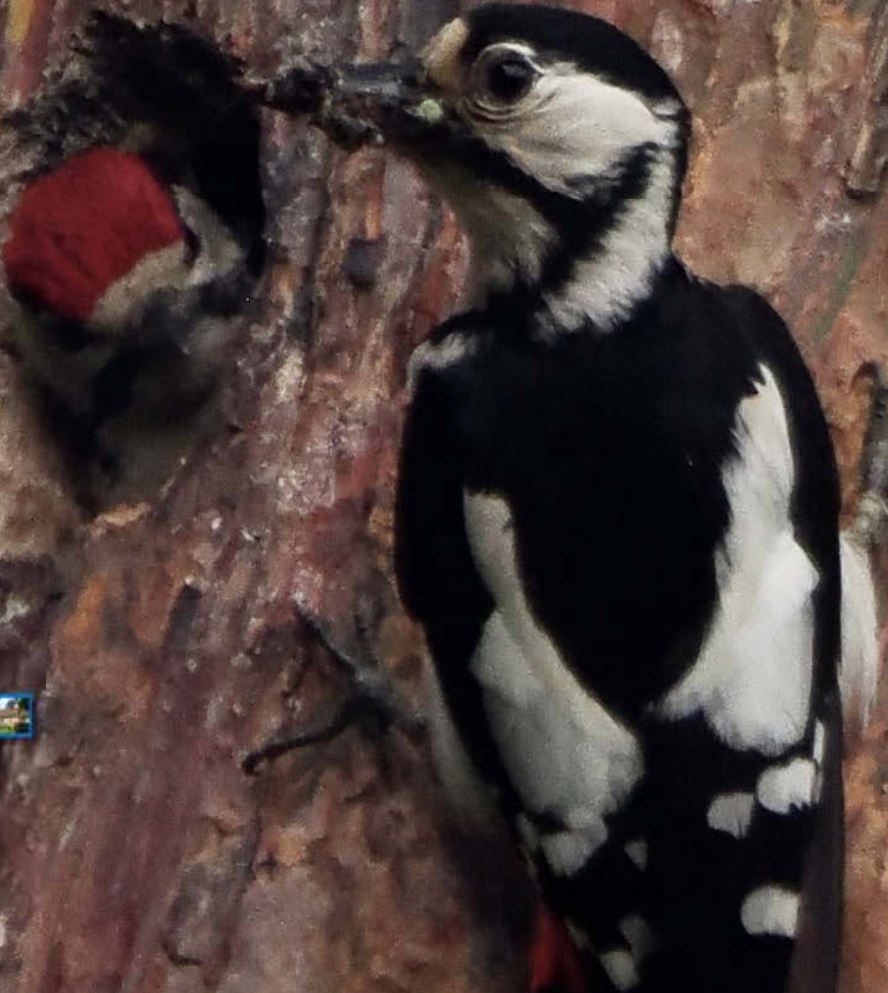




# CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

May 2025





All Saints, Chedgrave

# **Spring Fair and Plant Sale**

## **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

### **All Saints Chedgrave**

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# Chet Valley Churches Information

## Clergy

Miriam Fife:	01508 830085	<a href="mailto:rector.cvb@gmail.com">rector.cvb@gmail.com</a>
Alison Ball:	01508 528126	<a href="mailto:ball880am@btinternet.com">ball880am@btinternet.com</a>
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Martin Keenan:	01502 560178	<a href="mailto:martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk">martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk</a>



To arrange a wedding, funeral or interment of ashes please contact Rev Miriam.

To arrange baptisms or thanksgivings please contact Rev Alison.

For prayer requests and home communion please contact Rev Ros.

Postal address: St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB.

Phone: 01508 520897, Email: [website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com)

This phone and e-mail account are also being monitored regularly.

## Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches	<a href="http://www.chetvalleychurches.org">www.chetvalleychurches.org</a>
The Diocese of Norwich	<a href="http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org">www.dioceseofnorwich.org</a>



## Chet Contact

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Advertising:	Peter Webster
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Email submissions to [c.magazineloddon@gmail.com](mailto:c.magazineloddon@gmail.com).

Please include your name and telephone number.



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## Disclaimer

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## From the Editor

It's been a strange month while preparing this issue. Lovely sunshine but chilly winds, hardly any rain and not much frost. Gardens already needing a bit of water in some areas. Not much sign of returning migrant birds yet, Swallows could easily be here by now, early April as I'm writing. But Richard, P47, has not heard a Cuckoo yet—he had one perch on a post close to him a week ago!!

A number of events to visit in May, dry or not the bluebells will be a sight at Langley Church and there are several coffee mornings and sales to support.

