Jubilee Fete, June 4th, at Jubilee Hall playing field. For information or support, please contact Secretary Christine Hartley 01508 521136

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or Hales 01508 549974

Notes from Sisland

It is definitely time to look towards warmer weather and the chance to visit a range of local churches. All open churches, including those in our Benefice, are listed on the *Exploring Norfolk Churches* website,

<https://www.exploringnorfolkchurches.org>. The Norwich diocese produces a reference guide to churches in Norfolk and

Waveney, it can be ordered online or, you can flick through the pages online as well as download in PDF format the most up-to-date edition.



You can also see a description, key information and details for many churches on *A Church Near You* website which can be found at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>. This website also provides a link to a key contact, which for Sisland church, gives an opportunity to email myself. Only a couple of weeks ago I received an email from someone in New Zealand who was looking to trace ancestors they believed are buried in the churchyard. I always like to be able to respond and confirm, if possible, any link they may have and send some images and description for them to be able to imagine the location from a different part of the world.

For those who are able to visit us this spring and early summer, the grass in the graveyard is left uncut as we want to welcome the wildlife and wildflowers as well as humans to our corner of the parish. It is looking stunning as I write this with bluebells, buttercups and meadow saxifrage. We want to allow them to be able to seed before cutting, which we always try to do before the Sunday teas in August. We are looking forward to the latter and welcoming friends, old and new, for tea and cake.

Rowena Bryce (Churchwarden, Sisland)



LANGLEY WITH HARDLEY A TRIP THROUGH TIME IN THIS NORFOLK VILLAGE



Compiled by Carol Webb and Elvie Herd on behalf of
Loddon and District Local History Group and now
available from Wards Butchers, Rosy Lees Tearooms,
Chet Stores and Musker McIntyre or contact 01508
500602 for further details **Only £7.50**

Loddon Bell Ringers



Two of our members joined with others to ring in a Peal at All Saints, Necton on Saturday 23rd April to celebrate St. George's day. The 5040 changes of seven Surprise Minor methods took 2 hours 56 minutes to ring.

We have rung quarter peals of Plain Bob Triples at Swaffham, Pudsey Surprise Major at Ashill, 11 Doubles methods at Haddiscoe, Morning Exercise Delight Minor at Norton Subcourse, Surfleet Surprise Minor at Ditchingham and London Surprise Minor at Woodton.

We also rang for a wedding blessing at St. Peter's church, Brooke and have been helping with teaching new ringers at the St. Peter Mancroft training center in Norwich. We are also teaching some new ringers here at Loddon who are progressing well. We are always pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in learning how to ring church bells

Steve Rabong

Struggling with Money? Local Charitable Funds available:

There are two local charities to help local people in need: Loddon Town Estate Trust (for people living in Loddon); and Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund (for people living in Chedgrave or who are regular members of the congregation at All Saints). These have received a boost from monies raised by the monthly quiz at The White Horse during 2021.

The charities are only any good if people use them! In the past, money has paid for things like cookers and carpets. It has also gone towards solicitor's bills and rent. Please do not feel ashamed or embarrassed to call on the funds if you need them.

You can access the Loddon fund by contacting Ann Lumley on 01508 528141 or email: annlumley150@btinternet.com. The Chedgrave fund can be accessed by contacting Rev Alison, Rev David or the church warden, Roger Outlaw—contact details on p3.

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. There are wheeled tables which 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.

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch

Our February meeting was well attended, considering the weather! We welcomed two new members wishing to help the RBL.



One RBL motto is 'Service not Self' to help others where they can. We welcome non-military members and veterans. We know meetings are good for people, for social and mental reasons. Our meetings start with a catch up on business and end with a cuppa and chat. They are held in Loddon in the Library Annex back room, 6:45pm for 7:00pm start.

Our next meetings are Monday 18th April (pending Easter decision at March meeting) and Monday 16th May.

For any information or support, please contact: Branch Secretary: Christine Hartley, or Chairman: Colin Hartley on 01508 521136.

Tuesday Market, Loddon

Now the weather has improved our colourful plant and flower stall will be outside the Hollies, every Tuesday, from 10.00 to 11.30am. Inside you will find a warm welcome and a fine selection of home cooking, preserves, baking fresh fruit and vegetables, raw milk, farm eggs and local crafts. Why not stay for a tea or coffee in our friendly cafe. We take orders so if there's something special you'd like please let us know.

