

CONTACT

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November 2018

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100 years
of
Remembrance



*Photograph: J.M. Chapman
Poppies at Loddon Doctors' Surgery*



Chet Valley Churches

All Saints, Chedgrave

Autumn Fair



24th November 2018

10:00am-2:00pm

Cakes; Flower Raffle; Tombola; Books; Raffle;
New and Nearly New

Music by members of Loddon Band in the morning.

Refreshments served throughout

Soup Lunch from 12:00-2:00

Please see page 11 for advance notice of
THE CHURCH IN LODDON'S
CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

David Owen: 522993 email: david.chetvalley@gmail.com

Ernie Bossé : 01502 470 815 email: ernestbosse250@gmail.com

Ros Hoffmann: 548200 email: ros@hoffmann2011.plus.com

Alison Ball : 528126 email: ball880am@btinternet.com

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Fr. Padraig Hawkins: 492202 email: office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk



Church Office

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

Tel. 01508 521179 Email: office@chetvalleychurches.org

Open: Mon & Fri. 10.00am - 4.00pm. Tues. Wed. Thur. 10.00am - 1pm



Baptisms, Weddings, Thanksgiving Service for the Gift of a Child
To arrange any of the above please contact the Church Office.

Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches www.chetvalleychurches.org

The Norwich Diocese www.dioceseofnorwich.org/#

The Methodist Church www.methodist.org.uk

The RC Diocese of East Anglia www.rcdea.org.uk

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Editorial

November

Father Padriag in his 'Ministerial Musings' uses the expression 'the turning of the year' - this made me think of how the year does indeed 'turn' with the months and the seasons rolling on one after the other. It set me to remembering how once upon a time, each season, each special 'celebration', had certain things associated with it, things we enjoyed only at that special time of the year. Does anyone else remember how, at Christmas Mrs Phyllis Clemence used to have what my children called her 'grotto' in the front room of her house adjoining the bakers in Beccles Road? How it was full of all good Christmas 'things'? Another memory attached to Clemence Bakers was the hot cross buns at Easter. We only bought them on Good Friday, and would walk to the shop from Norton Road early in the morning, with the delicious smell of the buns reaching us long before we got there. These days, it seems very few things happen at the right time! Hot cross buns are available almost as soon as Christmas is over; Christmas seems to start in October - and you can buy strawberries all the year round! Ah well! Times have changed!

Anyway, I suppose that in November we can legitimately think about preparing for Christmas, and there are various references to it in this month's magazine with lots of events being planned. Sometimes it seems there are just not enough weekends in the month, and it so happens that on November 24th (see 'What's On' on pages 43 and 45) **TWO** fairs will take place - so I hope you'll be able to find the time to support both of them.

On page 14 there's a quiz to give your brain a workout - it's just for fun. There's some information about the Church in Loddon's Open House on page 13, and - oh yes - it's time to think pantomime! The booking form for the Loddon Players' 2019 Pantomime is on page 47. (Oh yes it is!) And if you usually have the flu vaccination and haven't yet done so, it's not too late. The November dates are given on page 25.

Joan

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The Month of November, the Month of Remembrance.

Early one Sunday morning the Parish Priest noticed the youngest of his Altar Servers stood at the back of church staring up at the long list of names adorning the Cenotaph. Noticing the Priest watching him the young lad asked what it was he was looking at. The priest responded: "That son, is a list of the names of all those brave men and women who died during Service".

The young lad thought about that for a while, and then shyly turned to his priest and asked: "Which one, the 9am or the 11am?"

The month of November, the Month of the Holy Souls, is a particular time where we recall with an act of memory those who have gone before us from this life and have left their mark, directly or indirectly. It is good that we should have a season of the year for remembrance a time when we feel that that veil between time and eternity is thin, and we can sense that a greater and wider communion of saints to which we belong. The Church has settled this feast on a time in the turning of the year when the pre-Christian Celtic religions were accustomed to think of and make offerings for the dead. The Church kept the day, but it changed the custom.

The greatest and only offering, to redeem both living and dead, has already been made by Christ, and if we want to celebrate our loving connection on both sides of the veil, we need only now to make gifts for and to the living.

On the 11th of November each and every year we especially 'remember' those who have given their lives through war in service of our country. They have left home and family often to foreign lands in the search of justice, freedom and peace; the effects of which we feel in our society today. The world could have been a very different place for us without their sacrifice, which cannot and should not be forgotten.

The memories we recall on Remembrance Sunday should spur us forward in the search for true harmony and peace throughout the world. As the Lord commanded the apostles to "Do this in memory of me" we gather as Christians praying for the graces of the great sacrifice of Calvary to engulf the whole world that we may live in the harmony for which Christ prayed; and to our fallen we say "We will remember them".

Father Padraig

Adverts

Across the Chet Valley Churches

Worship in the Chet Valley

**You will be warmly welcomed to any of our services.
We hope to provide worship to suit everybody.**



- **Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday at one or other of the churches in the Benefice, either Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship, with an informal Holy Communion service once a month in Chedgrave.
- Once a month there is an **Evening Prayer** service at Sisland.
- Services of **Morning Worship** are held in Loddon and Hardley.
- **Last Sunday Praise** is held on the Last Sunday of the month at St John's in Loddon: a chance to sing old and new Christian songs plus time to worship together.

Families and children are welcome at all our services.

*Special provision is made at Chedgrave
where there is a toilet and baby changing facilities.*

- **Xpressions Café** Normally held at All Saints, Chedgrave, on the first Sunday every month between 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon. This is a relaxed and contemporary way of 'doing church'. You can come and go as you please for coffee, cake, crafts, games, songs and much more.
- **Xtra!** An exciting, informal service every Thursday after school in St John's Church.
- **All Together Worship** on the third Sunday.
This 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 children and adults - indeed people of all ages and all backgrounds.

In Loddon and Chedgrave there is an opportunity to meet after the service and enjoy a chat over tea or coffee.

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.***

Adverts

Thanksgivings & Baptisms



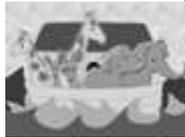
You are welcome to request thanksgiving and baptism for your children. Thanksgiving Services may be held at any time in the churches by arrangement with the clergy. They are an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of a new child and to celebrate this with family and friends in the presence of God.

Baptisms are usually held within the Sunday worship in our churches. They 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.

Please contact Rev Alison Ball on 01508 528126
ball880am@btinternet.com or the Church Office on 01508 521179.

Noah's Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parent and carer.



Wednesdays

9.15a.m. to 12 noon. All welcome.

For further details please call 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.



