



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

November 2021



Chet Valley Churches



All Saints, Chedgrave

Autumn Fair

6th November 2021

10:00am-12:00noon

Cakes; Table Decorations; Tombola;
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Refreshments served throughout—come for coffee or early light lunch



Bring the children to visit Santa's Grotto and post a letter to him!

Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
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Jill Haylock:	01508 520248	jillhaylock@aol.com
Andrew Eburne:	01508 494770	andrew.eburne@rcdea.org.uk



Church Office—closed at present.

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB
Phone: 01508 521179, Email: chetvalley@btconnect.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

Autumn is upon us and the leaves are coming down. It reminds me of The Herbs, a children's programme on BBC TV when I was little. Besides Parsley the lion, Dill the dog and the rather fat feathery owl called Sage, there were a number of humans, each character having their own song:

*"I'm Bayleaf, I'm the gardener, I work from early dawn.
You'll find me sweeping up the leaves or tidying the lawn".*

Collecting leaves to make leaf mould is one of the jobs of the season in our garden. Just as you've swept up, there are more down again.

Comings and goings: We have recruited a new advertising editor. Welcome on board, Peter! All advert enquiries should be addressed to Peter using the Chet Contact e-mail address. Sadly we have said goodbye to our book reviewer after 8 years. Thanks to Jenifer for all she has contributed. We have a guest book reviewer this month (thank you, Amelia), plus one from me, and Ruth will be our regular reviewer, with a little help from her friends in their book club.

It has been great to be pressed for space this month as things are slowly starting again. There are more opportunities for sport, clubs and societies opening up, quite a number of fairs and sales in the pipeline, a concert, Christmas puddings to be made. I look forward to seeing you at some of these out and about in the community.

Alison



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Ministerial Musings

How do you react to an appliance crisis? When I lived in London the person in the flat above used the ‘let’s hope it’s not happening’ strategy—bad news for me when her washing machine went wrong.

For most of us the pandemic was our first encounter with a world-changing crisis, but looming large on the horizon comes an even greater threat: the climate emergency. The predictions for this planet at its present level of CO₂ emissions are dire and we have already seen the effects in our own gardens and fields around us. We’re in this together: there is no Planet B.

This month Boris Johnson and 190 other world leaders will meet in Glasgow for COP26 with the main focus to limit global warming to 1.5° and to ensure that money—big money—is set aside to tackle it. It is easy to think of this as something we can either ignore or wring our hands over, but which we need not participate in. But it is when ordinary people get involved that real change happens—when we write to Boris Johnson supporting what he said at the UN on climate change, as a dozen of us did in Chedgrave last month, when we pledge to reduce our car use, or to turn our heating down a degree, or switch to green energy.

The Bishop of Norwich is the lead Bishop for the Environment in the Church of England and will be at COP26. Why not write to him and our MP, Richard Bacon, telling them how you plan to make a change for the sake of the planet? There is still time to change and every bit of action helps.

In the book of Jeremiah God tells his people: ‘I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruit and enjoy its good things. But you came and defiled my land and you made my inheritance repulsive.’

What might such a prophet say to us?

Can you look the children of the Chet Valley in the eye and tell them you are pretending this crisis isn’t happening?

Belinda



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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.



Wednesdays 9:15am-12:00noon.

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

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.



Next Meeting:

Memorial Service held in St John's Chapel Thursday 4th November at 1:30pm. This will be followed by refreshments in the Lecture Hall.

If you are interested in joining the group ring Rev Jill on 01508 520248.

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.

If you would like to join one, or just to know more, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.

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

*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.*

Confirmations

**Amelia Brackenbury-Read,
Matthew Hayden,
Melissa Bell**

Confirmed: 10th October at All Saints, Chedgrave

Weddings

Stephen White & Ksenia Izmailova

Married: 23rd October at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Daniel Robinson & Dawn Hughes

Married: 29th October 2021 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

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

Funerals

Raymond Frank Smith who died on 16th September 2021

Funeral: 22nd October 2021 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.*

I Thessalonians 4:14, 17b

Thank You

The family of the late Mrs Sylvia Sayer wish to thank all those who attended the funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, and for their generous donations which amounted to £292 which was sent to Marie Curie.

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.

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News From Your Local Councillors



Kay Mason-Billig & Jeremy Rowe

Loddon George Lane and A146 junction roundabout:

Part of George Lane is to be closed in the next phase of the roundabout construction. This will be from Kittens Lane to the A146. George Lane will be made one way into Loddon for the duration of these works which could take up to 7 weeks. This should start around the October half term.

Permissive Path Loddon Marina to Pyes Mill:

I am pleased to report that the landowner has now reopened the footpath, we are very grateful to him for restoring this popular route. The bridge to Pyes Mill has also been mended by South Norfolk Council. Please respect this private property and keep your dogs on a lead, so that all may continue to enjoy this facility, whilst protecting the wildlife.

Flooding:

I have been made aware of various places that have flooded during the heavy rainfall recently. I have spoken with my highways engineer about the drainage in these places and he is arranging for the gullies to be cleared. If you know of any others that need attention, please let me know.

If you have any issues or I can help in any way, you can contact me at

kay.masonbillig@norfolk.gov.uk

Councillor Kay Mason-Billig

I'd like to again thank everyone involved with our Hike to Hardley Mill.

Now that all of the money has been collected, I'm delighted to say that we raised just over £800, which has gone to two excellent local causes: Hardley Mill and Leeway Women's Refuge.



Parish Councils are becoming more and more dominated by local people understandably expressing profound concern about a series of proposed developments across our area. I understand these concerns; we all support additional housing being built, but it is right that our views be taken into account, especially concerning traffic impact and whether the local infrastructure can cope. I was pleased to see that the new Secretary of State for Housing has suspended the changes to local housing development, so I think we should watch this space! The integrity of our communities depends on it.