If you have any queries contact Sheila Ford 01508 520752

A black and white advertisement for Nexus fostering. At the top, the text 'could you foster?' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font on a dark background. Below this is a photograph of three people: a man, a woman, and a young boy, all smiling. Overlaid on the bottom left of the photo is a white speech bubble containing the text 'we urgently need carers in Norfolk'. To the left of the speech bubble is the 'nexus fostering' logo, which includes a stylized figure of a person with arms raised. To the right of the speech bubble is the 'Ofsted Outstanding Provider' logo. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text 'Visit us at www.nexusfostering.co.uk Call us on 01603 951 405' is displayed, followed by the address 'The School House, 1 The Street, Framingham Earl, Norwich, NR14 7QY'.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

LODDON SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

LODDON, CHEDGRAVE, THURTON & BROOKE WARD

 www.norfolk.police.uk

APRIL 2022



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PC 475 JAMES KING

UPDATE FROM YOUR ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WHAT ARE WE ALL ABOUT?



WHAT DO WE DO?

We support our members to create well-connected communities who support those who are vulnerable and isolated and thereby increase community health and wellbeing. All our schemes are run by local volunteers who want to make a difference. By joining up with your neighbours you can help to reduce crime and the fear of crime together.



WHAT DO PEOPLE SAY ABOUT US?

COMMUNITY FOCUSED
NEIGHBOURLY
SUPPORTIVE
PROACTIVE

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

You can join us as a member and join your local scheme or if there isn't one, why not consider starting a scheme of your own with your neighbours.

If you are interested in volunteering, we have a number of both local and national volunteering opportunities.



Joining Neighbourhood Watch is simple. Scan QR code to get started.



To find out more about Neighbourhood Watch and how you can get involved visit our website:

WWW.OURWATCH.ORG.UK

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA?

This month I have been meeting with the local Parish Councils in Chedgrave and Ditchingham on a walkabout in the villages with councillors to discuss local issues, one main topic that was discussed was Speeding, which remains as one of the priorities for the area at present until at least the next priority Setting Meeting on 28th March.

We discussed the Community Speed Watch scheme and the great benefits it can have for the community. I have also been meeting with local Community Speed Watch Groups in Bergh Apton, Hedenham and Ditchingham, to see the vital work they do and how well it promoted community spirit, for any one else wishing to set up a CSW, please get in touch with me.

Monday 28th March we held a virtual Priority Setting Meeting via Microsoft Teams, for Loddon and surrounding parishes.

Members of the community were given options to vote for their top policing priority - these votes were discussed at the meeting and the following Priorities have been agreed:

- Road safety - Speeding
- Burglary / theft
- Drug dealing / drug use

I would like to say 'thank you' to the community for your vote & voicing your concerns. We will concentrate on these 3 priorities over the next 3 months.

James

CURRENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES

- Road safety - Speeding
- Burglary / theft
- Drug dealing / drug use

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Local Community Meeting - Sunday 26th June 6pm via online Microsoft Teams

For local Engagement Surgeries see South Norfolk Police social media pages



CONTACT US THROUGH OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS



CALL US ON 101 OR 999 IN
AN EMERGENCY



TALK TO YOUR LOCAL
BEAT MANAGER

Church Services

5th June Pentecost

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

12th June Trinity Sunday

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

19th June Trinity I

10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship - followed by shared lunch	All Saints, Chedgrave
5.00 pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland

26th June Trinity 2

9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
7:00pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John, Loddon

* Jubilee XPRESSIONS CAFÉ

Sunday 5th June - will be a Jubilee XPRESSIONS CAFÉ at All Saints Church, Chedgrave. As part of this we will be hosting a 'street party' in the church grounds. If you would like to be part of this, we ask you to bring a plate of food to share with you: - sausage rolls, savoury or sweet scones, cakes....

All welcome.



Rev Alison

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches		
*Every Saturday 6:00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	
**Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm	<p align="center">Come and Pray</p> <p>If you would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people you are welcome to come along to</p> <p align="center">‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p align="center">3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing</p>	
Thursdays during school term	<p align="center">XTRA!</p> <p>Join us at St John’s for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm. More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126</p>	
Every day Morning Prayer 9:00am <i>All Welcome</i>	Monday	St John, Loddon
	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	St John, Loddon
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

*Please contact office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk to confirm details of Catholic services.

**Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about current arrangements for Tuesday Prayer and Reflection, or if you would like to receive this electronically.

Church Activities

**Sunday 5th June - All Saints Church,
Chedgrave 10am-12**

a Jubilee XPRESSIONS CAFÉ.