November 1st: Meet at 11.30 for lunch at 12, after which Joan Gisborne will show a film of the shows which were performed by her pupils at the Joan Gisborne School of Dance. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME.**

If you are interested in joining the group ring Jill on 520 248.

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 David Owen or the Church Office.

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 between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.** Come and go as you choose.



On average there are about 17 people who come to Mardles, and there's room for more! You will be made very welcome.

Xtra!

Join us in St John's Church for an exciting, informal service **every Thursday after school.**

Refreshments, activities from 3.15. Service starts 3.45.

More from Reverend David 522993 or Reverend Alison 528126

Adverts

THE CHURCH IN LODDON

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 1ST
10.00A.M. TO 1.00P.M.
ST JOHN'S CHAPEL
GEORGE LANE LODDON**



- ★ **QUALITY CHRISTMAS GIFTS**
- ★ **HOMEMADE CAKES & PRESERVES**
- ★ **BASKET TOMBOLA** ★ **BOOKS**
- ★ **REFRESHMENTS** ★ **RAFFLE**

**FATHER CHRISTMAS ARRIVES AT
11.00A.M. WITH FREE GIFTS
COME AND SEE HIM IN HIS GROTTA**

Adverts

Service in Memory of Loved Ones

This year's service will be on **November 11th**, on the weekend when remembrance is high on our agenda. It is open to all who want to remember people they have loved and lost, whether this happened recently or many years ago. Do come, and encourage others to do so too.

4.30 p.m. St John's Chapel



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 and people have enjoyed both the singing and getting to know others in the community.

The carol service is on Sunday December 23rd at 5:00 pm

There will be 4 rehearsals and it is best if you can make most of them:

Saturday December 1st 3 – 4pm Saturday December 15th 2 – 4pm

Sunday December 9th 3 – 4pm Sunday December 23rd 3 – 4pm *

*(refreshment break before the service)

If you would like to take part please contact:

Alison Ball (ball880am@btinternet.com or 528126).

Many thanks and hope to see you there. *Rev Alison*

Open House – You're Welcome!

On 7 December it will be the Loddon & Chedgrave Victorian Evening, and as usual the church will be holding Open House. We have the same amount of space for charity stalls, games and attractions as we did last year, as we'll be opening both Holy Trinity and St John's.

If you represent a voluntary group or are fundraising for charity and you took part last year you should be receiving a booking form and details of this year's event. But we're very happy to accommodate others – **just fill in the form on page 29** and drop it in to the church office at St John's Chapel, or email me the details. The only stipulation is that you must be representing or raising money for a good cause, because that's what Open House is for.

For more information about Open House contact me, Nina Owen, on 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com.

UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN

Throughout Advent we will be assembling a collage of mother and child pictures in Chedgrave church.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We would like as many images as possible, from newspapers or magazines, from charities or advertisements and from your own collection- maybe even you with your mother at an early age. Please be on the lookout for pictures from around the world as well as local images and leave them in the parish office, at Chedgrave church, or at my house, 16 Proctor Avenue any time this month or next.

Please remember to put your name and phone number on the back if you want the photographs back. We are aiming to start the collage at the beginning of December and to add to it throughout the month- its impact depends on everyone joining in, so start looking now, and don't forget to come and have a look!



Belinda Barwick

Quiz

A group of us have been talking about the countryside that we live in: how beautiful it is and what variety can be found in it if we only look.

*It prompted this **ENVIRONMENT QUIZ** – just a bit of fun!*

For example, the clue *Seaside* might lead you to the answer *Beech*

British Trees

Long for.
Church Leader.
Spare the rod and spoil the child.
Small William crouches down.
Male deer with spikes not antlers.
Canadian syrup.
Not me!
Fiery remains.
Calcium Carbonate.
Brass instrument smile.

British Mammals

Turn the thermostat up a bit, luv.
Hassle someone.
Beauty spot?
Field boundary for a sow's mate.
Anyone for cricket?
Can it be tamed?!
Term of affection.
Talk on continuously.
Entrance for a small rodent.
On your head?

British Insects

Tiny waist.		This mark shows it's all right!
Second letter.		A faint light tries to sneak its way in.
WW2 fighter.		LBJ's wife.
Fat levitating.		A cornetto?
Verge takes one-legged exercise.		Fiery breath hovers over water.

Answers next month

From the Parish Registers

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BIRTH OF A CHILD

SAMUEL WILLIAM TOWNSEND October 21st All Saints Chedgrave

*'Heavenly Father, we praise you for the birth of this child.
Surround him with your blessing that he may know your love,
be protected from evil, and know your goodness all his days.'* Common Worship

FUNERALS

GARY PAUL HUGHES who died on August 31st aged 50 years

Funeral: October 1st at Holy Trinity, Loddon

HEATHER ELLEN MAY BRABY who died on September 7th aged 90 years

Cremation: October 2nd at Waveney Crematorium

CHARLES JAMES BURROWS who died on September 13th aged 82 years

Cremation: October 8th 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



Loving BY Giving

Backpack provision for ex-offenders on Release from HMP Norwich.

Homelessness is a massive problem in the United Kingdom. People who are released from prison often have no place to stay and end up on the streets without warm

clothes or bedding or any hygiene products to help them keep clean.

Loving by Giving (Registered Charity Number 1161431) is working with HMP Norwich to help people in this terrible situation by providing them with backpacks with some basic hygiene products and clothing to help them keep warm.



If you would like to support this work, please leave any of the items listed in the plastic box which you will find in both St John's Chapel, Loddon, and All Saints Church, Chedgrave. The items will be taken to be sorted and placed in rucksacks. Other churches are involved, but this is a new initiative, so every item will be welcome. Thank you.

Toothbrush	Shower gel	Notepad	Rain mac (Men's)
Toothpaste	Hand towel	Warm hat	Refillable water bottle
Shaving foam	Cereal bar	Gloves (Men's)	Cereal bar
Safety razor	Pen	Socks (Men's)	£5 supermarket voucher

Optional extra! Good quality warm sleeping bags very much appreciated!

The December/January Contact will be published on November 22nd

Adverts

Footbridge to Pyes Mill

The Broads Authority have confirmed that work to repair the public footpath and culvert that leads past Loddon Marina and into Pyes Mill will now commence on October 9th and should take no more than one week to complete. Hopefully, it has now been completed

Allotments: There are a few vacant plots available to Loddon and Chedgrave residents on the allotment gardens on Bridge Street. The available plots vary in price beginning at about £15 per year, depending on size. If you are interested in taking on an allotment or would like to know more then please get in touch (see contact details below).

Room for Hire: The Parish Council is now leasing, direct from the County Council, both the office in the Library Annexe as well as the room at the rear of the building. It is currently used by some local groups so if you would like to hire the room for your event, whether a one-off or a regular booking, please get in contact with us – contact details are below.

