



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

October 2021





Chet Valley Churches **All Saints, Chedgrave**

**Come to the Quiz and Supper on
22nd October 2021**

**Starting at 7:00 pm, a supper of baked
potatoes + fillings and delicious
puddings from Spooncake will be
interspersed with quiz rounds.
Suitable for all ages.**

**£10.00 full price; concessions £7.50;
families £30.00**

***Come on your own or as a group—
each table of eight will play as a team.***

Only 5 tables—40 tickets—buy soon so you are not disappointed!

Tickets from Church Office or Rev Alison 528 126

Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen:	01508 522993	david.chetvalley@gmail.com
Louise Morrissey:	01502 717797	delilah.morrissey@gmail.com
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Church Office

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

Phone: 01508 521179, Email: chetvalley@btconnect.com

Open—Mon & Fri: 10:00am-4:00pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10:00am-1:00pm



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

This month is full of returning groups of all shapes and sizes. I only **hope I've got all the details right! I've been going cross-eyed** trying to check and re-check. There are no prizes for pointing out any clear errors, only apologies from me if they are there.

So, as we take cautious steps out again, remembering that this horrible virus is still here and not going anywhere soon. I, for one, thank heavens for the various vaccines which have brought a wide ranging protection to so many. Talking to a friend today whose family have been hit by it quite badly, she felt that their **double-dose protection had helped them fight it off and I can't believe the same could have been said for the American horse worm treatment some are taking in the U.S.**

As our gardeners on page 53 point out the outdoor growing season is ending, in my case apples and pears in large numbers and the coming months of hard labour clearing, tidying and planning, ready to start again in the Spring begins now.

Not much different to coping with Covid in many respects, just adapting and getting on with life,

I wish you all well,

Roger



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Ministerial Musings

During lockdown we asked ourselves how we could be church.

The church is expected by the community to be there for baptisms, weddings, funerals—the occasional offices as we call them. It is expected to be there for civic occasions like Remembrance Day, special services like that for HRH Duke of Edinburgh. It is expected to provide uplifting and rousing services for all to enjoy at Christmas and Easter. It is expected to be there to pray for people who are in difficulty or who make requests **for their friends and families, for world situations. And we've done all those things through lockdown in one form or another, even if they weren't quite 'as normal'.**

But are those things really what church is?

I thought I would share something that I heard just the other day. Schools are back, and RE homework for Year 9 was to write about the **'features of a church'**—altar, font, lectern, stained glass windows, pulpit... and their significance/importance.

One question was: 'What is the most important feature of a church? Explain your answer.'

The response from one student, ever insightful, was: "The people: without them there is no church. The welcome: without that there are no people."

Here, here! I couldn't say better myself.

And so we look forward to welcoming you; we look forward to welcoming everyone: those who are new to our communities and those who have been here for a long time.

I finish with a poem written, a few years ago now, by the same young man. **Sometimes our young people just 'get it' when others make it so complicated.**

God in Hail by Gareth

God is like something you see for the first time,
You don't know exactly what it is, but you experience it.
God is like hail in a thunder storm,
The sun reflecting on the hail bringing spark.
God is like a memory,
Familiar but invisible.
God is quiet,
but in thunder and the drumbeat of everyone's heart
God creates happiness.

Rev Alison

ADVERTS

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.

Xtral **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 noon.

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:

2pm on 7th October we will enjoy afternoon tea and a chance to catch up.

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

ADVERTS

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.*

Weddings

Benjamin Webster & Karly Welch

Married: 24th August at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Ewan David Fraser Campbell & Danielle Louise Murphy

Married: 18th September 2021 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

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

Funerals

Sylvia Anne Sayer who died on 23rd July 2021

Funeral: 1st September 2021 at Waveney Crematorium

Derek John Leathers who died on 5th August 2021

Funeral: 2nd September 2021 at St Mary's, Sisland

Frederick Samuel George Crisp who died on 10th August 2021

Funeral: 13th September 2021 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

Jane Dixon who died on 24th August 2021

Funeral: 21st September 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.*

1 Thessalonians 4:14, 17b

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 no need to contact the practice currently. Chet Valley Medical Practice

ADVERTS

News From Your Local Councillors Kay Mason-Billig & Jeremy Rowe



Loddon George Lane and A146 junction roundabout

The start of the construction works has been scheduled for 6 September, expect **road closures and delays locally. I know this will inconvenience us all but we can't** avoid it and at least we will have a new roundabout to show for it. The final phase of the works will be the addition of new pedestrian crossings on George Lane. I will update on these when I know more.