As part of this we will be hosting a 'street party' in the church grounds. If you would like to be part of this, we ask you to bring a plate of food to share with you: - sausage rolls, savoury or sweet scones, cakes....



All Welcome, there is no charge

Rev. Alison

Holiday Club Advance Notice

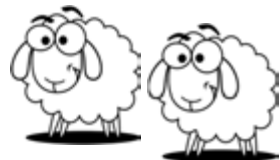
This year's holiday club is already being planned. It is called Baa-Baa Shop. I think there may be one or two sheep in it—maybe even a flock! It's set in a barber's shop, proprietor Barbara Ramsbottom.



Filled with the usual mix of fun, food, faith and friendship, there will be craft, storytelling, songs, cooking and games.

And the dates? It will run every morning in the week of 1st-5th August. Put it in your diaries now!

Booking forms are out now available at the Infant and Junior schools or by email from Rev.Alison—



Community Groups, News and Events

News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute



Loddon and District Women's Institute

First, apologies for the wrong date for our May meeting! It should have been May 18th, not the 20th! I hope no one was inconvenienced by this. Yours truly is looking forward to an exciting event on May 20th and I think that must have been foremost in my mind.

Our 92nd birthday celebrations in April went with a swing – good company and lovely refreshments. May was busy, with the Jubilee bunting workshop, Knit, Natter and Crochet and the Open House Wrapping party in preparation for our Jubilee fete stall, and our regular meeting.

Saturday, June 4th : Come and see our stall at the Platinum Jubilee Fete

Thursday June 9th: Knit, Natter and Crochet. 2.30 – 4.00 p.m. Loddon Library.

Wednesday June 15th: Monthly meeting – Speaker: Stephanie Israel - 'Dog training with Magnus'. 7.15 p.m. for 7.30. St John's Chapel, George Lane.

All sorts of plans for future activities and events are in the pipeline- a visit to Hotter Shoes and a tour of Thurton Church followed by afternoon tea being just two, and we are always pleased to welcome new members. For more information, we can be contacted through our Facebook page or on 01508 528656.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

. Our speaker for April was Evie Herd from the Local History Group, who gave us an interesting insight into the residents of Loddon and Chedgrave in the 17th century.

Our meeting on Tuesday 28th June we shall be holding a Silent Auction and have invited members from other local WI's. Always a fun event!

We meet at 2.00pm at All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave. Please contact Audrey 528393 or Angela 521120 for more information.

Parkinson's

Would you like to meet other Parkinson's sufferers? We will normally meet on the first Monday of the month at the Chedgrave White Horse at 12:15pm. Partners are also welcome. Further details from Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
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Norfolk Home Library Service

Norfolk home library expands service and calls for new users and volunteers.

Calling all book lovers and digital masters! A popular home library service delivered by Royal Voluntary Service and the Norfolk Library and Information Service is looking to expand throughout Norfolk.

A new digital inclusion program is also being trialled, in which specially trained volunteers teach the service's clients how to access critical information digitally, and how to download books online. The expansion means that the Home Library Service is looking to welcome new clients, volunteers, and Volunteer Coordinators to the team.

Volunteers work alongside their local library to select and deliver books and other media to those who may find it difficult to leave the house, have mobility issues, or caring responsibilities. The service also provides regular, friendly social contact to check if clients are safe and well, to discuss reading and listening preferences, and to report any concerns to appropriate services as needed.

Volunteer Coordinators liaise with local libraries, manage a network of local volunteers to arrange book deliveries, recruit new volunteers, and build relationships with local community groups to promote the service. As part of the new digital inclusion program, Digital Service Coordinators may offer their skills in workshops to train volunteers to use various devices, apps, and programs that the service's clients may find challenging.

Alicia Stillman, Service Manager for Royal Voluntary Service Norfolk Home Library Service says: "For people who find leaving their homes problematic, the Home Library Service offers a vital link to the local library and a welcome connection with a friendly face. The Covid-19 pandemic has shone a light on the significant number of vulnerable adults living in isolation. During the last two years, it has also become apparent that many socially isolated people were not able to access vital information due to digital illiteracy. Instruction on downloading eBooks, accessing GP and Council services, and setting up video conferencing can often be more easily explained in person, in an informal setting, one on one. Through the new digital inclusion program, with the help of our dedicated volunteers, we hope to bring clients back to the activities they love, prevent further isolation, and provide companionship and support."

To sign up to the Home Library Service, please contact the Norfolk Library and Information Service on 0344 800 8020 or visit: libraries@norfolk.gov.uk to be added to a round.