Skatepark: For those that have visited the Playing Fields you will note that the new Skatepark is taking shape. Although there is still quite a way to go please do go and have a look at the emerging shape. Once the skatepark is completed the site will be landscaped; our Tree Warden is sourcing suitable trees to complement the area.

Vandalism: Yet again, there have been incidents of vandalism within the village. Litter bins have been removed from their settings; the toilets at the Staithe have incurred damage and a bench on the Playing Fields was removed, with its concrete base still attached! All this vandalism costs significant sums to repair and has to be budgeted for each year which, in turn, is included within the annual Precept and thus your Council Tax bill!

Future Meetings: The next meetings of the Parish Council are scheduled for Thursday 8th November and Thursday 13th December 2018. Meetings commence at 7.00pm in the Library Annexe. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and will be given the opportunity to speak. The agenda will be displayed on the notice board on Church Plain and on the council's website (see below) at least three days before the meeting. A list of the meeting dates in 2018 are on the LPC website.

Contact Us: Please telephone the Parish Council on 01508 522020, or email on clerk@loddonpc.org.uk. The office in the Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9.00am and midday if you would like to visit in person. More information is available on the parish council's website: www.loddonpc.org.uk or find us on Facebook under Loddon Parish Council

Adverts

Hales & Heckingham Parish Council



Our Remembrance Day Service will be held as usual at 3pm on Sunday 11th November by the War memorial. We hope as many people as possible will attend in the year of the 100th anniversary of the ending of WW 1.

The Parish now has the benefit of a Community Speedwatch Group headed by Councillor Georgina Buckle. We are hoping that this Group will help to address the perennial problem of speeding in our Village.

Early sessions have identified the speeding vehicles that we are concerned about and also an acknowledgement of our presence, with other vehicles making a real effort to stay within the limit. If you would like to join the Group please contact Georgina at charlily@btinternet.com

Presently the Council has a full complement of councillors however the current term ends in May next year and there will be at least one vacancy. Please let the Council know if you would like to be considered for one of these vacancies.

Finally, the Council has taken a decision to advertise for a Clerk to administer it's business and would welcome enquiries from anyone wanting to be considered for the post. A formal advertisement will be prepared including the job description shortly.

What's happening at Loddon Library?

BOOK GROUPS GALORE

There is now no need to miss out on joining one of our book groups that we have in Loddon library, with both an afternoon and evening group.

- * **LODDON COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP:** A daytime book group that meets on the 1st Wednesday of every month 10.30am-11.30am. Everybody welcome.
- * **LODDON LOVES BOOKS:** An evening book group that meets on the last Friday of every month 6-7pm. Everybody welcome.

CROCHET CLUB

Come and join the crochet group that meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month from 2pm-3pm. It's never too late to learn new skills.

FACEBOOK

Good news: you can now keep up to date with all our events and news by following us on Facebook just search for Loddon and Poringland libraries.

DVD HIRE

A reminder you can hire dvds for just £2.00 per week. Top Titles £2.00 for 2 nights from the library. Special offer 2 for 1 every Thursday and Friday.

JUST A CUPPA – every Monday from 10am

Feeling at a loose end pop in for a friendly chat and a cuppa.

Continued on page 21

Adverts

BOOK ENDS

Friday: Please contact library for future dates - story and craft fun.

LEGO CLUB

A weekly after school Lego Club that meets every Monday 3.45-4.30pm. With a different theme every week, come along and join in the fun.

SATURDAY JUNIOR BOOK CLUB

fortnightly : please contact library for future dates.

Do you love to read and chat about books with others? Then come along to our new, fun book club 10:30am to 12:30pm. Run by youngsters for youngsters! The books will be based on a different theme each meeting.

C.A.B. will be holding advice sessions in the library throughout 2018 – please contact library staff for the dates.

COMPUTER BUDDY DROP-IN – Every Monday, 10am – 12noon

He's happy to help you with most IT difficulties.

MICRO:BIT!

Did you know you can borrow these for free at your local library?
A fun way to learn more about programming

LODDON CHILDRENS CENTRE

runs Little Explorer sessions in the library on Tuesdays at 10am.

Loddon Baby 'O.N.E.' stop – 4th Thursday of Each Month, 10 to 11:00 am

Optimum Nurturing Environment

A session to support you and your baby. Health visitor/ Assistant Health Practitioner and a CC staff run session. Babies 0 to 1 year.

Baby weighing scales : We now have a set of baby weighing scales located in the library. These can be used anytime during our normal opening hours.

Are you unable to get to the library? Would you like to have books chosen for you and collected? Contact the library for details of our housebound library service.

COMING SOON TO LODDON LIBRARY: OPEN LIBRARIES-

Open library gives you access to your local library even while the building is unstaffed, making your library available at times that are more convenient for you. The library will be available 7 days a week and you will need to register your library card in order to gain access to the building.

To find out more information and to sign up, please visit the library and speak to a member of staff.

Details of dates and new times are to be confirmed in due course.

31 Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX 01508 520678

Opening Hours:

Mon: 10am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm Wed. 10am - 1pm
Thurs. 2 - 7.30pm Fri. 2 - 7.30pm Sat. 10am - 1.00pm

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THE SISLAND CHRONICLE

I have just 'looked' at a magazine feature about the latest fashion in kitchens. Apparently it is now de rigeur to have one that acts as a dining room, so that guests can talk to the host whilst she (or he) is trying to juggle three or four saucepans, not to mention what's in the oven! Sounds like a recipe for a culinary disaster. I can't think of anything worse. Cooking requires concentration!

Looking at the pictures, I wonder where the gadgets are that are essential to a cooks life. Do you keep your heavy mixer in a cupboard? –“so it doesn't clutter up the work-top.” What's a work-top for? Think of the time taken in moving it, not to mention all the hand tools, which in our kitchen either hang up or are in a pot ready for action.

I seldom see the cookery books, calendars, and pictures produced by the younger members of the family, not to mention that essential piece of kit, the notice board, where you write down the ingredients you've just run out of! I prefer our kitchen – with its pot plants, odd cupboards and worktops with gadgets on them, not to mention Freddie's bed by the radiator in the corner - I rest my case!



Friday. Hi – Freddie here. We had panic stations in the kitchen this morning when the most humendous spider you ever saw crept out from under a cupboard, caught up with a leaf, bits of my fur, and an old cobweb, so he could only walk on three legs (spiders have eight would you believe!) J. managed to free him and said that she had never seen one caught in his (or her) own cobweb before. He then did a runner back under the cupboard.