If you know anyone over-60 who might like a regular visit or phone call, or just some help, please let them know that we are here to help, on 07876 050110.

My regular surgeries will start up again later this year, by which time it should be safe to hold them again. In the meantime, please ring me anytime on 07733 323581 if I can help you.

Councillor Jeremy Rowe



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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



Loddon Parish Council Small Grants At the last meeting on 8th September, the parish council awarded a small grant to Loddon & District Local History Group towards printing costs for a new booklet about the effects of wartime in the local area. If you would like to apply for a local groups or organisation (generally up to £100), please see the PC website for more information and an application form.

Christmas Lights Loddon has always been known for its beautiful display of Christmas lights and we thank you for your part in that. The Council will be using a contractor to install the LED string Christmas lights on the properties and businesses on Church Plain, Bridge Street and the High Street. We will be contacting businesses and residents for permission to put up the lights shortly and your prompt response would be appreciated. There will also be additional displays on Church Plain and the Staithe Car Parks.

Victorian Evening—Friday 10th December

Big South Norfolk Litter Pick—Sunday 24th October Loddon is taking part in the big litter pick this year and we would be delighted if you could join us. We will meet on Sunday 24th October, 09:00-13:00 at Church Plain car park. All equipment will be provided. Please let us know if you can join us: info@loddonpc.org.uk or turn up on the day.

Remembrance Day Parade This year's parade will take place on Sunday 14th November and will meet on Cannell's car park leaving White Horse Corner at 10:30am and arriving at Church Plain at about 10:45am. There will be a short service by the War Memorial which will be followed by a Service in Holy Trinity Church. All timings are approximate and Covid-19 restrictions allowing.

Tennis Courts: Available to book online; www.loddonpc.org.uk/tennis-courts.

Freedom Of Loddon Award: The Council have offered the award to Bryon Sparkes, for his work with local youth groups, and his contribution to the local community.

Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council: The Agenda will be displayed on the notice board on Church Plain, and on the Council's website at least three working days before the meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at the Library Annexe on Wednesday the 10th November at 7:00pm and parishioners are welcome to attend in person. The minutes of the meetings are available on the website: www.loddonpc.org.uk.

Contact Loddon Parish Council: The office is open between 9:00am-12:00noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. A face mask will need to be worn as it is a public building. Should you wish to contact the Council, please email; info@loddonpc.org.

If there is a genuine Parish emergency, please call 01508 486128; at any other time, please use 01508 522020. The website: www.loddonpc.org.uk and [Facebook page is regularly updated: www.facebook.com/LoddonPC](https://www.facebook.com/LoddonPC), so please follow the page for regular updates.

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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%20&%20Heckingham%20Parish%20Council)

Next Parish Meeting: At 7:30 pm on Wednesday 24th November at Hales Assembly Hall (formerly Village Hall), Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the brick bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on the website 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Remembrance Sunday— Sunday 14th November Hales War Memorial 3:00pm. There will be a short service of remembrance at Hales War Memorial to reflect on those who gave their lives, and to lay a wreath.

Neighbourly Spirit: As things seem to be getting tougher at the moment, please keep in touch with your neighbours to make sure that they're all right. If you need help but don't want to ask your neighbour please get in touch with our clerk as we would love to help. Alternatively, you can contact ChetChat on 07876 050110.

Planting for Pollinators: If you would like to help with the planting programme of pollinator friendly shrubs and perennials please let the clerk know. We will be working on the areas around the village sign and the bus stop on Yarmouth Road.

Would you like to be a Councillor? We have a vacancy which we would like to fill someone who is passionate about where they live to provide a voice for concerns, ideas and initiatives that could benefit the villages. We are especially seeking residents in Heckingham Park. Full training about expectations of being a councillor is offered and time commitments vary based on your level of involvement.

Neighbourhood Planning: We would really appreciate your input on the project. Please let the clerk or any councillor know if you have any ideas, concerns or questions about this.

Dykes and Flood Prevention: If your house or garden backs on to a dyke or drainage ditch please ensure it is kept clear to reduce the risk of flooding. Residents are responsible for ensuring drainage systems are clear of debris. Please let the clerk know if this is a problem for you. Thank you for your assistance.

Road Safety: As the nights draw in please drive considerately and safely. Be prepared to slow down and dip your headlights for pedestrians on our narrow lanes without footpaths.

Dog Poo: Please pick it up! Please be nice to anyone who asks you to pick it up!

Hales & Heckingham Compost Scheme: Reducing your CO2 emissions. We have our own Composting Group in the village so there is no need to drive to Bergh Apton to get rid of your garden waste. Please contact Alan Mason for details: Alan_mbc@btinternet.com.

Roads & Footpath Issues: If you see anything that is not right on any of the roads or footpaths in the parishes please advise South Norfolk Council through their webpage: <https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>. There is also a link on our webpage. It would be helpful if you could advise the parish clerk too.

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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 7th October 2021.

Coronavirus: For urgent help contact South Norfolk Help Hub on **01508 533933** or earlyhelphubsouth@s-norfolk.gov.uk.

Proposed Development Langley Rd/Snows Lane: No planning application has been made to date (8th October) but plans are in place for a public meeting on this proposal once an application is received. Details will be published via the parish noticeboard, parish council website and Facebook.

Other Planning Matters: The parish council considered an appeal in relation to a further dwelling on the Pits Lane development. The council agreed to reiterate its objection to this application. More generally, residents have expressed concern about damage to the hedges and verge around this site and the council will be contacting SNC to express this concern and seek the reinstatement of the hedge and verge.

Brian Clarke Room: The room has re-opened. Booking enquiries should be made to Georgina Buckle via brianclarkeroom@gmail.com or 07981 856270.