To sign up to become a volunteer or coordinator of the Norfolk Home Library Service please visit the Royal Voluntary Service at: www.royalvoluntaryservice.org/volunteer. For further information about the roles, please contact Royal Voluntary Service Norfolk Community Service Manager Alicia Stillman: email: norfolkhls@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk or 01603 397998.



Norfolk County Council



Sport

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astro Turf every **Thursday** evening from 8:00-9:00pm for a non-competitive kick about to keep fit and socialise. We are looking for like-minded people to join us now restrictions have been lifted.

£3:00 per session. First session free.

For more details, contact Terry on tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

If you have never tried short mat bowls why not give it a go? We are a very friendly, non-competitive club, that plays in groups of up to four people. New members and beginners are very welcome. We meet on **Tuesday** 1:30-3:30pm in the Jubilee Hall. Just bring flat indoor shoes (no heels), the right money—£3, and a sense of humour. We have spare bowls. More info? call 01508 521958.



Short Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly non-competitive club on **Tuesdays** 11:30am-1:00pm at Jubilee Hall. All welcome. For more information call 01508 520589.



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

Monday nights at Langley School (NR14 6BJ), 7:00pm-8:30pm.

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



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



Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

Not long before the new season starts , indoor nets are ongoing at Hobart High School the remaining sessions are on Thursdays March:31st April 7th. AND Tuesday April 12 @ 7/830. The first match is at Gillingham on SAT 16 we have over 40 matches arranged .

If you are new to the area ,or have not played for a while ,perhaps fancy a change of club , you will be made most welcome , the Ashby teas are back this season.

For more information, please contact Paul Clemence on 01508 218078.



Loddon Community Cinema IS BACK 😊.
THURSDAY JUNE 2nd we will be showing
"BELFAST".

Kenneth Branagh's award winning film about his
childhood in Belfast during *The Troubles*
Rated 13PG.

Show starts 7.30 pm. Tickets £4.
St John's Hall, George Lane Loddon.

We just hope we can remember how it all works !! 🤔

Photography Competition

We are excited to announce that as part of the Platinum Jubilee Fete we are running a photography competition for under 16's and the winning photograph will be used as the cover on an issue of Chet Contact! The Fete committee are very grateful for the support of the Chet Valley Photography Club and Chet Contact with this, and look forward to seeing what you come up with!



For details on how to submit your images
go to - www.theplatinumjubileefete.com

Loddon Community Gym

The last piece of new equipment, a third treadmill, has arrived and we are proud to be a modern, well-equipped Gym with all that you would expect in a larger, commercial setup. We also have a stock of smaller equipment – kettle bells, weights, gym balls and such like, which have been recently replaced. We continue to provide sanitiser for users to clean each piece after use which is basic gym etiquette but has been highlighted since Covid. The only change we are making is that the large pieces of equipment will return to their former positions facing into the centre of the hall and not the wall, except for the treadmills which for safety reasons cannot be turned round. This will please a lot of members who take encouragement from seeing others doing their best. In addition to all this many people exercise using a bar on the wall or sitting in a chair or on a floor mat. It all depends on each individual person's needs and fitness levels. What you want or can do at 80 is very different from a fifty year old but the desire to keep fit, healthy, flexible and with a sense of well-being is just the same. We have a well-established GP referral Scheme and the local GP practices recommend us highly to those they think would benefit from what we have to offer. New members are always welcome.

The Gym is open in the Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon

Monday afternoons, Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings.

You will find session times and booking details on the website - £5 per session

loddoncommunitygym.com

Hales and Loddon Cricket Club

We're hoping to restart our youth training outside (weather permitting) at Hales Green every Monday (apart from Monday 30th May) from Monday 25th April to Monday 25th July. This will amount to 13 weeks of training.

Ben France will be running these sessions on alternate weeks. Our plan is to run three youth teams this year: U9 softball, and U11 and U13 hardball. We will confirm fixtures and all timings closer to the start of the season.

Cost for youth membership will be £45 per child (or £80 for two siblings) including training, club insurance coverage and match fees for all youth games.

Please could all parents pay ahead of the start of youth training where possible (BACS, cash and cheque all accepted). We will also bring the club card machine to the first two sessions to aid with payment.

Additionally, we will also be running All Stars again for 5-8 year-olds from Monday 6th June to Monday 25th July, 6:00-7:00pm. We've capped numbers for this at 16 this season and places are going fast. Booking and payment for this is handled separately via the ECB website: <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Course/ebc1355f-5717-4c1a-867e-dda9c515f1b5>





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Loddon Indoor Bowls Club

Did you know there was one? Where? It's 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).