T. said that a dog had written a letter to a magazine saying that he had just seen a picture of his Granny and Mum out ratting with their friends. They should be so lucky – I've frightened most of the rats away from my garden. All I see are tiddly mice who never give a chap a chance to chase them! I did chase a young squirrel, but they cheat and go up trees. I haven't got the hang of climbing yet, but when I do – look out! Cheers F.

Holy Trinity Bellingers

Members from Loddon helped out at St. Peter Mancroft during the Heritage events that were held in the city during September. Over 500 people viewed the new training centre and lots had a go at ringing one of the simulated bells. The new gallery where the twelve bells are rung was also open which offers a magnificent view down into the church. Many people signed up to learn to ring and training them has already begun.



We entered a team into a striking competition held at South Walsham on

Continued n page 25

Adverts

Bellringers continued from page 23

Saturday 29th September. This event was organised by the Norwich Diocesan Association to encourage the many new people that have taken up ringing specially for the Armistice celebrations coming up in November. Fourteen bands took part ringing rounds, call changes and methods. A ringers' tea was provided and the whole event was sponsored by the owners of the Ship public house near the church, who gave tokens to the winning teams.

We have attended practices that have taken place at St. Michael's, Beccles and St. Mary's, Bungay. Our practice nights are well attended and Quarter peals continue to be rung here at Loddon. The bells are regularly rung for Sunday services which included the recent Harvest Festival celebrations and flower show held in Holy Trinity.

Steve Rabong

Patient Participation Group - Chet Valley Medical Practice, Loddon

Patient Participation Group - our Open Meeting in September was reasonably attended but because it was on a Wednesday it seemed to clash with other clubs. However Louise from the Community Gym gave an interesting talk on the benefits of exercise generally and the specific exercises tailored to your needs at the gym.

All ages and abilities are catered for and she is used to hearing excuses of why we don't exercise more: like not having enough time or not really enjoying it.

Think of the health benefits to yourself and possibly saving the good old NHS some money in the process.

JUST A QUICK REMINDER ABOUT FLU JABS. This year in order to maximise the efficiency of the jabs, different vaccines are being given to different age groups.

The dates are: 10th November for over 65s
either 1st or 10th November for those eligible but under 65

Remember, the surgery has purchased and paid for sufficient vaccines for everyone. By going elsewhere you will be costing the Practice money - what a waste! This year it is by appointment, so no waiting or queueing and two doctors and two nurses on hand in case of any problems.

We are so fortunate to have such a forward looking, pro-active surgery in our midst. Various clinics are being provided to save you from having to go to the NNUH and did you know that this Practice is only one of 2% in the country to get an **outstanding rating** for the CQC in all 5 categories they were looking at. Support your surgery!

Adverts

Do you own a business or are you a landlord?

Big changes in the way you report to HMRC (*HM Revenue and Customs*) are coming your way and there's not long to make sure you're compliant.

It may not be a phrase that you have heard of or if you have, you probably have ignored it. However, a new regime is coming into force on 1st April 2019 that effects every VAT registered business.

Before you stop reading, thinking that this doesn't affect you, think again. One year later, all businesses and anyone that has untaxed income (not profit – income) of £10,000 or more comes under the same rules. So, what is all the fuss about?

MAKING TAX DIGITAL (MTD) has been in the pipeline for five years now but nobody seems to have heard of it. How is this possible when the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) estimate that the average cost to every business that is not already compliant will be £3,000 per year?

In a nutshell, MTD means that you must digitally submit your quarterly business income and expenditure to HMRC using approved software, meaning manual records alone will not be sufficient. You have one month after each quarter end to calculate and upload your figures and whilst there are no plans that we know of, it certainly doesn't take much imagination to think that it won't be long until HMRC are expecting you to pay income tax quarterly based on these figures too.

MTD isn't something that many business want but I'm afraid it's coming whether we like it or not. It may be several months away for some and even longer for others but now is the time to make sure that you have adequate systems in place for this huge change.

Software is the only answer to this problem and HMRC are not producing anything that can be used for free. MTD is going to cost every business money but if you act sooner rather than later and make sure your house is in order in plenty of time, it's more likely the cost will be £200 a year, not £2,000.

Jacquie Clarke, Adepta Accountants, 01508 537024
jacquie@adepta-online.co.uk

SPACE FOR A SMILE

Juan comes up to the Mexican border on his bicycle. He's got two large bags over his shoulders. The guard stops him and says, "What's in the bags?" "Sand and pebbles," answers Juan. The guard says, "We'll just see about that. Get off the bike!" He takes the bags and rips them apart, and finds nothing but sand and pebbles. He detains Juan overnight and has the sand and pebbles analysed, only to discover that they are nothing but pure sand and pebbles. The guard releases Juan, puts the sand and pebbles into new bags, hefts them onto the man's shoulders, and Juan crosses the border on his bicycle.

This sequence of events is repeated every day for six months.

Finally, Juan doesn't show up one day and the guard meets him in a Cantina in Mexico. "Hey, Buddy," says the guard, "I **know** you were smuggling something. It makes me crazy. It's all I think about... I can't sleep. Just between you and me, what were you smuggling?"

Juan sips his tequila and says, "Bicycles."

Church Services November

Sat 3rd	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 4th	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary Sisland
	9.00am	Informal Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.00am - 12 noon	Xpressions Café	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Loddon
Sat 10th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 11th <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	9.00am	Holy Communion	St. Margaret Hardley
	10.55am	Remembrance Service for Hardley, Langley & Chhedgrave	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.55am	Remembrance Service	Holy Trinity Loddon
	2.30pm	Remembrance Service	Davy Place Loddon
	3.00pm	Remembrance Service	Hales War Memorial
	4.00pm	Service in Memory of Loved ones	St John's Loddon
Sat 17th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 18th <i>N.B Loddon back to St John's</i>	9.30am	All Together Worship	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.45am	Holy Communion	St John's Loddon
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Mary Sisland
Sat 24th	6.00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	St. John's Loddon
Sun 25th	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints Chedgrave
	10.30 am	Morning Worship	St. Margaret Hardley
	10.45am	Morning Worship	St John's Loddon
	6.30 for 7.00pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John's Loddon

Xtra!

Join us in St John's Church for an exciting,
informal service **every Thursday after school.**
Refreshments, activities from 3.15. Service starts 3.45.
More from Reverend David 522993 or Reverend Alison 528126

LASTSUNDAY PRAISE

This is usually held on the last Sunday of the month at 7.00 p.m. at St. Johns, Loddon. Refreshments at 6.30 before the service, or just come at 7.00 for the singing

MORNING PRAYER <i>Everyone is welcome to these times of Prayer</i>	Monday	9.00 a.m.	Holy Trinity Loddon
	Tuesday	9.00 a.m.	St. Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	9.00 a.m.	Holy Trinity Loddon
	Friday	9.00 a.m.	St Mary Sisland
	Saturday	9.00 a.m.	All Saints, Chedgrave

MID-WEEK COMMUNION WITH BLESSING

7.30 p.m. at St John's on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

All are welcome

(This monthly service is no longer specifically focussing on healing and laying on of hands.)