SAM2 Sign: Speeds of up to 60mph have recently been recorded on Rectory Lane

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY IN OUR VILLAGE!

Council Vacancies: There are two parish council vacancies. If you are interested in your local community and would like to be part of the friendly team which makes decisions about your village, please contact the Clerk for more information.

George Lane Roundabout: County Councillor Kay Mason-Billig advised that the roundabout works will soon require temporary road closures which will result in greater traffic flow through Chedgrave.

Chedgrave Common: Wheelchair and mobility scooter users are reminded that the gates are fully accessible using a "Radar" key. Please contact the Clerk if you have any difficulties with the gates.

Remembrance Sunday (14th November): A wreath will be laid on behalf of Chedgrave Parish Council.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at the Brian Clarke Room on Thursday 4th November at 7:00pm.

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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Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Carla Petersen
Tel: 01502 730166 Email: langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com
Website: <https://langleywithhardley.pc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>
Facebook: To be developed (see below)



We are two very small co-joined villages of fewer than 200 homes. A well-established parish council provides a focus for the community to identify concerns and projects and endeavour to solve them locally themselves. The council consists of a chair, a clerk and six councillors who meet bi-monthly to manage a wide range of local issues including planning applications, play area, the safety of trees and any issues brought up by members of the community. We also monitor traffic speed at four locations in our area through the deployment of a speed camera sign which we share with Claxton on a three-month rolling basis.

Councillors represent the voice of the whole community, whilst being aware of and considerate to, specific minority needs.

We currently have two councillor vacancies for which full training will be given.

One of these will take responsibility for the play area—this involves regular checks on the equipment and the general state of the play area. We are very fortunate to have this facility and it needs to be kept in good condition to ensure that our children are safe as they play. If you have young children who enjoy the play area perhaps you could consider volunteering for this role.

We would like to develop a social media presence in the villages but we don't have the skills to even know where to begin! Could you help? The person filling the second vacancy would focus on this project, formulating a plan and explaining to the parish council how it could be implemented and then to monitor the project.

The council has a very moderate budget income which is called a precept. This is collected by South Norfolk Council on our behalf through the council tax—this year we have approximately £7,500 to do all we do. A high proportion of our income is spent on grass and hedge cutting at the village hall and play area and paying for the part time support of a professional clerk.

We are keen to hear from our residents on ideas to improve our community involvement.

If you are interested in either of these councillor vacancies or if you would like to contact us on any other matter please get in touch through our web site

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

Chet Valley Medical Practice—2021 Flu Vaccination

Doctors' practices are still awaiting government guidance regarding both this year's Flu Campaign and the COVID Booster Campaign. However, we would like to reassure all our patients that we have pre-ordered flu vaccines for all those patients eligible so patients can be vaccinated here at the practice. We will be in contact with patients as we work through emerging government guidance moving forwards, so there is currently no need to contact the practice.

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Notes from Sisland

As we enter the autumn season, the weather definitely changeable, our attention turns to a period of reflection and remembrance. For those who know Sisland church you will be aware that there is no war memorial in either the building or the churchyard. However, there are a few connections to both world wars, some of which are commemorated on the gravestones.



In the churchyard and close to the east end of the church is the grave of Catherine Kiddle. The Kiddle family lived at Washingford Farm at the start of the twentieth century. One of her sons, George Alfred, died on 22nd March 1916, aged 21, from war wounds at a field hospital in Belgium. He is commemorated on the memorial at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery in Belgium. He is also commemorated on Catherine's gravestone as she had died a few months earlier. Presumably when Joseph, her husband died, there was not room for an inscription on the gravestone, but we assume he is buried there. George would have been a recognised figure in the village.

At the west end of the churchyard there is a gravestone for Teresa Fairhead and marked on it as well is her son Sgt/Pilot Edward Eaglen. He was killed on the 5th February 1943, aged 23, and buried in Tripoli War Cemetery in North Africa. Not a resident of the parish but commemorated here.

Also, on the Commonwealth War Grave Commission website, I noted that Flying Officer Frank Joseph Plant is commemorated at the Norwich cemetery on Earlham Road. As my brother cares for some of the Commonwealth war grave sites in Norfolk and Suffolk, I sent him on a mission to find that stone. Frank Plant was the son of Frederick Joseph and Edith Ellen Plant, of Sisland. He died on 19th February 1945, in an accident near RAF Zeals, which is north of the village of Zeals in Wiltshire and next to the Stourhead estate. The site of the crash, which killed 20 men, is marked by a memorial, which was erected by the Wiltshire Historical Military Society at Beech Clump.

The connections can be widespread and the three above are only a starting point. Sisland Church will continue to be open during the autumn, even if the door is closed it will be unlocked, so please take the opportunity to visit us if passing.

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

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Loddon Town Estate Trust—Here to Help

Has the pandemic affected you financially? Many people have been and will continue to be.

If you are finding it difficult to make ends meet financially then there may be help available. The past 18 months have been tough for everyone but the financial implications have been exceptionally difficult for many.

Loddon Town Estate Trust is a small local charity that was set up many years ago to help residents of Loddon when they need that helping hand the most. Don't be ashamed to ask.

We are here to help so please contact us for a friendly chat.

Ring Ann on 01508 528141 or email her at annlumley150@btinternet.com.

Dear Re-Cyclers,

Thank you very much for your contributions to the TerraCycle re-cycling schemes. It takes a lot of packaging to reach the 3kg minimum weight before posting and the cheese and laundry boxes are not quite there yet. Several sacks of pet food pouches have been passed on to another collector as I'm not able to send them myself. Do keep bringing them though as it means a vast quantity of pouches have been kept out of landfill.