Foot Bridge over the Chet at Loddon Staithe

As reported recently, SNC have accepted responsibility for the footbridge and have surveyed it and declared it repairable. This footbridge used to link the Staithe to the Millenium Gardens at Wherry Close. Many have said they think the footbridge an eyesore and would like to see it repaired. However, we are unlikely to get funding for the refurbishment without it being available for use as intended, to link the two sides of the river. The residents of Wherry Close, who are responsible for looking after the gardens, have expressed concerns that reopening the footbridge may lead to anti-social behaviour and vandalism in what is currently a lovely space and is already available or use by the public. We could extend the CCTV to cover the footbridge but is this a good use of taxpayers money? I would welcome your views on this and whether the bridge should be reopened or what are the alternatives? Remember, there is a rather ugly Anglian Water pipe running beneath the footbridge and this would still need to stay in situ.

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

Kay Mason-Billig

Hike to Hardley

Thanks to all involved with our Hike to Hardley Mill which took place on a beautiful day. Money is still coming in, but we've already raised over £600, to be split between Hardley Mill and Leeway womens' refuge. Thanks to The Saxonettes and Funky Feet for keeping us so brilliantly entertained.



If you would like to help these excellent causes, the details are: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jeremy-Rowe-2>

We are raising money for Leeway Women's Refuge and Hardley Mill. If you'd like to get friends to sponsor you or just to make a donation, the details are: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jeremy-Rowe-2> We're grateful to Musker McIntyre, Rosy Lee's and Minimum World for sponsoring the event.

If you know anyone over-60 who might like a regular visit or phone call, or just some help, ChetChat is here to help, on 07876 050110.

My regular surgeries will start up again later this year. In the meantime, please ring me anytime on 07733 323581 if I can help you. Councillor Jeremy Rowe,

ADVERTS

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



Contact Loddon Parish Council: The office is open between 9:00am-12:00noon on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. 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 486 128, at any other time, please use 01508 522 020. The new website: www.loddonpc.org.uk and Facebook page www.facebook.com/LoddonPC are regularly updated.

Loddon Parish Council Small Grants

Loddon parish council offers small grants to local groups & organisations, generally up to £100, for more information and application forms, please email

finance@loddonpc.org.uk

Vacancy – Parish Councillors: Loddon Parish Council has three vacancies.

Please contact info@loddonpc.org.uk to find out more about the role.

Hall Hire: If you would like to hire the hall for a regular booking, or an event, please email: info@loddonpc.org.uk.

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

Freedom Of Loddon Award: Thank you for all your nominations, the winner will be notified shortly, and the Council hope to present the award at the Parish Council meeting on the 13 October 2021.

George Lane Roundabout: Construction has begun, and it estimated that the build will take 22 weeks.

Police Beat Manager: **PC Steve Banes is no longer Loddon's beat manager, and his replacement, PC James King took up the post from the 26 July 2021.**

James.king@norfolk.police.uk

Hedges: We are receiving numerous reports of householders hedges blocking the footpaths. Please could householders try to keep their hedges tidy.

Allotments: There is a waiting list for the Allotments. If you live in Chedgrave or Loddon and wish to be added to the Allotment waiting list email: info@loddonpc.org.uk.

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 13 October 2021 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.

ADVERTS

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 is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th October at Hales Christian Assembly 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. For hard copies, please contact the Clerk.

Digital Exclusion Offer – Norfolk County Council is supporting service users to access digital devices. For example, this includes those trying to apply for jobs, access online courses/training, home schooling, or arranging medical **appointments. Please contact the 'Norfolk Assistance Scheme at Norfolk County Council** or ring 0344 800 8020 for more information.

Flooding & Dykes – **As we say 'goodbye' to summer, those resident with** properties that front a dyke, please monitor them. Ensure they are unblocked as there is increased risk of flooding during heavy, autumn and winter rainfall.

Hazardous Waste Days at Ketteringham. If you need to dispose of any hazardous waste, visit Kettering Recycling Centre on 15th, 16th or 17th October between 9.00am and 4.00pm. Or visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste for other centres.

Composting Scheme – reducing your CO₂ emissions. Composting scheme members would love you to join them by simply delivering your garden waste to them. You can of course help-out but this is voluntary! So please consider dropping off your garden waste at our site, (at a pre-agreed time) rather than travel to Bergh Apton, saving fuel, CO₂ emissions and your own time. For more information, contact: Alan Mason - alan_mbc@btinternet.com or on 07738 933316.