COME AND PRAY

Would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people?

All are welcome to come along to

TIME FOR PRAYER AND SPACE FOR REFLECTION'

t St John's on Tuesday evenings. 7.30 - 8.30pm.

Contact: Rev. Jill Haylock on 520248, email jillhaylock@aol.com

or just turn up.

Please note: On the third Tuesday the Mid-week service of Communion with Blessing will be held .

PLEASE SEE OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION ON PAGE 13



The Church in Loddon – Open House Booking Form

Name of organisation	
Contact name	
Address including postcode	
Phone	Email
We would like to: run a stall <i>(Tick here if yes)</i>	
Do you need access to electricity? <i>(Tick yes or no)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Type of stall	
We would like to: decorate a window in Holy Trinity <i>(Tick here if yes)</i>	

COMMUNITY GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

Loddon Flower Club

The Flower Festival in September was a great success attracting many visitors who enjoyed the delightful and imaginative arrangements. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

Next Meeting: November 6th: 'Picture This' - Jo Poulter

7pm for 7.15 Main Hall at Hobart High School

New members and visitors welcome.

Loddon Women's Institute

At our September meeting we enjoyed a make-up demonstration given by Mrs Brenda Bowler. She was ably assisted by two willing volunteers who went home looking very glamorous! As usual we enjoyed a cuppa and biscuits before our business meeting.

Next Meeting: November 21st - AGM and Christmas Flower Decorations

7.15 for 7.30 pm. At the Jubilee Hall, Loddon

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

*Editor's note: Apologies to Chedgrave W.I. for the mistakes last month in your item. I don't know what happened - I must have been typing late at night and for some reason the spellchecker didn't pick it up **OR** I didn't notice when it did! Probably a **very** senior moment!*

November 27th. 2.00 p.m. at All Saints Church Centre.

There will be no speaker, as it is our AGM. Our usual raffle will take place, concluded by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

November 20th 7.30p.m. Langley with Hardley Village Hall.

Annual General Meeting

Loddon & District Day Centre

Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. at the Jubilee Hall . Join us for outings and games and a wide variety of entertainment. We also enjoy a hot, home-cooked 2 course meal. New members always welcome. Interested? Please call Bev on 07826299290.



At the Jub Club Friday nights.

Eyes down at 7-30pm. All welcome.

Two jackpots that regularly top £100 with 10 games per session plus a flyer game. Evening usually ends around 9pm.

Hobart Badminton Club

We meet on Fridays 7.30 - 9.30 pm at the Sports Hall, Hobart High School. We play socially and are not in a league. New members, aged 18 and over, welcome. Some previous playing experience required.

Membership:

Trial Members: £4 per session for 4 weeks

Full members:- £10 annual subscription and £4 for each week you play

Visitors:- £5 per session

Further information from Barbara Boardman – email tomenelli@btinternet.com



Loddon Community Gym

Mondays: 1.30pm to 6.pm. **Tuesdays:** 4-30 to 8-30 p.m.

Fridays: 10am to 1pm. at the Jubilee Hall

Our well equipped, not for profit gym offers a relaxed sociable atmosphere to help you improve your fitness, health and wellbeing.

G.P. Referrals welcome.

For further details contact Louise on 07534 946143
or visit www.loddoncommunitygym.com



Footballers wanted!

We are a friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astroturf every Monday evening from 8:30-9:30 for a non-competitive kick-about to keep fit and socialise.

We are looking for like minded people to join us.

Cost £2.50 per session, first session free.

For more details, please contact Terry on:

Email: tezzahayden99@gmail.com

Facebook: Loddon Men's Football Club



Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Our next meeting is on Wednesday the **9th November**
for our Autumn Mini-show
at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom in Loddon from 7-30pm.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. At £10 per person per annum it really is a bargain! If you have an interest in gardening, be it an expert or a complete novice do come and see us.

For more information contact Mim Clarke (Secretary) on 01508 493332

Adverts

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 from under your wife's feet? Then 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. The meetings start at 10.00a.m. and usually finish around midday with the option of staying for lunch if required. Several of our members do. We are a friendly informal club, jackets and ties not required, with members ranging in age from 60 to almost 100. At each meeting we have a guest speaker and the topics can range from clocks, Whitehall, cartoons, space and even stagecoach journeys to Norwich.

Our next meetings are:

November 6th Jenny Gibbs: Hatchings-Matching-Despatching

November 20th John Jennings: Sheriffs of Norwich –Power & Pantomime

We really look forward to seeing you then.

Please contact David Price Telephone 01508 522033.

or email david.price0841@gmail.com for more information

Chet Valley Probus Club

The Chet Valley Probus Club (*for retired Professional & Businessmen or any who have held some measure of responsibility in any field of endeavours*) meets at the White Horse Chedgrave on the second and fourth Tuesday morning, monthly. Good company, speakers, and food.

November 13th Tony Diamond: Shakespeare Buff

November 27th Martyn Fox: Condoms to Coffins

*For further details and an application form please contact the secretary
John McCormack, 5a Norton Road, Loddon NR14 6JN. 01508 521899.*

Space for a smile

Gerard calls his son Justin in Paris the day before Christmas Eve and says, "I hate to ruin your day but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; fifty years of misery is enough." 'Dad, what are you talking about?' Justin screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer" Gerard says. "We're sick of each other and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Manchester and tell her."

Frantically, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone and shouts, "I'll take care of this!" She calls her parents immediately, and screams at her father "You are not getting divorced. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, do you understand me?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. 'Perfect! They are both coming for Christmas and they're paying their own way.'

Adverts

Our next presentation is " MARY SHELLEY", rated 12, Starring ELLE FANNING and DOUGLAS BOOTH.

A tale of Gothic passion, as the young 16-year-old Mary, runs away with the poet Percy Shelley. Her family are horrified, but our young heroine relishes her new life among the radical Romantics of the time. On a trip to stay at Lord Byron's mansion in Geneva the guests are challenged to write a ghost story. Mary draws on the now dark side of her relationship and experiences with Shelley to write FRANKENSTEIN, which you may have heard of! The tempestuous romance that inspired one of the literary world's most famous creations is well portrayed in this lavish production. Good performances abound.



Showing at The Lecture Hall, George Lane Loddon.