New members are always needed. Subs just £12 per year. Rink fee £2 per session. Just turn up and give it a try. For further information, please contact Paul Clemence (chair): 01508 218078.

Chet Staithe Probus Club

Recently retired or just moved to the area? Missing male company, on your own, or just want to get out and meet new people? Why not visit the Chet Staithe Probus Club? We are friendly and informal; jackets and ties not required. Members range in age from 60 to almost 100. Meetings are on the first and third **Tuesday** of the month at The White Horse, Chedgrave, 10:00am-12:00 noon with the option of staying for lunch.

Spring and summer activities are now being planned, including a visit to the 'History of Advertising Trust' at Raveningham.

Contact cliveboyd@btconnect.com or 01508 520547.



Chet Valley Probus Club

Chet Valley Probus Club is a group of retired business people who meet at the White Horse Chedgrave on the second and fourth **Tuesday** of each month commencing at 10:30am. Our next meetings are:

We are a friendly welcoming group who enjoy interesting talks, good company, good food and just meeting others of a like mind. For further details and an application form please contact the Secretary, John McCormack: 5a Norton Road, Loddon, NR14 6JN; Tel: 01508 521899.

Chet Valley Photography Club

We are holding our 10th Annual Exhibition on 4th and 5th June at St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon, NR14 6NB. Saturday 4th 10am – 5pm, Sunday 5th 10am – 4pm. Raffle and refreshments. Free admission. Please come along and have a look.



Our next club meeting is on 11th June – 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.

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Social Whist

We are back and meeting every 2nd and 4th **Friday** of each month.

We meet in the back room of The Hollies at around 7:30pm for a 7:45pm start. The evening is just what it says, 'Social Whist'—a chance to get together and to play 12 hands of whist with a cup of tea/coffee, a biscuit, and a chat, half way through. You don't need to have a partner, or even know how to play well. If you want a fun social evening, with a bit of thinking added in, this could be for you. Do join us. If you need a lift to/from The Hollies this can be arranged—please call me (Jane) on 528875. All funds raised are for charity.



Loddon WEA

The very interesting course on 'The Company of Preachers' finished at the end of March with a presentation to our speaker, Mary Fewster. We were all pleased to join together for this course after an extended break due to Covid.



The new committee made a presentation to Margaret and Colin Shearmur in recognition and thanks after years of service to WEA group in Loddon.

We are hoping to engage a speaker for a course beginning in September and details will be published nearer the date. The speaker for Spring is Nigel Herwin who will give a 10 course on Early East Anglia starting in January.

For further details, please contact Alison on 01508 521976.

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the last **Wednesday** of each month for a talk from a guest speaker and refreshments. A yearly fee is charged and £3.00 for each meeting attended to cover refreshments and outlays.



June meeting: Will be an evening walk NB: We meet in the back room of The Hollies in Loddon High Street. Same time: 8 o'clock.

For more information contact Hillary 01508 520457 or June on 01508 528853.

Chet Valley Voices

Yes, Yes, Yes, Chet Valley Voices are singing again!

The committee decided it is time to start again. We will be presenting some music which is easier to do from the beginning, but gives us scope to extend into part singing where appropriate. We are at our old venue St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. This is a large airy venue. Our first rehearsal was in April; and now we are weekly, 7:00-8:30pm, doors open 6:45pm. Fees will be £5 on the night. We look forward to seeing old and new faces.



For more information contact: chetvalleyvoices@gmail.com.

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Loddon & District Society

Next meeting: Wednesday 27th April, 10:30am. Ketts Hill Heights—a guided talk and tour of this site with the best view over Norwich. Warning: Steep steps and climb. A short interesting walk and then we can walk down into Norwich to the Cathedral for coffee and a snack (or do your own thing). Parking at the Car Park outside the Prison in Britannia Road.

Numbers are limited; first come, first served. Speak to June: 528853.

Loddon and District Horticultural Society

At the Platinum Jubilee Fete on 4th June, we will have a plant stall. Then on 8th June we have our Rose, Fuchsia and Sweet Pea Show—a mini-show for members only. It is held at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon at 7-30pm. A raffle and refreshments available. Visitors £2.

Our Annual Open Show is on 3rd September at the Jubilee Hall and show schedules are now available from our Show-Secretary Tricia at patricialoades@btinternet.com or 01508-520273. There are classes for vegetables, fruit, flower arranging, cookery and children. This show is open to everyone.