2nd **Council 'Drop-in' session.** By the time you read this, we will have held our 2nd drop-in session on Thursday 16th September at Masala Garden. The results of the first were positive and, among other things, led to the speedy filling-in of **some potholes identified by residents who joined us. But, you don't have to wait** for a drop-in session to contact us with your concerns, questions or constructive recommendations! *We really need and appreciate your input* so please do contact the Clerk and if helpful, Eleanor or any of the Councillors would be happy to talk with you.

ADVERTS

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 2nd September 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: The meeting was well attended by residents expressing opposition to the proposals and their comments were noted by the council. There has not yet been a formal planning application but when there is, the council agreed to hold an open meeting so that parishioners can express their views. Details will be published via the parish noticeboard, parish council website and Facebook.

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

SAM2 Sign: Councillor Bob Demain maintains the village SAM2 sign and recent monthly data is published on the parish council Facebook page. The majority of traffic travels within 30mph but there are some worrying speeds being recorded.

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.

“Big South Norfolk Litter Pick”: The parish council will hold a litter pick on 24th October. Please meet at 10am in The Pits. Please come and join in and help keep our lovely village tidy! Thank you.

Christmas Lights: Although it seems early to be planning Christmas, the council agreed to provide Christmas lights again this year and would like to thank the LDBA for a generous donation towards the maintenance of the Christmas lights in future.

Queen’s Platinum Jubilee: The council agreed to participate in “The Queen’s Jubilee Beacons”. Further details will emerge in due course.

Planning Matters: There were no planning matters.

Next Meeting: at the Brian Clarke Room on Thursday 7th September at 7pm.

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.

PLEASE KEEP DOGS ON LEADS IN OUR PLAY AREAS & CLEAR UP AFTER
YOUR DOG

ADVERTS

Notes from Sisland

Writing this at the start of September, when the sun is shining but the glow and mists of autumn are present in the early morning, I want to take the opportunity to thank all those who supported the Sunday Teas at Sisland church throughout the month of August. Not only an opportunity to catch up with friends, old and new, but for the latter to be able to appreciate the beauty of the building and the history that it contains.



Sisland is recorded in documents dating back to the Domesday Book of 1086, however the construction of Sisland church possibly started soon after the Norman Conquest, although very little of this early building remains. Visitors at any time when passing, should visit the back of the building – the north wall – to see signs of its evolution.

If you face the north wall, to your right, nearest the tower, is the earliest **coursed rubble wall, most of the 'rubble' is natural flint nodules, and the narrow door is almost certainly thirteenth century or earlier in date.** There was originally a matching narrow window high in the wall to the left of the door, which has now been covered. The second period is represented by the north chapel and the adjacent part of the north wall of the church. A small archaeological excavation conducted within the chapel revealed that it was well appointed and furnished with an altar on a raised dais and a screen. A beautiful terracotta piscina of fourteenth century date **can be seen built into an ornamental 'blind' arch in the north wall of the church.** The final period of building took place in the eighteenth century **and is represented by the brickwork to your left at the east end. A 'patch' of brickwork within the chapel on the north wall of the church was also constructed at this time, possibly covering up the earlier access between church and chapel.** It would also appear that the chancel of the church was extended at this time.

As you will be aware the maintenance and care for this building takes both time and effort as well as a range of fundraising. Sisland is an incredibly small parish and so the money raised by the Sunday Teas, are main event of the year, is key to the investment we can make in providing support for this building now and to make it available for future generations to benefit **from the peace and tranquillity that it provides. As one visitor stated 'it is a place to contemplate and remember everyone who has gone before us'.**

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

ADVERTS

They're Back...

Loddon Band in Concert

Holy Trinity Church, Loddon

Sat 9 October, 7.30pm

Tickets just £8 for this first Holy Trinity concert after lockdown. Price includes excellent interval refreshments.

Tickets from Tricia Bell (01508 528433, email janpbell@btinternet.com) or Val Counter (01508 520702, email valancounter@gmail.com) Please buy tickets in advance if possible to help with catering and seating.

Chet Valley Voices

“Do know where—Don't know when”

Firstly we hope you are all well, and we look forward to the day when we can see you all again and singing **together, DO know where, DON'T know when!** [perhaps we can sing this when we do!]