I do have one plea though. Please check the information on the notice boards and the box lids before you deposit your items. The programmes can only accept specific wrappers, even if they have the TerraCycle logo on them. That's because each programme can take only the specified wrappers. Any others contaminate their re-cycling process and won't be accepted.

Thank you, Ros Hoffmann.

Chet Valley Voices

We are so excited to be able to say that we are back and that rehearsals will start up again on **Friday 29th** October in St Johns Chapel, George Lane, Loddon, 7:00-9:00pm. We look forward to seeing you all, old and new members



In keeping with government guidelines we ask that masks are worn on entering the building until you are seated or when moving around. Hand sanitizer will be provided and hand washing facilities will be available in the toilet areas. We ask that social distancing is maintained when signing in. Please bring your own drinks.

Sue Martin, Secretary.

Tel: 01508 528069; e-mail: suemartin303@btinternet.com

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch

November is the legion's annual National Remembrance and these are our Loddon branch arrangements, subject to any additional Covid restrictions.



Poppies There will be no poppy stall this year. Instead, we will have an open air poppy table on Church Plain from Saturday 6th to Saturday 13th November (inclusive), 10:00am to 4:00pm, weather permitting. We urgently need volunteers to help. Can you spare us two hours of your time on any of these dates? If so, please email our poppy organiser, Erika Olsen, on erika.olsen123@btinternet.com. She will be pleased to hear from you.

Thursday 11th November is our annual Armistice commemoration. You are invited to join us just before 11:00am at Loddon War Memorial for our short outdoor service.

Remembrance Sunday 14th November Those marching through Loddon please meet at the White Horse car park by 10:30am (smart dress and medals please). Short outdoor service at Loddon War Memorial at 11:00am, followed by a church service in Holy Trinity Church.

Branch Meetings are on **Mondays**: 15th November (AGM); 17th January 2022; 21st February 2022 (no meeting in December); 6:45 for 7:00pm in the rear hall of the Library Annexe on Church Plain.

The branch was honoured recently to receive a Thank You certificate from King's Lynn Legion Branch for our support to them over the last pandemic two years.

As usual, Loddon Branch Secretary Christine Hartley is available on 01508 521136 should you need help, support or general Legion information.

Loddon Players

Loddon Players are very pleased to announce that we will be performing **Beauty and the Beast** in 2022.



“Oh yes we are”!

Things will be different for the pantomime on this occasion so that we can ensure our cast, crew and audiences are kept safe in these uncertain times. The pantomime will be performed at the Alston Centre at Langley School, over the last weekend in January 2022, and will consist of four performances only: one performance on Friday 28th; two performances on Saturday 29th; and one on Sunday 30th. Tickets will go on sale in December and details will be advertised in Chet Contact, via our social media channels and posters in the town and surrounding areas.

We fully intend returning to perform at the Lecture Hall in George Lane in subsequent years.

Loddon Players Pantomime Production Team.

Church Activities

Church Services during the Covid-19 pandemic

Our churches are open for worship. Our services will go ahead as advertised. Please look at our website for up-to-date information.

Our services are also available on our YouTube channel: Chet Valley Churches. The URL for each service and a pdf are on the church website (www.chetvalleychurches.org).

If you cannot attend church and would like a paper copy of the Sunday service, please contact one of the clergy.

Choir for Carols

Hooray! The community choir is coming together once again this year to sing at the Carol Service in Chedgrave Church. Drawn from people of varying ages (~7-90+) we lead the traditional carols as usual and sing one or two items of our own.

“It is a lot of fun. We all enjoy the singing and getting to know others in the community.”

We very much expect that the church carol service will take place once again this year having had a year in abeyance due to coronavirus.

The carol service is on Sunday 19th December at 5:00pm

There will be four choir rehearsals. It is best if you can make at least three of them:

Sunday	November 28 th	3 – 4pm
Saturday	December 4 th	2 – 4pm
Saturday	December 18 th	2 – 4pm
Sunday	December 19 th	3 – 4pm

(refreshment break before the service)



If you would like to take part, please contact Alison Ball on 01508 528126 or e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com. Many thanks and hope to see you there.

Rev Alison

Service in Memory of Loved Ones

Every year in the Chet Valley Churches there is an opportunity to remember people who have been important to us but who have died. They might have died recently, or it could be many years ago—they're still people we have loved. This year's service will be at 4:00pm on Sunday 7th November in Holy Trinity Church, Loddon. You're very welcome to come along, whether or not you've been to church recently. The service will include a chance to light a candle in memory of your loved ones, and will end with refreshments. If you would like to come but can't get there, please let Rev David Owen know as soon as possible so lifts can be arranged. Tel: 01508 522993.

Church Services

7th November

8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12 noon	XPRESSIONS CAFÉ—It's Gospel	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
4:00pm	In Memory of Loved Ones	Holy Trinity, Loddon

14th November—Remembrance Sunday

9:00am	Holy Communion	St Margaret, Hardley
10:55am	Service of Remembrance for Langley, Hardley and Chedgrave	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:55am	Service of Remembrance	Holy Trinity, Loddon
3:00pm	Service of Remembrance	Hales

21st November

10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
4:00pm	Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland

28th November

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's Loddon

Private Prayer

Our churches are now all open all week. Usually this is between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm. Please be patient if the building has not been unlocked. It usually means that whoever opens it is unavoidably busy elsewhere.

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please let one of the clergy know and they will be included in the daily prayers that we make.