Doors open 7pm, film starts 7.30.

Tickets on the door or in advance from Loddon DIY. Adults £4, Child £2.

Royal British Legion-Loddon & District Branch

Firstly, congratulations to September's Swan Bowls winners, Reuben Trask (Loddon), winner, and Larry Winterton (Loddon), runner up, and our grateful thanks to all bowlers and event organisers. A very enjoyable sunny afternoon!

November is Remembrance month. This year's Church Plain poppy stall will be outside the Co-op daily from Monday 5th November to Friday 9th November 10.00am to 4.00pm, then on Saturday 10th November from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Loddon Army Cadets will take over the stall from us Wednesday evening to 8.00pm.

Remembrance Sunday 11th November, those joining the parade through Loddon please muster in the White Horse car park by 10.15am ready for a 1035am march off. Smart dress and medals please. The annual war memorial short service then starts at 10.45am, followed by a longer church service in Holy Trinity starting a 11.15am.

But don't forget to visit Holy Trinity from 17th October onwards to view our special Remembrance display of churchyard poppies, the cascade of poppies in the porch, and the many wreaths on display in the church - all items hand crafted over many months by willing volunteers and well worth a visit to remember and commemorate the ending of WW1 one hundred years ago. We have also been given ten Tommies in silhouette to mark "There but Not There". See if you can find all ten in the church.

Loddon Army Cadets are looking urgently for recruits. If you know a young person aged from Year 8 up to age 18 looking to make new friends and learn new skills, then take them to Army HQ in High Bungay Road on a Wednesday from 7.30pm.

Continued on page 37

Adverts

Royal British Legion *Continued from page 35*

A reminder that this month's branch meeting on 19th is the AGM. No meeting in December so the next meeting will then be Monday 21st January 2019, both starting at our new time of 7.30pm. Further help and advice from Secretary Colin Hartley on 01508 521136.

Loddon & District Local History Group

September meeting Report

We were visited by Hugh, Earl of Norfolk who had descended from Roger Bigod (Bigot). Roger had fought with William at Hastings. The family's reward was significant property in Essex, Suffolk & Norfolk. Roger was based first at Thetford but in 1101 he was granted permission to build Framlingham Castle which became the family's seat of power until their downfall in 1307. They also held Bungay Castle.

Hugh Bigod became the first Earl of Norfolk, having inherited the family lands when his elder brother died in 1120 and he became Constable of Norwich Castle in 1122.

We were told of the Bigod's somewhat troubled relations with their monarchs, including Stephen, Henry II, John and later Edward I. Roger the 2nd Earl was one of the Barons who obtained John's assent to Magna Carta. Hugh the 5th Earl died in 1306. He left no son so his property, including by now land in Ireland, was seized by the Crown in 1307.

Finally we were taken on a speedy tour of Framlingham Castle.

The Earl, alias Dr Roger Knee, recommended the Bigod and William Marshall related novels of Elizabeth Chadwick, which give a fascinating insight into the lives of the Bigods and their contemporaries during this turbulent period of English history.

Next Meetings:

November 21st The Loddon Surgery during the time of Dr Bennett.

December 19th Frolic, Fervour and Fornication? Stories from Parish Records, researched by Pip Wright

Meetings 1.30pm at the Lecture Hall, George Lane £3 All welcome.



HELP PLEASE

I have recently come across some information about the District Nurse & Midwife provision in Loddon for many years before the National Health Service.

Nurse Goodbody filled the role for many years and if anyone has any family folklore about the good lady or her successor I would love to hear it please – especially about her making visits on her tricycle.

elvie.herd@btinternet.com

Adverts

LODDON + CHEDGRAVE VICTORIAN EVENING

The annual Loddon and Chedgrave Victorian Evening will take place on
Friday 7th December 2018 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm.

The Evening commences on Church Plain where there will be a “grand switch on” of the Church Plain Christmas lights by Father Christmas before he heads off to his grotto at Bay Tree House where he will be receiving children of all ages.

“Many activities are planned for the evening, such as Punch & Judy, Fire engines display, and Funky Feet performing in their new studios in Chedgrave”, said Heather Tew, Lead Organiser of the Victorian Evening. In addition, most of the local shops will be open and hosting Christmas festivities, welcoming customers old and new.

On **Sunday 25th November** volunteers will once again be working through High Street and Bridge Street to put the Christmas lights up.

To support the Christmas light display, there will also be a **FAIRY TRAIL**. If you're a business or homeowner in the high street planning to 'light up' in a festive manner, and would like to display a festive fairy (pre-decorated by a children's group), please get in touch with Heather Tew on 01508 520528 or email : tew.heather@yahoo.com

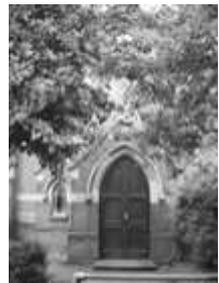
JOIN THE TEAM RENOVATING THE HOLLIES

The Hollies is a historic listed building in the centre of Loddon Conservation Area, between Boots and the Post Office. It consists of the two-hall Chapel and a wooden building behind known as “The Classroom”, which is rented to the Nursery School. In 1998, the Hollies was threatened with closure and the Loddon Buildings' Preservation Trust was formed as a registered charity to save it for use by the local community. It is now owned and run by the Trust and let out to a wide variety of local groups during the week.

The Hollies needs extensive restoration to exploit the potential of this lovely building for the community. To enable this, the Trust is assembling a team of volunteers with a wide range of skills.

This is a wonderful opportunity to make a real difference to your village. There are many tasks to be done and we would love to hear from you if you want to get involved, particularly if you have experience in building design, architecture and construction; fundraising; marketing; or identifying and making grant applications

To find out more, please email loddonbpt@gmail.com
or call Larry on 01508 521173.



Adverts

The Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

November 7th Wednesday - 10.00 am – WALK with Jack round Burgh St. Peter. (Wheatacre) approx 5 miles. Park at the Waveney Riverside Centre. Lunch at the Centre. Contact Jack on 494103

November 15th – Thursday *

QUIZ AND CHIPS a popular and fun evening with a light hearted quiz and supper. Please bring own drinks and condiments. Chedgrave Church Room 7.00 pm. Cost £8.00 including supper. Contact Hillary on 520457.

November 23rd - Friday Bergh Apton Church, 7.00pm

WINTER SONGS with the Lardal Kantori choir from Norway. A mixture of Norwegian and English Carols. Buffet with wine at the finish. £10.00 Contact June 528853.

December 6th – Thursday (*this has to be booked by November 1st.*)

Pre-Christmas meal at the Old Feathers, 6.30pm for 7.00pm, Booking before 1st November with a deposit of £10.00 cash each. Full payment to be made with choices 2 weeks prior. Please contact me in plenty of time. Menus will be given when available. Contact June 528853.