We were so hopeful for a September restart, knowing some restrictions were being lifted in July. After a committee meeting and much deliberation, with heavy hearts it was decided that due to the rise in cases your health and wellbeing is our topmost priority, therefore we will review the situation in the New Year, or sooner if cases fall to acceptable levels.

We know this will be a disappointment for you, but keep up with your breathing exercises and warm ups, they will pay off for your singing and general health, sing along with the radio, or work on a song and improve it, so when we meet again we will all sing with gusto.

Anyone interested in joining our merry band will be heartily welcomed.

If you have any queries or wish to speak to us please do not hesitate to contact me and I will pass on any messages or questions.

Sue Martin, Secretary.

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

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Jen's Genius Square 24-Hour Challenge

My brother-in-law has always been an extremely active man, but over the last couple of years, it became increasingly apparent that he wasn't himself and was struggling with basic daily living tasks. Eventually, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, absolutely devastating for all, not least his wife, my twin sister. Fortunately, they've had great support from Parkinson's UK which has helped them no end in adapting to life with the condition and getting the best medical care.



I want Parkinson's UK to be able to provide such support to others in their position in the future, as well as funding research into more effective treatments and trying to find a cure for this progressive disease, the ultimate goal. However, they won't be able to continue there without cash from the likes of you and me! This is why I've decided to raise funds for this vital charity.

As so many people with Parkinson's have difficulties with sleep, I've decided to challenge myself to stay awake for 24 hours! During this time, I will complete as many Genius

Square puzzle games as I can! This will be a great feat for me, considering I'm registered blind, so my spacial awareness isn't great, plus I'm somewhat mathematically challenged, which won't help much either! I know that with your support and encouragement though, that I can succeed!

You can read my full story and offer your sponsorship by visiting my Justgiving page at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jennifer-Hayden>

Whatever you can spare will be greatly appreciated. On behalf of Parkinson's UK and myself, thank you so much for your invaluable support.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.



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.

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.

We still ask people to sanitise their hands when entering the churches and to be mindful of others who may be there.

Bullrush Babies

From September, Bullrush Babies will become part of Noah's Ark. We will all be meeting at St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. We will open on Wednesdays at 9:15am and shut at 12:00 noon. Circle time takes place at 10:30am in the morning when we gather together for songs, stories and biscuits.



Do drop in when it is convenient. There's always a cup of tea or coffee on the go. It is a good chance to meet new parents, childminders, grandparents and share anxieties and wisdom.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Rev Alison:

01508 528126 or ball880am@btinternet.com

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.

Church Services

3rd October		
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
9:00am	Informal Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:00-12 noon	Xpressions Café-	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
10th October		
10.30am	CVB Confirmation Service with Bishop Graham	All Saints, Chedgrave
17th October		
10:45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00pm	Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland
24th October		
9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon
31st October		
10:30am	Benefice Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
7:00pm	Last Sunday Praise*	St John's, Loddon

*Congregational singing is allowed once again. If sufficient people wish to come to face-to-face Last Sunday Praise we will hold it as advertised, otherwise we will continue with a pdf and URL links to songs.

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

*Every Saturday 6:00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	
**Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Come and Pray</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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="text-align: center;">‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing <i>All are welcome</i></p>	
+Thursdays during school term	<p style="text-align: center;">Xtra!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	Holy Trinity, 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.

+Please contact Rev Alison (ball880am@btinternet.com) about current arrangements for Xtra!

Holy Trinity Bell Ringers

As Covid restrictions have gradually eased, we are now ringing all eight bells at Holy Trinity again. The first Tuesday practice night took place on 20th July and we now ring regularly for Sunday morning services. Weddings have begun again and we have rung the bells to celebrate them at Loddon, Woodton, Bergh-Apton and Lowestoft.

We also rang our first eight bell quarter peal for well over a year of Superlative Surprise Major at North Lopham near Diss.

Steve Rabong.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Contact Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184 for info. on upcoming activities.

Dance at the Jubilee Hall Loddon on Saturday October 23rd.



Country: 60s music : and Rock n Roll.

Dancing to. Susan Jayne and Ivan Brady

7.45-11.30 Raffle—Tombola—Licenced Bar

Tickets £7.

Available from Ann's Crafts Church Plain , Jubilee Hall

or Tel Eileen. 520654.

All proceeds to Loddon and Chedgrave Jubilee Hall Maintenance Funds

Reg Charity No 285015

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. Please do come** along if 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.