Advance notice of two exciting events in June are on P29 but if your preference is sitting in the dark, the May film, P34, 'Conclave', did very well at this year's Oscars.

One thing I am looking for is someone to take over the distribution of our magazines in Hales. Not door to door delivery, just putting together 18 bundles and dropping them off to the delivery team each month. Give me a call if you can help—528710.

*Roger*



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## Ministerial Musings

I was delighted the other day when I was out on a walk and saw my first Brimstone butterfly. Bright sulphurous yellow, it was unmissable as it flitted in and out of the blackthorn bushes which were just coming into flower.

On another walk a week or so later, I stopped to run my finger along the soft catkin of a Pussy Willow tree. Definitely strokable, you can tell how the plant gets its name.

It struck me how I could have missed both of these things if I hadn't first of all been outside, and secondly if I had been in such a rush that I didn't have chance to notice them. Two beautiful things right on our doorstep—part of the wonder of the natural world all around us.

How often do we stop to enjoy what is right in front of us, I wondered. How much do we pass by and take for granted. Might we not even notice if one day these lovely things have just disappeared having never noticed them before? That would be such a shame! And yet...

Our precious, fragile world needs loving care and attention for it to flourish, just as we need loving care and attention. And yet, how often do the perceived needs, greed, of humans take precedence over the needs of the natural world?

I believe that God created the world that we have, that it was good and freely given to us to care for. So we have a responsibility to use, not exploit, the earth's resources and to look after them.

How can we look after something that we don't even know about? How will our children and grandchildren look after something that they don't know about if we haven't shown them and helped them to understand?

We have two bank holidays coming up this month. Why not spend some time outdoors getting to know your neighbourhood and what lives there; the plants and the animals. Spend time looking at the beauty of flowers, no two daisies the same! Look at the bumble bees around you—not so many as in previous years, human beings have seen to that—did you know that there were so many different types? Whether or not you believe in a creator God, you can't fail to feel restored and re-invigorated by taking just 10 minutes to use all your senses to appreciate the beauty of the outdoors.

**Rev Alison**





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## Across the Chet Valley Churches

### Worship in the Chet Valley

**You are welcome to join us at any of our services**



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

**Morning Worship** is held regularly in Loddon and Hardley.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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## Thanksgivings & Baptisms



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

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

Please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126 [ball880am@btinternet.com](mailto:ball880am@btinternet.com)

### Noah's Ark

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



**Wednesdays 9:15am-12:00noon.**

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

### Small Groups

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



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

To join or just to know more, please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126.

### XTRA!

Join us in St John's Church, Loddon for an exciting, informal service every **Thursday after school**. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm. More from Rev Alison 01508 528126.

### Friends and Neighbours

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

#### Future Meetings:

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Lunch 12:30pm (ham salad, fruit jelly & ice cream).

Talk: Four-season gardening—Lynton Johnson.

June 6th—Afternoon Tea, speaker to be confirmed.

To join the group, please ring Rev Jill on 01508 520248.

### Monday Mardles

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



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

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



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## From the Parish Registers

### Baptisms & Thanksgivings

*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.*

### Funerals

**Barbara Porter** who died on 9th March 2025  
Funeral: 27th March 2025 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

**Patrick Snell** who died on 5th March 2025  
Funeral: 8th April 2025 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

**Janet Potter** who died on 5th March 2025  
Funeral: 12th April 2025 at Holy Trinity

**Audrey Young** who died on 11th March 2025  
Funeral: 25th April 2025 at Holy Trinity, Loddon

*Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. 1 Thessalonians 4:14, 17b*

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

To arrange a wedding, contact Rev Miriam at rector.cvb@gmail.com.  
Phone number not yet available.

To arrange a funeral, at our churches or at the crematorium, contact Rev Miriam at miriam.fife@btinternet.com. Phone number not yet available.  
Rev Miriam can also be contacted about interment of ashes.

The clergy can also be contacted through our e-mail: address: clergyCVB@gmail.com.

### New Support Group for Bereaved

If you have lost your life partner during the earlier years of your life and would like to meet once a month with others in the same situation, please contact Jill Haylock on 01508 520248 or email jillhaylock@aol.com for more information.

### Thankyou—Barbara Porter

Debra and Kate would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts following Barbara's death. A total of £352 has been donated to Cats Protection, Barbara would have been delighted.'



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## News from Your Local Councillors



Many of you may have seen the rumble strips in Langley Road, Chedgrave. These are an experiment to see if they help with speed reduction when going from a 60 to a 30 mph zone. The results will be known when the data is analysed from the speed camera.