Very important: *All bookings for lunches, walks, events etc. must be made in good time through the person named. Events marked with an * must be booked or paid in advance by the date noted to guarantee a place. All walks will cost £1. Please read information carefully.*

Davy Place Social Club

THANK YOU to those who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning on September 28th. We had fun and raised £120 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Social Club activities in November are:

Wednesday November 7th at 11am Breakfast/Brunch. £4.50 per person.

Sunday November 11th at 2.30pm Remembrance Day Service followed by a light tea and social time.

Monday November 12th 10 till 12 noon Karen of "Clothes Line Fashions" and Carrie of "Nails and Beauty" will be at Davy Place Common Room . Come along and pamper yourself!

Thursday November 22nd at 12.30pm. Hot Lunch Club £6 per person.

Saturday November 24th we shall be going on a day trip to Bury St Edmunds Christmas Market.

..... And On **Saturday December 8th** we shall be holding our **Christmas Coffee Morning** from 10am onwards in the Davy Place Common Room.

Adverts

WHAT'S ON

<p>Saturday Nov 3rd 10 am - 5 pm</p> <p>Sunday Nov 4th 10 am- 4 pm</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <h2>CHET VALLEY PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Annual Exhibition</h2> </div> <p>St John's Lecture Hall George Lane Loddon NR14 6NB</p> <p>FREE ADMISSION</p> <p>Raffle and refreshments</p> <p>Selection of all types of photography on display for public viewing produced by our members</p> <p>www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk</p>
<p>Sunday Nov 11th 4.30 p.m.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Service in Memory of Loved Ones</h3> <p>This year's service will be on November 11th, on the weekend when remembrance is high on our agenda. It is open to all who want to remember people they have loved and lost, whether this happened recently or many years ago. Do come, and encourage others to do so too.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4.30 p.m. St John's Chapel</p>
<p>Wednes- day Nov 14th 19.30 to 21.00</p>	<p>South Yare Wildlife Group invites you to</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">"JOINING THE DOTS: NATURE CONSERVATION AT A LANDSCAPE SCALE"</h3> <p>A talk by Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Matt Jones about how nature conservation needs to move beyond reserves and embrace the whole landscape, if we are to protect our wildlife heritage.</p> <p>At The Barn The George and Dragon Pub The Street Thurton Members £2.00 Non members £5.00 Under 16s free</p> <p>For further information about our group please visit www.southyarewildlifegroup.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter</p> 
<p>Saturday Nov 24th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">All Saint's Church Autumn Fair (see inside cover)</p>

Continued on page 45

Adverts

Saturday Nov 24th	MS Therapy Centre Christmas Fayre (see page 26)
Sunday Nov 25th 11.00am - 3.00pm	Come and grab yourself a bargain at Langley with Hardley Village Hall's Festive Table Top Sale Nearly new, bric-a-brac, crafts and more Refreshments available If you would like to book a table please send an email to Juliesmethurst5@gmail.com

Two advance notices

Saturday December 8th Davy Place **Christmas Coffee Morning** from 10am onwards in the Common Room. Please come along and join in the fun!

Friday 21 December Langley with Hardley Village Hall
Christmas Bar with 'Bring & Share Buffet' 7.00pm - 10.00pm
Free glass of mulled wine and mince pie. All welcome.

SEETHING VILLAGE HALL

EXHIBITION COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE END OF WWI.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10TH 10am to 4pm

Exhibition featuring photographs, personal stories and memorabilia from WWI and some of the Village Histories of Mundham & Seething.
Free admittance - refreshments available.

Ashby St Mary Cricket Club: The season is now over. Results have been mixed, with many of the away down to the wire, with 2 games tied.

Jun 13	Norwich Rangers	Lost
17	Horsford	Lost
20	Crusaders	Won
27	Borchester	Won
Jul 1	Drayton	Won
4	Bungay	Lost
11	Wombles	Won
15	Norwich Hockey Club	Won
18	Topcroft	Lost
21	Chairman XI	Won
29	South Walsham	Raiin

Aug 1	Earlham Village	Won
5	Eaton	Lost
8	Coach & Horses	Lost
15	Marlingford	Lost
19	Norwich	Tied
27	PC XI	Lost
Sept 2	Mellis	Lost
9	Aylsham	Won
16	Marlingford	Lost
23	Black Sheep	Rain

Adverts

THE LODDON PANTOMIME 2019:

“Cinderella”

January 2019

BOOKING FORM

Adults £7.50. **Concessions** £5.50. (*Senior Citizens & Children 15 years and under*)

**NOTE* Children’s reduced price on Thursday 17th. Please write under the appropriate date the number of seats you require at each price*

Week One	Week Two	Week Three
Friday 11th 7.30 p.m.	*Thursday 17th 6.30 p.m.	Thursday 24th 7.30 p.m.
£7.50	£7.50 (Adult)	£7.50
£5.50	£5.50 (Senior Citizen)	£5.50
	£2.50 (Children under 15 years)	
Saturday 12th 2.30 p.m.	Friday 18th 7.30 p.m.	Friday 25th 7.30 p.m.
£7.50	£7.50	£7.50
£5.50	£5.50	£5.50
Saturday 12th 7.30 p.m.	Saturday 19th 2.30 p.m.	Saturday 26th 2.30 p.m.
£7.50	£7.50	£7.50
£5.50	£5.50	£5.50
Sunday 13th 2.30 p.m.	Saturday 19th 7.30 p.m.	Saturday 26th 7.30 p.m.
£7.50	£7.50	£7.50
£5.50	£5.50	£5.50

◆ **WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE A PERFORMANCE ON THE 17TH JANUARY STARTING AT 6.30PM WITH REDUCED PRICES FOR CHILDREN, AT ONLY £2.50 PER CHILD INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL £5.50.**

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE:- £

Please include cheque for total amount payable to ‘Loddon Players’ and send the completed form to Mrs Hazel Catchpole, 4 Proctor Avenue, Chedgrave, Norwich NR14 6HP. Please include a stamped addressed envelope.

N.B. Postal bookings **only** from November 19th to November 30th 2018
Telephone bookings from Monday 3rd December 2018 on 01508 520162 (*between 9.00 a.m. and 9.00 p.m. please.*)

Adverts

Read Any Good Books Lately?

"I fancy that at the beginning some fairy may have offered me the choice between great power and station and the privilege of living always among books, and that I, like the good child in the fairy tale, chose the latter."