Community Groups, News and Events

News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute



Loddon and District Women's Institute

In August, members enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon tea in our president's garden – the unpredictable weather was kind! By the time this issue of Chet Contact is published we will have had our first indoor evening meeting since Covid 19 hit us. We also will have enjoyed an afternoon of 'knit, crochet and (definitely!) natter'. It will be good to get things back to normal. We hope, along with everyone else, that autumn and winter won't spring any unpleasant surprises, and will be doing our best to keep our members safe.

We are always pleased to welcome new members and if you are interested, we can be contacted through our Facebook page, or via LoddonWI@gmail.com or by telephoning 01508 528656.

Next meeting: *Wednesday October 20th. 7.15 for 730p.m. St John's Chapel, George Lane*

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Members enjoyed an informal Garden Party in August, and the weather was just right. It was lovely to be able to meet again to chat over tea and cakes.

Further details from Angela Dance, 521120.

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.

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group meeting each month for a talk from a guest speaker and refreshments. Usual time 8:00pm at the Brian Clarke Meeting Rooms, Mallard Close, Chedgrave. We are sadly, not operating at present due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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



ADVERTS

Sport

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart AstroTurf every Thursday evening from 20:00 - 21:00 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 week free!



For more details contact Terry on tezzahayden99@gmail.com

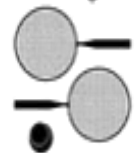
Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

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 (no heels) shoes. 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 the 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.

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



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 19:30 - 21:30 **Cost £5:00, first session free!**

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

ADVERTS

Loddon Community Gym

Did you read the flyer included in last month's Chet Contact? The Community Gym in Loddon Jubilee Hall is open and ready to welcome back current, former and new members. If you want to join, bring the leaflet along and your first session will be free.

Now the autumn is here and the schools are back do you have some time to fit in the exercise you keep promising yourself? After the last eighteen months of the pandemic many of us are lacking motivation or are anxious about starting anything new. I can assure you that we at the Gym are the same but those who have returned will tell you that it is both safe and lifts the spirits to be back.

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 (07534946143). 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 s/he will give you a referral form to bring with you to the gym and Louise will know how to advise you on safe and appropriate exercise. No special clothing is required just something cool and comfortable. The pre-booking of Gym sessions will continue though if this is difficult for you please contact Louise and she will book you in.

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

The small annual fee of £20 and £5 per session make the Gym a very competitive form of exercise. Cashless payment on arrival for your session has also been introduced.

Again, for more information keep an eye on the website. Gym opening hours in the Jubilee Hall, George Street, Loddon as follows:

Mondays: 1.30pm-6pm, Tuesdays: 4.30pm-8.30pm, Fridays: 10am-1pm.



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.

ADVERTS

Social Whist

We meet every second and fourth Friday of the month though there is no pressure to attend every month. We welcome new players. We meet in the back room of The Hollies and start playing at 7:45pm. The evening consists of 12 hands of Whist, each with a different **partner, a drink and a biscuit at half time together with lots of chat. You don't need** a partner and if you need a lift to get there this can be organised. All proceeds are for local charities.



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.



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. 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 now have a new venue - St John's Methodist Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 6.45pm for 7pm start. As this is a new start we do not have a programme for 2021 yet. Further details for our Monday 11th October meeting will be posted on our website when they are 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 photography knowledge or experience.

ADVERTS

Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Next Meetings—

13 October a social evening for members with refreshments and a quiz. The meeting is at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon and starts at 7-30pm. A raffle will also be held.



2nd November - Barbara Collins - Floral Moments.

If you would like to join us you would be most welcome. Contact Jean Cope (Chairman) on 01502-710024 or email jeancope52@gmail.com or Hazel Copland (Secretary) happyhaze50@gmail.com for more details.

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

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch

We are really pleased that our Outdoor Swan Bowls Tournament last month was a great success on an unusually warm and sunny afternoon, and raised a total of £143.00. Worthy winner was Josh Finch (Thurlton Bowls Club), runner up David Larby (also Thurlton Bowls Club). Thanks to Loddon Swan Bowls Club, and to all, for help and support.

New meeting dates— Monday 18th October and Monday 15th November. Both in the back room of Church Plain library annexe.

Try to arrive by 6.45 pm in order to gain access for 7pm start.

In the next issue we will confirm arrangements for the 2021 Poppy Appeal and Remembrance, this year's Loddon collection so far has raised over £8400.00.