Our membership fee is £10 per year and you will be made most welcome. For further details contact our Chairman Jean Cope on 01502-710024 or jeancope52@gmail.com. or Secretary Hazel Copland on 01508-520890 or email happyhaze50@gmail.com. We also have a Facebook page.



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). Our 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.



The next lecture will be as follows:

Wed June 1st: Tantrums and Tiaras. Nigel Bates.

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://theartsociety.org/waveney-valley>

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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.



Loddon Flower Club

7th June - President's Evening entitled 'Ready, Steady, Arrange'. A workshop when we will be making an arrangement in a tea cup.

5th July - Linda Kingcott will be coming along with her flower arranging demonstration entitled 'Fascinating Rhythm'. A raffle is held at the end of the evening for the arrangements and refreshments served. Meetings are held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open at 6-30pm for a 7pm start. Visitors £6.



15th June we will be taking a coach trip to A Place for Plants in Suffolk and then in the afternoon visiting Beth Chatto's garden in Essex. The coach will leave Loddon at 9-30am and there will be other pick up points. We return around 5pm and the cost for the coach will be £16. Entry to the gardens will be extra. If you would like to join us then please get in touch.

Jointly with the Church in Loddon we are organising a flower festival over the weekend of 16th-17th July at St John's Church, George Lane to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The theme is 'Queen and Commonwealth'. With 54 countries of the Commonwealth to choose from, you are welcome to make an arrangement. The festival is from 10am to 3-30pm both days and on Saturday at 4pm we have a talk of the Queen's life by Lois Gill. Lois will also be bringing her knitted Queen for display. Tickets for this talk are £5 for adults and children under 14 £2. Tickets are available from Loddon, Garden and DIY in the High Street.

For more information contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508-480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Alex Pinder on 01508-493869 or nnark@aol.com. Take a look at our website at www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk and we are available to arrange flowers for family occasions. On 6th May we took part in National Flower Arranging Day when we placed arrangements around Chedgrave and Loddon and surrounding villages for people to take home with them. We hope that those who found one will

Loddon & Chedgrave Society -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, contact the secretary June at junecs@btinternet.com Tel: 01508 528853 or membership secretary Hillary meredithp3@sky.com Tel: 01508 520457.

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Events

I to I PC Support is available each Monday with our volunteer from 10am-12pm. Feel free to book in advance by calling 01508 520678 or just turn up on the day. For help with computers, tablets, and mobile phones.

Bounce and Rhyme is back! On Mondays 10.15-10.45am. Please just drop in. **Stay and Chat**, after Bounce & Rhyme stay for a cuppa and chat with other parents

Just a Cuppa – pop into the library for a free tea or coffee. Chat to others in the library or our staff. Fridays 10.30am-12.30pm

LEGO Club – every Saturday from 2.20-3.30pm. Use your imagination to build some amazing creations. Suitable for children aged 5+

Colouring Club – suitable for all ages, come and colour yourself calm with our ever-changing array of colouring sheets. Leave them in the library to brighten up our walls. Every Mondays 3.30-4.30pm

Board Games – every Thursday from 3.30-4.30pm we'll have a range of board games out for you to play. Suitable for all ages.

Loddon Loves Book Group – on the last Friday of the month, Loddon Loves is back to discuss a chosen book of the month. Booking in advance required, contact us on details below to book your space. 5.45-6.45pm.

Beginners Backgammon Club – learn to play backgammon and play against our volunteer. Every Thursday 12-2pm.

Knit, Crochet, & Natter – run by the Loddon WI pop in to learn a new skill or to chat to friends whilst you knit. Refreshments provided. Second Thursday of the month, 2.30-3.30pm

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Loddon and District Local History Group

Dr Richard Hoggett gave the April talk, titled 'A very remote period indeed. Discovering East Anglia's Earliest Humans.' Our area has some of the most important study sites for early humans in Northern Europe.