James L. Whitney (*Reminiscences of an Old Librarian*) November 1909

"The Good Earth," by Pearl Buck

In 1931 Pearl Buck - who was then 39 - wrote and had published this superb story about an impoverished Chinese family who lived during the reign of the Last Emperor. Fourteen years earlier she and her first husband had moved to live in the poor region of China which forms the setting for this novel, the second book she wrote.

Wang Lung is the main character and it is his intense love of the land he owns and farms that gives the book its title. For anyone reading *The Good Earth* it may take a while to become used to the almost biblical style of writing, but once you become accustomed to it you may well enjoy the phraseology and the majestic style. The author obviously felt deeply for many of her characters whom she portrayed so realistically and sympathetically. She actually won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938, and was the first American woman to do so.

"Crisis," by Frank Gardner

A really taut thriller, which grips the reader from the very beginning. The main character, Luke Carlton, was born in Colombia and lived there with his parents until he was ten years old, when they were killed in a car crash. He was then taken to England to live with his uncle's family. Later on he joined the military and became involved with intelligence work connected with the drug cartels of Colombia.

This is a pacy story, full of action and with graphic descriptions of the cruelty and corruption of the powerful Colombian drug dealers. There are also interesting scenes relating to MI5 and MI6 meetings in London, and their ever ongoing work.

Almost certainly Frank Gardner has drawn on his experiences abroad as a reporter in creating this novel so vividly.

"The Kindness of Strangers," by Kate Adie

A book from another BBC Correspondent who has seen plenty of war-torn action abroad, but not a novel this time - a fascinating autobiography.

Kate Adie tells us how she just happened to slip into local radio reporting, and how things simply progressed from there. She has lived an extraordinary life, witnessing wars and other world events. Her life was endangered frequently, but her courage is enormous. This very personal story is a real eye-opener about the life of a BBC foreign correspondent. Often there is humour in the writing, which leavens some of the more awful descriptions of events. She definitely deserved to receive the BBC's Richard Dimbleby Award in 1990 and the Fellowship Award this year!

Nature Notes

Now that we are well into autumn and hopefully have had some decent rainfall, it's time to plant trees. We must never underestimate the worth of trees in the environment and always need to keep planting to replace those that are lost. Recent years have brought devastating diseases like Dutch Elm and Ash Die Back which have had severe consequences. Sudden Oak Death and the Leaf Minor that attacks Horse Chestnut leaves, turning them an awful brown colour, have not been kind. Gaps have appeared in our countryside and trees, that support so many forms of wildlife as well as cleaning our air and providing welcome shade, have died. The very hot summer this year has added to the problem and until next spring we won't know which have managed to survive. So by planting even one tree in your garden you could be helping to replace them again.

It seems that the S.N.D.C. Tree warden scheme is not as well supported as it used to be due mainly to local government cuts, so I guess it's now down to us to help. Any species will be better than none and in smaller gardens there are plenty of varieties to choose from that don't get too enormous but are still beneficial. As we have no idea which pest or disease will strike next I think the best idea is to plant a wider variety of species, giving at least some a better opportunity to survive. If you really don't want a tree then a hedge or even one of two bushes would be good. Hawthorn grown as a hedge is great. It has lovely flowers in spring for insects and then berries in the autumn for birds. That is, of course, if you don't cut back at the wrong time. Hawthorn also make lovely trees if left to grow upwards and are shaped properly to form a trunk. There are several varieties of pink ones that look really lovely.

November is a great month to look out for winter migrants. Geese will be arriving from Russia and Scandinavia to spend time with us once again. Large flocks will be seen, especially on the North Norfolk coast and this is a good time to brush up on your identification skills. In the main, most species seem to stay together in groups, but among the more usual Greylag, Brent and Canada you may spot Barnacle, White Fronted, Bean and even the odd Snow Goose, if you are lucky. Starlings are now flocking together in the evenings and providing some spectacular murmurations near to their night time roosts. Corvids (Rooks, Crows and Jackdaws) will gather in the evening light and Buckenham Station is usually a great place to stand and watch them. Marsh Harriers also group together and will perform spectacular flights before settling. These Harriers are truly one of our success stories in Norfolk. With a little help from conservation bodies in providing the correct habitat they have continued to breed in our marshlands and are now seen regularly.

Of course, all of our smaller garden birds need help at this time of year. If you haven't put your feeders out yet then please do. Make sure they are clean and always filled too. Remember to keep bird baths scrubbed and full

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with clean water as this is essential for their health. I'm sure that you'll be rewarded with hours of pleasure watching their antics and if positioned near a window, loads of photo opportunities too.

Lastly I must just mention again the Swans at Welney Wetland Centre. From the end of October until March, Swans that have returned to the area will spend the daylight hours on surrounding fields and as darkness approaches will fly in to spend the night on the water around the centre. Swan feeds are carried out each evening and Mute, Bewick and Whooper Swans can be seen. There are usually large numbers of Pochard too. Most of these are males that spend the winter here. The females seem to prefer to fly down to Spain although it's not clear why. At Welney there's a heated hide with amazing views over the floodlit water and always, during the feeds, a very comprehensive commentary from one of the wardens. At Welney the Swans are ringed and closely monitored. Past records show that many have returned there year after year and the staff get very excited when their particular favourites arrive. Well worth a visit.

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THANKS

- ◆ Loddon Day Centre would like to thank everybody who contributed cakes and gifts to our Macmillan coffee morning, and to everybody who came - we raised a magnificent £380.
- ◆ Can I please say a BIG, BIG THANK YOU to my family, friends and neighbours who came and supported my MacMillan Coffee Morning/mini fete on the 29th September. We raised a massive £852.20 for such a wonderful cause. A huge thank you to Sallyann, Paul, Paula, Teresa, Ann, Sharon, Keith, Wendy, Anne and Dorothy. I appreciate all they did to help me. A brilliant day was had by all and in the sunshine! Thanks again.
Beryl Smith
- ◆ Since Fred (McEvet) was diagnosed with a brain tumour, we have been surrounded by nothing but love and support. An example of this was recently Fred went out for a walk on his own and tripped and fell into the road at the bottom of Lemn Grove. Billy Sturman, who didn't know Fred, picked him up from the road and offered to take him home in his car in spite of Fred saying that he could walk. So Billy duly brought him home and seemed concerned as he thought Fred had banged his head. Next day Billy was back to check how he was because he'd been worried overnight about him. I told him, 'It's people like you that make Loddon the place that it is.' That very same day I was parked along the High Bungay Road dropping off my grandchildren at the bus stop. A man walking along shouted out, 'Are you alright, have you broke down?' How thoughtful is that? How fortunate we are to live in such a caring community, with people genuinely wanting to help.
Thank you one and all.
Judith and Fred

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