As usual, contact our branch secretary 01508 521136 for RBL enquiries.



The 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.

October 21st, A wine and cheese evening. Join June and Dave for an informal evening at The Brian Clarke Room, Chedgrave. 7.00 p.m. £8.00 each. Contact June on 01508528853 before the 14th to book your place.

November 18th Thursday 7.00pm

QUIZ AND CHIPS our ever popular evening with a light hearted quiz and supper. Please bring your own drinks and condiments. Chedgrave Church Room. £8.00 each including supper. Contact Hillary on 01508 520457

December 2nd. Thursday.

By popular demand, we will have a Pre-Christmas meal at the Old Feathers, 6.30 pm 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 2 weeks beforehand. Contact June 528853.

Plant Stall



The Church in Loddon has a plant stall in aid of church funds at Avocet, Norwich Road in Chedgrave. They would be pleased to receive empty pots for filling as well

ADVERTS

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 & Chedgrave District Society.

Hi everybody, plans are afoot!

Contact June Strickland on 01508 528853.

Parkinsons

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.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

For further details please ring Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.

Loddon Community Cinema

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



Loddon Flower Club

We are back, holding our flower arranging demonstrations after a prolonged break and our next meetings will be;

Tuesday 5th October -Stephanie Laing will be arranging with the title of "A Wood Affair".

Tuesday 2nd November - Barbara CollinsFloral Moments.



This time our meetings are in St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon, 6-45pm for a 7pm start. A raffle is held at the end of the evening and you could win one of the lovely flower arrangements to take home with you.

For more information—Contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Alex Pinder on 01508 493869 or nnark@aol.com.

ADVERTS

Loddon Library

We look forward to welcoming you back! You can -

browse the shelves

pre-order a selection of up to 10 books for adults for free through Select and Collect Use the online form at norfolk.spydus.co.uk or call 01603 774777

place and collect reservations

borrow our Grab and Go selection book bags

book one 60-minute session per day on a computer. To book a session or if you need any help using our computers or filling in your Census form, call 01603 774777

collect Tricky Period products and Toiletries To Go

return items through the drop box or self-service kiosks

download the FREE Spydus app to check out books on your smartphone

download eBooks, audio books, newspapers and magazines by visiting

www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

We've made some changes to keep you safe, so

there is no 'Open Library' access

please bring your library card with you or join in the library or online

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

surfaces and computers will be regularly wiped down

sorry, there are no newspapers or magazines

We've made some changes to our opening hours

Monday: 10am – 7pm Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed Thursday: 10am – 7pm

Friday: 10am – 7pm Saturday: 1pm – 4pm Sunday: Closed

Events

1 to 1 PC support will be 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.

Bounce and Rhyme is back! On Mondays from 10.15-10.45am. Booking is essential. Call on Thursdays for the following Monday session on 01603 774777.

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 lod-don.lib@norfolk.gov.uk and we will do our best to get these started again this autumn.

www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

Loddon and Chedgrave Victorian Evening

Plans are advanced for the return of the annual Victorian Evening.

This year's event will be held on Friday 10th December, starting with the arrival of Father Christmas at 6.30pm.

Already confirmed for the Victorian Evening will be:

- +Town lights switch on +Punch and Judy
- +The County Market at the Hollies
- +Father Christmas sees children in his Grotto
- +The Christmas Craft Fayre at the Langley Road Trading Estate from 6-9pm with BBQ, live music, hog roast, outside bar, and lots of craft stalls. Competition for the best dressed Victorian.

A full programme and details will in next month's Chet Contact.

ADVERTS

Loddon and District Local History Group

By the time this reaches you we will have held our first Indoor Meeting at St John's. **Where we will have shared our activities during the last 18 months.**

On October 20th we have Mike Pinner of the Caister Roman Project to update us on the excavations in The Temple Field in 2020 and 2021. I have it on good authority that lots of really good finds have been identified.

November 17th sees the return of Dr Richard Hoggett (he who guided us through the early days of the Parish Study). His talk this time is **A very remote period indeed'; Discovering East Anglia's Early Humans.** Rik has given fascinating talks in the past and I am sure this one will be both entertaining and informative.

Locally Bryon Sparkes has arranged test pit digs, this time in fields at Lodge Farm. Some interesting potsherds have been found. The farm itself is old, For many years in the 18th and early 19th century it **appears in the Overseers Accounts as Captain Cooper's Farms (this included the land and buildings of the present Walnut Farm next door).**

Previously it appeared as Lawrence Le Neve's Farms.