Church Services

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches

<p style="text-align: center;">*Every Saturday 6:00pm</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Roman Catholic Mass</h3>																									
<p style="text-align: center;">**Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Come and Pray</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">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 style="margin: 0;">‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p style="margin: 0;">3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>All are welcome</i></p>																									
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursdays during school term</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">XTRA!</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">Join us at St John’s for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3:15pm; Service starts 3:45pm</p> <p style="margin: 0;">More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126</p>																									
<p style="text-align: center;">Every day Morning Prayer 9:00am <i>All Welcome</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Monday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">Holy Trinity, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Tuesday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">St Margaret, Hardley</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Wednesday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Thursday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">Holy Trinity, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Friday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">St Mary, Sisland</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Saturday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> </table>	Monday	Holy Trinity, Loddon	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon	Friday	St Mary, Sisland	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Monday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">Holy Trinity, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Tuesday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">St Margaret, Hardley</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Wednesday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Thursday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">Holy Trinity, Loddon</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Friday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">St Mary, Sisland</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">Saturday</td><td style="padding: 5px;">All Saints, Chedgrave</td></tr> </table>	Monday	Holy Trinity, Loddon	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon	Friday	St Mary, Sisland	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave
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*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.

The Wednesday Home Group

The Wednesday Home Group have begun regular meetings again. We are now meeting at 2:30pm in St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Please do come along if you would like to be with us for informal Bible study, to share thoughts on how we might make a difference regarding those around us and ongoing world issues, and to support each other in prayer.

For more information:

Call Jill on 01508 520248 or email jillhaylock@aol.com or Belinda on 01508 520351.

Davy Place

Hi! We at Davy Place are now open again.

Monday: Bingo at 2:00pm;

Wednesday: Short Mat Bowls at 2:00pm starting 13th October;

Thursday: Knit and Natter from 10:00am-12:00noon.

Last **Saturday** in the month: Hoy (like bingo but with playing cards), starting at 7:00pm.

Jumble Sale: Saturday 9th October from 10:00am-12:00noon.

Welcome back everyone!

Carol Castle: 01508 826488

Loddon Bell Ringers

Our Tuesday practice nights are being well supported as we continue to open up after restrictions were lifted. Our learners are progressing well and we ring every Sunday for morning services.



We rang a quarter peal of Ipswich Surprise Minor in September in memory of David Salter, a colleague from the Suffolk Guild, who passed away recently. David was a well known ringer from Ipswich who was hugely respected within the ringing world. He came to Loddon and conducted our last peal on the bells before they were restored and rehung in 2002, returning to conduct a peal celebrating the completion of the restoration in 2006.

We have rung two eight bell quarter peals at Loddon recently: Uxbridge Surprise Major and Rutland Surprise Major. These were the first to be rung on the bells since lockdown in March 2020.

A visiting band are coming to Holy Trinity on Thursday 25th November to attempt to ring a full peal on the bells. They will start around 3:30pm and if successful will finish around 6:15pm.

Steve Rabong

Community Groups, News and Events



News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute

Loddon and District Women's Institute

I think it's safe to say 'a good time was had by all' when we met in September for our first indoor meeting since February 2020! As well as seeing old friends again, we welcomed several new members, and together we enjoyed a very interesting talk about, of all people, Dr Crippen. Our speaker's subject was 'Murder in the Family', the connection being that the speaker's great aunt (or was it great-great?) knew Crippen's murdered wife, and gave evidence at the trial. We were all intrigued to learn that the use of new forensic methods, using DNA, has apparently cast some doubt upon who exactly was in the grave in the cellar. There is much controversial debate about this!

The Knit, Crochet and Natter afternoon was very well attended, and in spite of a considerable amount of natter proved to be quite productive! (The cake was delicious).

New members are always welcome. Just come and introduce yourself, or contact us through our Facebook page, or at LoddonWI@gmail.com or on 01508 528656.

Next meetings: Knit, Crochet & Natter **Thursday** 11th November, 2:30-4:00pm, All Saints Centre, Chedgrave.

Wednesday 17th November, 7:15 for 7:30pm. Annual General Meeting and Crafts led by one of our members. St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Our first formal meeting since the beginning of the Covid pandemic was on 28th September. Members gathered to enjoy friendship, tea and a delightful talk by Lynton Johnson about growing herbs, their culinary and medicinal uses.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 23rd November, 2:00pm. Annual General Meeting at All Saints Centre, Chedgrave.

More details from Angela Dance: 01508 521120 or Audrey Cox: 01508 528393.

Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

The group meets on the third **Tuesday** of every month, starting at 7:30pm at Langley with Hardley Village Hall. Further details from:

Secretary Gillian Ball 01508 528182 or President Judy Wilson 01508 522051.

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who came to the MacMillan Coffee Morning in my garden, and to those who helped. We raised £1560.85. It means so much to our family; it's such an amazing charity. Beryl Smith.



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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



Chedgrave Table Tennis Club

We are a small, mixed group who would welcome a few new players who are able to attend on a Thursday afternoon on a regular basis. We are neither beginners nor league players and play mainly doubles. If you are interested, please phone Carole on 01508 520589.



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

We are back so why not come and join us? If you have never tried short mat bowls why not give it a go? New members and total beginners very welcome. Every **Tuesday** from 5th October at 1:30pm in the Jubilee Hall. Bring flat shoes (no heels), the right money £3 if possible, and a sense of humour. For 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?

At the Loddon Ladies Hockey Club 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 information please see our website at www.loddonhockey.com or email hello@loddonhockey.com



Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

We are a small village club, which plays home games at Ashby Hall "The Meadow", a wonderful location.



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!





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Loddon Community Gym



I have just returned from a session at the gym feeling more invigorated than when I dragged my feet there after lunch. Although all the cleaning procedures and distancing and face masks are still in place, I feel that the camaraderie that we enjoyed before the pandemic is beginning to return. There are more familiar faces coming back and a welcome trickle of new members coming through the doors. If you are still hesitant about returning to group activities indoors, and we completely understand that, please do feel free to contact Louise or simply pop in when the gym is open and see what you think. You may be pleasantly surprised.