Around 700,000 B.P, after various ice ages when it had been too cold for human habitation, it became warmer so humans moved northwards. Secondly, our geography has changed. Around 900,000 B.P. Britain was connected to Northern Europe by a wide land bridge allowing people to enter southern and eastern areas of the U.K. East Anglia was particularly attractive for settlers as the River Thames entered the sea in North Norfolk and was a source of food and water. 6 important sites have been excavated:

1. Hoxne in Norfolk. A hand axe was found in 1797 which was a 'threshold moment' in understanding human origins around 400,000 years ago and for a long time this was one of the oldest excavated sites. Discoveries there were found in brick pits deep in the ground which had been covered by an ice sheet later on.
2. Pakefield cliff erosion revealed flint tools dating back 700,000 years. A major dig took place here between 1971 to 1978.
3. Happisburgh is the most important site in this country for early signs of human life, finds again exposed by heavy erosion of the cliffs. In 2000 a hand axe was found, dating back 700,000 years and this sparked further investigations on the beach after a large bank of sand was created to keep the tide back. Flint tools, fossils, teeth from mammoths, fish and animal bones and hyaena poo are among the finds. From this evidence the team could reconstruct life in this area along the River Thames between 980,000 - 780,000 B.P. These have proved to be some of the earliest finds in Northern Europe. In 2013 a storm revealed an incredible find human footprints (2 adults and some children) in a peat bed. For 2 weeks the footprints were recorded and photographed until the sea washed them away, possibly the earliest example of human footprints outside Africa.
4. East Farm, Barnham in Breckland. Excavations around the ancient Bithin river revealed flint tools used 400,000 years ago and animal remains that are helping to reconstruct the climate of that time.
5. Beeches Pit, West Stowe which is a former gravel pit. The orange earth there suggested a deliberate fire had been made.
6. Lynford Quarry saw a very deep excavation of this Neanderthal site dating back to 65,000 years B.P. There was evidence of butchery of mammoths there. These sites prove that East Anglia is at the forefront of the discoveries of early humans particularly at Pakefield and Happisburgh but the story is constantly changing. A fascinating lecture.

On June 10th there is an outing to Raveningham Gardens instead of a lecture.

July 20th Phyllida Scrivens: The Great Thorpe Railway Disaster of 1874.

All meetings held in St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon starting at 1:30pm. Admission £3.

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

The Queen's Knickers by Nicholas Allen

A very funny royal tale of the many important knickers the Queen wears for different occasions (woollen for Balmoral, ones with holly on at Christmas – that's why her message is always rather short!). What knickers will she wear for her Platinum Jubilee one wonders?!

Mr Wilder & Me by Jonathan Coe

From one of my favourite authors, it's a bit of a departure from his usual stories and feels like a love letter to the golden age of film. I found it compelling and a lovely easy read. It tells the story of Calista, who falls into working in the film industry after she meets Billy Wilder, revered director of *Some Like it Hot* etc. It flits between Calista's present-day life and her memories of working with Billy. There are some very intuitive touches about changes of fortune and how stars rise and wane. It's bitter-sweet with very likeable characters.

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

I was given this by a friend who said she couldn't put it down. And I felt exactly the same – I read it in two sittings! It's the story of Lydia and her son Luca who, after their entire family is gunned down at a family BBQ, in their home-town of Acapulco, have to flee. The insidious influence of the cartel responsible for their loss are long reaching and they are forced to become migrants, treading a well-worn path through Mexico and to 'El Norte' (the USA). The book has been a controversial one in that some people have argued that it's not the author's story to tell. But I don't know much about the plight of the Mexican migrants and the journey they undertake, and this book has definitely made me more likely to seek out real-life experiences and opened my eyes to how horrific it can be. It's not a perfect book, but it's a very readable one, and the small acts of human kindness that are noted along the way feel very real and heart-warming.

Daisy Jones and the Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid

A tale of a band that rocket to stardom in the 70s – loosely based on the Fleetwood Mac. It's told using interview transcripts of band members and various friends and family, it makes it feel very immediate and real. And you get particular insights into each relationship, which you wouldn't do if it was told as a traditional story. I inhaled this book! It's a wonderful read.

A Place of Greater Safety by Hilary Mantel I was hoping to read this in time to review it but it's a large tome! I'm now saving it for the holidays. It focuses on the families and the loves of the men who led the French Revolution – Danton, Robespierre and Desmoulins.