The Cooper family of North Walsham inherited under the will of Elizabeth Le Neve. Elizabeth born Elizabeth London about 1640 married first in 1661/2 John Smith, a gentleman who died in 1678, after other legacies to a daughter Ann Crane he left property to his wife. John Smith mentioned Robert London Grosser as a friend and it appears that Elizabeth went on to marry Robert London probably a relative in 1680. Robert London was buried under a large ledger slab in the aisle in Holy Trinity in 1693. After the death of Robert she married Lawrence Le Neve a gentleman who lived in Loddon for many years, but is buried in Aslacton. His initials are recorded on the framework of the old clock at the back of Holy Trinity along with those of the other churchwarden in 1708, William Fuller.

In the early 1800's the farm was being offered for sale. By 1839 it was owned by Guyton William Jollye and farmed by Frederick Lamb, Frederick died shortly afterwards. In 1841 on the census John Lodge was the tenant farmer with him were his parents John & Sarah Lodge, he was the grandson of Wright Eastaugh of Heckingham. The farm was sold and resold several times, owners included Daniel Branch and in 1880 Jonathan Farrow of Mundham.

Elvie Herd

ADVERTS

Read Any Good Books Lately?

“Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.” – Frederick Douglas

“The Mapping of Love and Death,” by Jacqueline Winspear

Award-winning Jacqueline Winspear, author of the mystery/thriller ‘Maisie Dobbs’ series, set in the time of World War I, an excellent series, of which *The Mapping of Love and Death* is one of the best. In this one Maisie’s mentor (Dr. Blanche) dies, so some of the book is really sad. As always, however there are mysteries to be cleared up by Maisie and her assistant, Billy Beale and - as always - they manage to clear them up. These novels are very different from most other thrillers in that they are old-fashioned and gentle on the whole, with no excess of bad language, sex or violence. Even better, the plots are always interesting and clever!

“King and Maxwell” by David Baldacci

An interesting and entertaining fast-paced thriller, written much in the style of Lee Child. It is interesting to find the detailed knowledge the author has in the fields of modern technology, including the use of satellites. The relationship between the two Private Investigators is depicted extremely well, their quick-fire responses often amusing. The beginning of the book catches the reader’s interest instantly - it’s not often that a thriller starts with a 16-year-old running in the rain...

“Leaving Time,” by Jodi Picoult

Not the usual plot you might expect when you see Jodi Picoult’s name as the author. This is a most extraordinary, imaginative and informative story. The research must have taken an enormous amount of time - it’s just possible that one couldn’t find out any more about the life and behaviour of elephants! A daughter tries to find her mother, Alice, who disappeared ten years ago when she was only three. Raised by her grandmother, who won’t talk about the disappearance, Jenna eventually finds a psychic called Serenity and an ex-policeman called Virgil to help her. Virgil had dealt with happenings of the night Alice disappeared. The three - Virgil, Serenity and Jenna - begin the search to find out if Alice, is dead or still alive. The action, in the USA mostly, features an elephant sanctuary where both of Jenna’s parents worked and where Jenna was born. This book is totally gripping; full of vivid and varied characters (humans and elephants!) and there are all sorts of unusual happenings. What’s more, be prepared for the incredible twist at the end!

ADVERTS

Nature Notes

Here we are, Sunday the 5th of September, the sun is out, and the sky is blue and a Brimstone butterfly just flew past me in the front garden a few minutes ago. Yellow Brimstones are usually on the wing in early Spring, so I presume this one is a **second brood that has emerged from its pupae. Unless it thought that today's** sunshine is the beginning of Spring after the weather we have had over Summer.

One thing I omitted from last month was that back in Spring Rachel was sure she had heard a bittern booming, while she was in the garden. Not an impossibility as **they do breed at Strumshaw Fen which isn't that far, as the crow flies or rather** the bittern flies. Anyway, near the end of June, as I walked the bank of the river Yare from Hardley Staithe towards Hardley Mill when I was suddenly aware of a large brown bird flying towards me over the river. Low and behold it was a Bittern which ended up landing in the reeds surrounding the duck pits on our side of the river. More than likely Rachel was correct in thinking she had heard one booming.