Pre-booking of gym sessions will continue so that there are never more than ten people at any one time and social distancing can be kept. It also ensures that there is always equipment available for you without having to queue which was always an issue especially on a Friday morning. If you need help with booking please contact Louise and she will book you in.

<https://www.picktime.com/easternriverscommunitygym>

If you are interested in joining the gym have a look at our Facebook page and on the website www.loddoncommunitygym.com, call in during open hours to see for yourself, or contact Louise our personal trainer (07534 946143). Louise will discuss your aims and prepare an individual programme appropriate for your fitness level. The system of GP referrals is also back on track so if your GP thinks you might benefit from an exercise programme you will be made very welcome. No special clothing is required just something cool and comfortable.

The annual fee remains at £20 and cashless payment of £5 per session on arrival is here to stay so there is no handling of money. Again, for more information keep an eye on the website.

Gym opening hours in the Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon as follows:

Mondays: 1:30-6:00pm, Tuesdays: 4:30-8:30pm, Fridays: 10:00am-1:00pm.

Any minor changes to these times will be clear when you book.

Hales and Loddon Cricket Club

Hales and Loddon Cricket Club start their indoor coaching programme on **Monday** 1st November. There are a few places available: Softball 6:00-7:00pm and Hardball 7:00-8:00pm. The sessions will be led by Norfolk player Sam Arthurton.



Volunteers wanted: After a success season on the field, where the club won the T20 cup Division 4 East title as well as the Fair Play Award, we are looking to push ahead and provide a new facility to improve the club for years to come. We would like to build a new clubhouse on our Hales ground and we are looking for people to help us with grant applications etc. If you have a few hours spare, please contact chairman Pete Dye: Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk.

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Social Whist

We are back and meeting every 2nd and 4th **Friday** of each month. Please note the following dates for the remainder of 2021: 12th and 26th of November; 3rd and 17th December.



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. We are very mindful of COVID 19 regulations and are listening to our players to ensure they feel safe. Do join us. If you need a lift to/from The Hollies this can be arranged—please call me (Jane) on 528875 and we'll see what can be organised.

Chet Staithe Probus Club

Have you recently retired or just moved to the area? Are you missing male company, on your own, or just want to get out and meet new people? Why not visit the Chet Staithe Probus Club which is held on the first and third **Tuesday** of the month at the White Horse, Chedgrave. Meetings start at 10:00am and finish around midday with the option of staying for lunch. We are a friendly informal club, jackets and ties not required. Members range in age from 60 to almost 100.

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.

Next Meetings:

26th October. Keith Grisedale: Norfolk Blood Bikes;
9th November. Allan Whittaker: Bradwell Post Office Murder.
23rd November Pete Goodrum: Norwich in the 70's.

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

Our monthly club meetings have resumed as in-person meetings but we now have a new venue—St John's Methodist Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 6:45pm for 7:00pm start. We do not have a programme for 2021 yet so details for our Monday 8th November meeting will be posted on our website when available.



Please contact Jackie Franklin, email secretary@chetvalleyphotography.org.uk or have a look at 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 knowledge of photography or experience.

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Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday** 10th November and we will be holding a scaled down version of our Autumn Mini-Show for members only.



The meeting will be held at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon and starts at 7:00pm.

Contact our Chairman Jean Cope on 01502 710024 or email jeancope52@gmail.com or Secretary Hazel Copland at happyhaze50@gmail.com for more details on our Society.

If you would like to join us you would be most welcome.

Loddon WEA

If all goes well, in September, the branch will take the first step towards a return to 'normal' life. An Annual General Meeting, in the Jubilee Hall, is being planned for the 27th. Whatever rules are in force at the time, we shall be taking no risks and will adhere to observance of the present measures of distancing, hand sanitising and wearing masks.



Details of the business to be conducted at the AGM will be published later in an agenda, but will include renewal of the committee. There are eight committee members at present, but half of them have served for many years and range in age from 70+ to over 90! We hope to have a guest speaker at the AGM as a reminder of the main focus of the branch. All being well, it will be possible to offer a series of talks on 'The History of Criminology' later in the year and details will be given at the September meeting.

For any further information, please phone 01508 521036. Colin Shearmur

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

Welcome back!

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. Meetings are held at the Brian Clark Rooms Chedgrave at 8:00pm. A yearly fee is charged and £3.00 for each meeting attended to cover refreshments and outlays. Our first meeting of 2022 will be held on Wednesday 26th January. No speaker at this meeting as we need to discuss whether there is enough interest to continue with the club and be able to afford to invite speakers. Existing members please attend if possible and new members will be most welcome.



For more information, please contact Hillary or June Tel: 01508 520457 or 528853.

Christmas Cards

John and Kathy Brooke wish all their friends a joyous Christmas. They will not be sending cards this year but will be donating in lieu to Parkinson's Chedgrave.

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Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

Hi everybody! We are currently planning a couple of events for the rest of the year to try to get everybody to socialise again. I also intend to start planning for next year so that we can get a programme of events out during January 2022.

Please note the following: It is important to notify in plenty of time if you intend to join us.

Quiz and Chips: Thursday 18th November 7:00pm

Our ever popular evening with a light hearted quiz and supper. Please bring your own drinks and condiments. Chedgrave Church Centre. £8.00 each including supper. Contact Hillary: 01508 520457.

Pre-Christmas Meal: Thursday 2nd December.

By popular demand, we will have a pre-Christmas meal at the Old Feathers, 6:30pm for 7:00pm. Booking and choices to be made early November with a deposit of £10.00 each. Please contact me in plenty of time. Menus will be given when available. Full payment to be made with choice two weeks beforehand. Contact June: 01508 528853.

Loddon Community Cinema

The cinema is suspended until further notice for the safety of our community.