However, rather than constantly installing expensive measures reminding drivers to slow down, which local taxpayers have to fund, it would be better if they weren't needed, and drivers showed restraint when entering a residential area and some respect for the speed limits.

There really is no need to speed in our towns and villages. Aside from Langley Road, we see it in Norwich Road, Bridge Street, High Street, Beccles Road, George Lane and many other places., mainly from a handful of drivers who think the law doesn't apply to them. Our roads are narrow, our pavements too, we should feel safe walking on them but due to the intransigence of some motorists, people are put at risk. Please slow down, speed limits exist for good reason, your journey will take a few moments longer by obeying them, and all will thank you for your consideration.

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

[kay.masonbillig.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:kay.masonbillig.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk)

**Kay Mason-Billig**

I'd like to start by thanking Loddon Deli and Coffee on Church Plain – it's a great business for us to have, and always provides a good welcome and good coffee!

Also, welcome Miriam, the new Rector of Chet Valley Benefice, who I know will follow her predecessor as being a strong community leader.

The new round of Members' Grants – a total of £1000 for local causes each year – has opened. Please let me know if you feel your group could benefit from some financial assistance during the 2025/26 financial year. There are so many important groups, doing great work, across our community.

I'm also continuing my work chairing the South Norfolk Scrutiny Committee, on behalf of all of us, which I'll continue to update you all about. We have some important topics and areas to look at coming up, including anti-social behaviour orders, community safety and the policy for allocating housing.

My next surgery, at The Angel, is **26 April 2-3pm**, with the one after that scheduled for **28 June 2-4pm**. Please come down if there's anything I can support you with, or, as ever, ring me on 07733323581. **Jeremy Rowe**

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## Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson.  
Tel: 07592 933174 Email: [clerk@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Website: <https://chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chedgrave-Parish-Council>



VE Day Commemoration: 8th May 2025, 11am, Church Plain, Loddon. Chedgrave will be joining in with the event in Loddon to include formal wreath laying, bell-ringing, poetry read by local school children and light refreshments. A new walking trail taking in key local wartime sites will also be launched. Please look out for further advertising nearer the time. Chedgrave Common: The Shetland ponies will soon be returning to graze on Chedgrave Common. As always, please: keep your dogs on a lead, shut gates carefully behind you and avoid approaching or feeding the ponies. These little ponies play a vital role in conservation grazing—and they look absolutely adorable doing it! Let's all play our part to keep them safe and happy. Save the Dates:

· The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on 21st April at 10am. More details to follow but keep any eye out for posters and on Facebook!  
The Big South Norfolk Litter Pick will take place, starting in The Pits, on 18th May at 10am – all welcome, equipment provided.

Councillor surgery 12th June 10am-2pm at Chedgrave Shops.

· Annual Parish Meeting – provisionally 27th or 29th May, new cheese and wine format with topical local talks. More info soon  
Dogs: Please keep dogs on a lead, and out of our play areas and PLEASE remember to pick up any poo left by your dog!  
Brian Clarke Room: Do you need a bright modern room to run your club or association? The Brian Clarke Room is adjacent to the play area, has a fully equipped kitchen, is wheelchair accessible and has a hearing loop. It's great for parties, family gatherings, meetings and clubs. Please contact Georgina Buckle to book 07981 856270 or [brianclarkeroom@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:brianclarkeroom@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk).  
Allotment Vacancies: The allotments currently has only 1 allotment vacancy so hurry to get started for this year's growing season! Residents from Chedgrave and surrounding villages are welcome to apply. Please contact the Clerk.

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th May at 7pm, Brian Clarke Room.

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](http://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) or online at [www.norfolk.police.uk](http://www.norfolk.police.uk).

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## Mortgage Advice Bureau

## DARREN BEDINGFIELD

YOUR LOCAL MORTGAGE &  
PROTECTION ADVISER

TEL: 07587 075289

[darren.bedingfield@mab.org.uk](mailto:darren.bedingfield@mab.org.uk)

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01508 520688

## Loddon Town Council (LTC)

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emily Curtis  
Tel: 01508 522020 Email: [clerk@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/loddontc](http://www.facebook.com/loddontc)



### **Freedom of Loddon:**

Do you know someone who lives in Loddon who has made a notable contribution to the community? LTC welcomes your nominations for the Freedom of Loddon Award. If you know someone who you think should receive this award, please email your nomination to [admin@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk) by the 31 May 2025.

### **VE Day Celebrations – Thursday 8 May 2025 – 10.45am – 11.45am**

LTC, Chedgrave Parish Council and Loddon RBL invite you to join our VE Day celebration at Loddon War Memorial (Church Plain). Details of the event are on our website. Why not join our Loddon & Chedgrave Wartime History Trail too?