In late August, the said Duck Pits were being enlarged and landscaped, and on two occasions despite the disturbance by the working machinery there, an escaped Black Swan had settled in. Normally Black Swans are found in Australia, there used to be a pair at Strumshaw Fen which had tried to breed, but their time clock **hadn't reset, as they were laying their eggs in the middle of winter.**

I was able to get to Devon for a couple of days to visit some of my family. Driving through Okehampton in traffic I looked downstream while crossing one of the river bridges. There, on a rock, was a Dipper, not native in our part of the country. I used to see them regularly on the river Frome when living in Bristol. I have seen a couple of continental dippers (Black bellied) in Norfolk while living here. Ravens were also flying over Okehampton, a species that is expanding its range and there are now sightings in East Anglia. Calling in at Labrador Bay near Teignmouth and saw eight Cirl Buntings, a bird only found in this part of the country, that has been brought back from the brink of extinction. During August, my daily visit to Seething has seen the only bird regularly singing to be Yellow Hammers, towards the very end of the month they fell silent, but the song mantle seems to have been picked up by Robins.

As we walked across the marshes near St Olaves, suddenly all the Rooks, Jackdaws and starlings flew up from the field adjacent to us. Quickly scanning the area for what had disturbed them, a Merlin came into view. Normally a bird of moorlands, we do get them overwintering in this area.

Richard and Rachel Hull

Once We're Open Again...

Quiz at All Saints, Chedgrave on 22nd October

With all the quizzing that has been going on during lockdown, we are expecting some stiff competition when our popular quizzes recommence.



Autumn Fair at All Saints, Chedgrave on 6th November

Come and join us for refreshments at our sale.

Concert at All Saints, Chedgrave on 7th November

A change of plan here and we are fortunate that Libricini will be returning to Chedgrave to sing for us on Sunday afternoon, 7th November.

Victorian Evening and Churches Open House

The Victorian Evening—Friday 10th December 6:30pm-8:00pm.

Alongside it will be Open House in Holy Trinity and St John's churches. Stalls will be available for individuals raising money for charities and for local community groups. Please be aware that we will need to consider safety and may have to restrict the amount of space we can offer. To find out more, or to register your interest contact Nina Owen on 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com



Church in Loddon's Christmas Fair

Christmas isn't far away, and it will soon be the season of fairs and fundraisers. The Church in Loddon's Christmas Fair will be on 27 November from 10am to 1pm with all the stalls you know and love. More details in next month's Chet Contact, but meanwhile make a note of the date.



Gardening Notes

From **the Allotment**

October, usually a quiet month, you finish harvesting summer crops and start preparing the ground for next year. If you already know your plant rotation plan you can think about where to add manure (not where the brassicas will go), where to grow green manure, or to cover with a weed suppressant like old carpet or cardboard/newspaper weighed down with grass clippings or wood chipping. If planting winter hardy peas and beans next month, dig the trenches to plant them over.

Line with newspaper to retain the moisture and fill with raw (unrotted) compost.

It is usually the last month for harvesting autumn raspberries, runners, courgettes, and squashes. Pumpkins can be harvested and stored once they are a deep orange and ring hollow. Leave a long stalk and keep in a sunny place for 10 days to get a tough skin then store until Halloween! They can last a couple of months in a cool garage. Green tomatoes can be picked and stored in a drawer with a banana to help them ripen but there are also good recipes to be for green tomato curry.

You can also prune gooseberries and blackcurrants now. Aim for a goblet shape so that air can freely circulate helping to reduce to reduce disease. With blackcurrants also remove a third of the older branches right down to the base.

From the garden.....

So far the new garden has been mainly in pots as we haven't decided on a final plan. The new green house finally arrived in late July and we harvested a few tomatoes and chillis. Last month I sowed a few seeds of foxgloves, lupins and cowslips for flowering next year. Sweet peas will be sown this month, the varieties I have chosen this year are Cupani and Anniversary. Cupani is an old variety from 1699 with rich deep purple flowers and is very fragrant. Anniversary is a pale pink that I have grown in the past which has been very reliable again with a very good scent. We let most of the garden go wild over the spring and summer with a mown path to the woodland at the bottom. The main wildflowers in early spring were comfrey which created a pale purple meadow followed by blue alkanet, part of the borage family and then the yellow ragwort and the red flowers of docks. I collected some of the comfrey leaves to make fertilizer, but it did start to take over, so for next year we will remove some of the plants as they appear, along with the excess brambles, nettles, docks and ragwort. It has been lovely to see the large number of butterflies and dragonflies dancing above the foliage and this last few weeks the buddleja has been smothered in butterflies and bees.

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