Patient Participation Group

Our meetings are not currently taking place and we will advise all through Chet Contact when normal service is likely to resume.

Green Hearts in the Community

During August, XPRESSIONS CAFÉ folk surveyed many of our local businesses to see what steps they were taking to work for the good of the environment. Lots of them took part and we were delighted to find that a large proportion were doing at least something to reduce their carbon footprint.

Here are some of our results: lots of businesses are using local providers for their goods; just under half of the businesses are getting their energy from green energy providers; two of them are using electric cars. I wonder if you can discover which ones they are.

At the ECO-CAFÉ in September, our children made some 'green heart' eco-awards out of recycled materials, one for each of our eco-friendly local businesses. During XTRA! (our after-school service) the children went out and started to deliver green hearts to them. Why don't you see if you can spot a green heart in our shops, cafés and pubs?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone in the Chet Valley committed to reducing their carbon footprint?

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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.

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.

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For further details please ring Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Saturday 6th November Table Top Sale. Sellers: 10:00am, £5 a table. Buyers: 11:00am-1:00pm. To book a table, contact Tibby or Jane 01508 520184.

Saturday 27th November Christmas Bingo: 7:00pm

Sunday 12th December Wintertime Art and Craft Handmade Gift Fair. Sellers: 8:00am. Buyers: 10:00am-4:30pm.

Discos for Learning Disabilities at Langley with Hardley Village Hall
Saturday 13th November;

Saturday 11th December Christmas Disco

7:00-9:30pm; £5 entry and drinks; All ages welcome.

Contact Jane on 01508 520184 to book a place.

Loddon Flower Club

Tuesday 2nd November - Barbara Collins - Floral Moments. There will be a competition for members with the same title.

Tuesday 7th December - Wendy Goodliff - Countdown to Christmas.

If you would like to join us to watch the above flower arranging demonstrations you will be most welcome. Our meetings are held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon, 6:45pm for 7:00pm start. At the end of the evening a raffle will be held to win one of the evening's arrangements. We also arrange flowers for family occasions.

For photos of our meetings, etc please take a look at our website at www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk.

For more information contact: Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Alex Pinder on 01508 493869 or nmark@aol.com.



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Hand sanitiser is available for use on the way in and out of the library

Sorry, there are no newspapers or magazines

We've made some changes to our opening hours

Monday, Thursday, Friday 10:00am-7:00pm; Saturday 1:00-4:00pm

Closed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Sunday.

Events

One-to-One PC support will be available each Monday with our volunteer from 10:00am-12:00noon. Feel free to book in advance by calling 01508 520678 or just turn up on the day.

Bounce and Rhyme is back! On Mondays from 10:15-10:45am. Please just drop in.

Bookends: Listen to a story and join our volunteer in a craft activity related to the book, Friday 12th and 26th November, 3:30-4:00pm

We have plans to restart all our regular events. If there is anything in particular you are missing please give us a ring on 01508 520678 or email us at loddon.lib@norfolk.gov.uk and we will do our best to get these started again this autumn.

www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries



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Loddon and District Local History Group

Loddon & District Local History Group

Our first post-lockdown meeting was held in September and was well attended.

I think we were all surprised at how much had been done by the group in the last 18 months. Bryon reported on the lockdown digs behind The Angel and Breydon House, as well as the more recent ones on farmland across the bypass.



Digging the pit and the excitement of finding a piece of old pottery.

Carol reported on the new booklets replacing four of those produced 20 years ago and new acquisitions kindly donated by the families of Michael Gunton and Lawrie Sayers, amongst others. She has started work on a new booklet on Langley with Hardley.

I reported on the incredible progress made by the team of cataloguers working listing the content of the many folders and albums in the archive. Many have now been completed and we are nearing the stage when the individual lists can be combined. While doing the work we have all found out much more about the area we live in.

We do not have an accessible home for the archive since moving from the library during lockdown, but regular displays have appeared in Youngs window where we are able to share some of the pictures and information. I hope you have been able to see the tithe map display in Holy Trinity.

We have also updated the churchyard surveys at Hardley, Heckingham, and Langley, with plans for Raveningham and more when weather and time allow.

My thanks to everyone who helped make the meeting a success.

In November Dr Richard Hoggett, an old friend of ours, returns to speak about: 'A very remote period indeed'; Discovering East Anglia's Early Humans

If you would like to be included on the History Group mailing list, please let me know by email: elvie.herd@uwclub.net.

Elvie Herd

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

How to Kill Your Family by Bella Mackie

Meet Grace Bernard: daughter, sister, colleague, friend ... serial killer. Grace loses everything when her mother dies and she finds out her estranged father is a multi-millionaire. She plans her revenge which is: kill her family, make a claim on their fortune, get away with the above, and then perhaps adopt a dog.

All at once funny, serious and strangely uplifting; this book is hilarious and dark. It's not often you are on the side of a serial killer, but this book has you wondering whether you are in fact on Grace's team as she goes about her plan to dispatch every last family member until she's the only one left.

A gripping read, *How to Kill Your family* is certainly a page turner, but I advise reading it with tongue firmly in cheek.

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

Set in Stratford, England, in the late 16th century, Hamnet imagines the emotional, domestic, and artistic repercussions after Will, a playwright, and his wife lose their only son, 11-year-old Hamnet, to the bubonic plague in 1596. Four years later, the boy's father writes his grief into a play—titled with another spelling of his son's name—in which the father dies and the son lives to avenge him.

Hamnet is a beautiful book; grappling with the stages of grief and its effect on brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, and husbands and wives. The scene is beautifully set, much like the playwright's works; you become deeply involved with the characters. As such, although wonderful, this novel was, to some extent, an emotionally exhausting read. However, this would not be a reason to discard the thought of reading it. Hamnet reverberates through time and tide, and its message is wholeheartedly applicable to an age combatting against our own pandemics.