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Nature Notes

I sit typing Junes Nature Notes watching the much-needed rain fall, I thankf my dog who decided to shorten our walk, it enabled us to be home before the rain set in. We had been walking at Rockland Broad enjoying the early afternoon bird song serenading us. Willow Warblers cascading song and Chiff Chaffs calling, the fluting song of Blackcap, and approaching the reeds, both Reed and Sedge Warblers were singing interspersed with the angry call of Cettis Warblers. There was little bird life on the broad except for a few pairs of Great Crested Grebes. However, flying over a small mixed flock of Artic and Common Terns were active, diving for small fish. At this point our dog decided it was time for home, almost back at the carpark a Kingfisher showed itself as it flew off the Staithe and then surprisingly up the road! During the last week of April, working at Seething, each morning I've been entertained by up to 6 Ring Ouzels, passing through on migration to breeding grounds on moors and mountain areas. There have been good numbers of them passing through here in May. Including 21 birds seen at Waxham one morning. Along with Ring Ouzels I also had good views of a Wheatear, but it only stayed around for a day. This morning, as I arrived in Seething, I was pleasantly greeted with the sight and sound of two Grey Partridges, which are always a delight to see as this native species are becoming rarer. The gawdy Red Legged Partridge which seem to be everywhere, are game birds that are raised and released for shooting. We are still waiting to see and hear the classical sound of summer which Swifts are responsible for. Saying that, there does seem to be only low numbers of Swallows, House Martins and Sand Martins about. I have seen all three species but only in very small numbers. Nor have either of us seen or heard a cuckoo. However, the Garganey, a small migratory duck seemed to have appeared in far greater numbers than normal. I watched some at Carlton Marsh, they are beautiful birds especially the males with their white crescent over the eye extending down their neck. A couple of days have past since I started these notes, and we are now sweltering in a mini heatwave. We have enjoyed seeing more butterflies about including Holly blue and Orange Tip. Around the marshes dragonflies are beginning to emerge, though as yet I have failed to identify any, I have definitely become rusty with my identification skills. Roadside verges are awash with white cow parsley and the hawthorn hedges are bursting into flower. Trees are draped in their green finery though some species, like Sycamore, Oak and Ash seem to be reluctant to adorn themselves in their green dresses. Though by the time this goes to print and lands on your door mat they will be adorned in all their green finery. We are fortunate that we live in such a beautiful county. So, get out or look out of your window and enjoy.

Richard and Rachel Hull



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Gardening Notes

From the Allotment—Andrew Milner

June is a productive month and we should all be enjoying picking and eating (freezing, bottling etc) the results of our hard work. It should be safe to plant out all more tender plants like courgettes and squashes now. You should also be successional sowing to ensure food is available in a continuous flow to avoid gluts. Easier said than done I know and it's tempting to simply to put all the seeds out at once, but worth the effort. Some veg like beans just taste better freshly picked.

As the avid reader of this column knows I like to experiment and for the last few years have mastered growing sweet potatoes. This year I decided that the cost of the slips + my time compared to the price in the supermarket simply doesn't make this worthwhile, though they do taste better.

Thinking along these lines my advice on the best things to grow that more than repay the effort are soft fruits. Expensive in shops and easy to freeze also relatively simple to grow and if you have little space many grow upwards which maximises the use of space, even gooseberries can be trained espalier. The fruit you grow may not be so perfect as the supermarket ones, but they taste wonderful. And if you are organic, you know exactly what they have been sprayed with. Nothing!

My experiment this year is with mushrooms. More on this later....

From the Garden—Shirley Cross

I'm afraid Shirley is away this month, back for the next issue.



Meanwhile, if your garden is going mad, as mine is, I'm sure you can find plenty to do.

I have a large patch of English Marigolds, looking beautiful and bright orange, but not one planted by me! It must be the fairies!!

Ed.

End Piece

My Memories of when Bombs fell on Hardley and Langley

Some people moving into Hardley and Langley are surprised to hear that bombs were dropped in the area during World War 2.

The first instance I remember was when two bombs were dropped on a Friday night. The press reported that these were the first to drop on English soil, but we later discovered that Yorkshire beat us to it.

The only casualty was a little pony on the marshes.

Later a bomb was dropped on Hazelmere Wood and this was thought to have been a land mine.

Worse followed when a number of bombs were dropped around the same time. A council house was set on fire. I cycled round to see and realised it was one my family had previously lived in.

The nearby fields were littered with incendiaries, most of them live, but the real surprise came the following morning when I saw my mother looking into a hole in the ground near our home where an unexploded bomb lay. All the families around had to move out for several days while the bomb squad defused it and took it away. I had to leave my dog behind which meant I was up early each morning to cycle over and feed and walk him.

We discovered that Mr Soanes had been killed cycling home the night the bombs fell. It literally hit him on his bike. He had been at work at Cantley and had stopped at the pub with others after crossing the river by boat as usual before leaving to set off home. If he had stayed a while longer or left earlier he would have been in the clear.

We would roam around the fields and marshes and find hundreds of incendiaries, I wonder if some are still there today?

A young soldier at the time said the army were setting up ack-ack guns around Norwich and the Germans may have been trying to disrupt the work. Possibly unable to find a target they dumped their load as they left for the coast and home.

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