Amelia

Buzz by Thor Hanson

Buzz is a surprisingly interesting book which I found difficult to put down. Written by someone who became a self-confessed bee nerd it is a natural and cultural history of bees that begins 125 million years ago when a wasp first dared to feed pollen to its young.

Did you know that the honeyguide bird, of sub-Saharan Africa, leads tribal honey-hunters to bee nests? They greatly increase the rate of nest detection and lead hunters to more productive nests. But why do they do it? After the hunters have breached the nest, the honeyguide feeds on the leftovers and scraps, even digesting beeswax.

Alison



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Nature Notes

It's a blustery, cold, wet Saturday afternoon at the beginning of October so what better time to write November's Nature Notes.

I had hoped that September would have been more productive for me birdwatching, but that wasn't the case. Early in the month while there was an easterly wind blowing, I took our dog to Winterton to check if any rarer birds had blown in on their flight south. After scanning the sea for some time with my scope, all I could find was a solitary cormorant, not what I had hoped for. While sharing my lunch with the dog, I did manage to see a small number of gannets flying by. The pure white adult birds, with black wing tips, shine out in the sun unlike their dirty grey looking juveniles. None of the birds I watched were fishing. This can look spectacular as they dive from height with folded back wings. Walking back to the carpark through the dunes I did see a solitary wheatear. Although disappointed not to see a greater variety of birds it was still a beautiful day.

Near the beginning of the month as dusk enveloped its cloak, I went out into the garden, when a sudden movement caught my eye. Initially I thought rat! However, as it made a scratchy sound as it went under our side gate, I realised that it was an adult hedgehog and the noise was the spines scraping the underside of the gate. I was pleased to discover that we had at least one visiting the garden. Since then, I have noticed their droppings on several occasions. Another mammal that I saw, this time walking the dog along the Yare between Langley Dyke and the sugar beet factory, was an otter. I saw something surface dive to avoid a boat and to my surprise when it surfaced again, there was the otter. I was able to watch it for some considerable time as it played in the water, another breathtaking experience.

I had a good walk round Surlingham Church Broad, initially having to navigate a very muddy path in my sandals. Although another walker coming towards me warned me I would never make it, I proved them wrong and didn't muddy my footwear, though my dog had to be carried over the worst part, which was an interesting balancing act. Highlights of the walk was a very obliging kingfisher and a frog which crossed the path in front of us.

While at Seething I saw a couple of greenshanks fly over which drew my attention by calling. It was also good to see a whinchat which was passing through to warmer climes.

As if on cue, jays seem to be everywhere. This normally secretive member of the crow family, is busy collecting and storing acorns to feed on during the winter. It's remarkable to think that each bird may well bury many hundreds of acorns individually and remember exactly where they are buried so they can return to them when food is in short supply.

Well, what will November bring? The only way to find out is to look, whether through a window or while you are out walking.

Richard and Rachel Hull





Under the Sun

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All Saints Church, Chedgrave

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from Alison Ball 01508 528126 or ball880am@btinternet.com

Community Christmas Puddings on Stir Up Sunday.

Stir Up Sunday is on 21st November.

Come and join us at All Saints church centre to make Christmas puddings from scratch after our 11:00am morning service. We will be busy mixing and stirring from 12:00noon onwards.



We are using a Delia Smith pudding recipe and ingredients will be provided. They will contain vegetable suet but no nuts or alcohol; you could add these yourself before steaming the pudding.

There will be a charge for each pudding made to cover the cost of ingredients: one pint pudding basin £3; two pint pudding basin £6.

Bring your own pudding basin!

Please book in advance by calling Roger Outlaw on 528710; numbers limited to 20.

Open House at the Victorian Evening

Friday 10th December

in Holy Trinity Church and St John's Chapel, Loddon

Stalls will be available for individuals raising money for charities and for local community groups. We are mindful that this is a popular event, and will take steps to ensure safety as much as possible.

To register your interest contact Nina Owen on 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com

Subject to regulations, the house will be open—do come in!

Gardening Notes

From the Allotment

November is usual a quiet month for harvesting or planting so the focus is on clearing away the things that are over and preparing the ground for next year. Also catching up on the jobs that have been neglected when harvesting is the main concern.

November planting includes garlic and broad beans. You can also plant spring onions and there are varieties of lettuce you can continue to grow under a cloche. There are two sorts of garlic: hardneck and softneck. Hardneck varieties store better though the cloves are smaller. Softneck are usually bigger and plumper but only store for around three months. There are also some very early varieties on the market. To plant, gently break the bulb into cloves and plant the clove root down in a shallow hole 2.5cm (1") deep, 15cm (6") apart and rows 45cm (18") apart. They need to be watered well in dry weather. Last year I had a poor crop of both garlic and onions on my sandy soil as the weather was dry when it should have been wet and then wet when it should have been dry.

On the other hand, I had a good crops of summer raspberries, grapes (fermenting nicely), butternut squashes, pumpkins, french beans, potatoes (should last until the new ones next year). The apple orchard did better this year and our Allotment Secretary found a completely new apple press on Free Cycle. It's a slippery slope from apple juice to cider!



From the Garden

The gardening correspondent is having a break this month.

Chet Valley B-line wins a prize!

The Chet Valley B-Line project were joint winners of the 2021 Countryside Champions Award from the Norfolk Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

Professor Tony Davy (Chair of CVBL) and Rodney Aldis accepted the award on behalf of all those who supported and volunteered with us in so many different ways. A heartfelt thank you to you all.



Here is a link to more information about the event <https://www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/awards-2021/>

If you have any ideas you want to discuss or any questions to ask then please get in touch. You can email us at chetvalleybline@gmail.com.

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