### **Love Loddon Community Group**

We hope you have enjoyed the spring displays! The next session is 18 May 2025 at 10.00am, all welcome. Please join our WhatsApp group for more information.

### **Community Consultation on Community Spaces**

Thank you so much for all your responses. The survey closed on the 31 March 2025. The results will be available to view on our website in due course.

**Chet Valley Community Larder:** Thank you so much for all your recent donations. In particular, we would like to thank the Loddon Players for donating £500, the staff at Chet Valley Medical Practice for their donation of £30.00, District Cllr Jeremy Rowe for his Members' Grant of £450 and Chet Valley Voices for their donation of £50.00.

The Community Larder is available every Saturday from 1:00-3:00pm and every Monday from 12:00noon-2:00pm in Loddon Library. Bags can be collected for a £1 donation. More information is available on our website: [www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk/community-larder](http://www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk/community-larder).

**Local Support:** The contact telephone number for South Norfolk Council's Help Hub is 01508 533933. They also now have a handyman service available. More information is available via: [www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk/local-support](http://www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk/local-support).

**Allotments:** If you live in Chedgrave or Loddon and wish to be added to the Allotment waiting list, please contact our Allotment Officer Jo.

**Small Grants:** LTC have recently awarded several small grants to local organisations. If you would like to apply for a local group/organisation (generally up to £100), please see our website for more info/application form.

**Meeting dates, contact information and updates can all be found on the Council website: [www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01508 522020.**

## ***Advertise with us!***

Every year we produce 10 issues of our magazine, with double issues in July & November.

These get **delivered for free** to **2800 homes** in Loddon, Chedgrave, Sissland, Hardley, Hales & Heckingham.

**From just £10** an issue your business could be in-front of thousands of potential customers. So why not join the growing group of local businesses that are advertising with us?

*Email [c.magazineloddon@gmail.com](mailto:c.magazineloddon@gmail.com) for more information.*

## ***St John's Chapel and Lecture Hall*** **ROOM HIRE**

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**For details & to book please email us at**  
**[website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com)**

## Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

For enquiries contact: [clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk)

Website: [www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk)

FB [www.facebook.com/Hales & Heckingham Parish Council](https://www.facebook.com/Hales%20&%20Heckingham%20Parish%20Council)



Next Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 14th of May 2025

@6.30pm is the Annual Parish Council Meetings.

Held at the Hales Assembly Hall, Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the brick bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on our website 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Signs, Potholes & Footpath Issues – If you see anything that is not right please advise South Norfolk Council through their webpage <https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>.

Dog Walkers – A polite reminder to observe the Country Code, especially at this time of year with livestock around. Please pick up your dog's poo, as it is a health hazard as well as being unpleasant. Thank You

Hales Green Common – We remind residents and visitors to abide by the bylaws, displayed on the public notice boards around the common.

Community Volunteering Scheme – We continue to seek your help in supporting community projects to improve village life. We are currently looking for volunteers who would be interested in changing the composite site into Community Gardens. Volunteers needed for Summer Fete or VE day celebrations. Please let us know if you would like to get involved by emailing the Parish Clerk.

Come and join us – If you care about where you live, we have vacancies on our Parish Council. We provide a voice for concerns, ideas, and initiatives that help promote village life. Please get in touch with our Parish Clerk on the above email.

Do you need help? South Norfolk and Broadland's hub assists with a wide range of problems. Contact details Tel: 1508 533933 or via email at [helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk). Opening hours are 8:15am-10:00pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).



## Langley with Hardley Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Natalie Wilson

Answerphone: 07516 361239

Email: [langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com](mailto:langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com)

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

Find us on Facebook.



We are pleased to have 2 new Councillors, Janey Craigs and Jane Pearman. Both Langley residents, who we hope will bring with them, a wealth of knowledge and community spirit

At the beginning of April, the new climbing wall was built in the playground, which is already proving popular with the local children thanks to a grant from The National Lottery Community Fund.

\* On 19<sup>th</sup> April, the village will hold its Spring Litter Pick Event. We encourage as many residents as possible to join us at the village hall from 10am – 12pm, all necessary equipment will be provided. Bring along your children, as there will also be an Easter Egg Hunt, arranged by the Village Hall Committee. Refreshments will also be provided at the village hall

The Speed Awareness Monitor will be back in the village from 1<sup>st</sup> April, hopefully in time to see the new speed restriction from Langley Street through to Langley Green reduced to 30mph

Please drive with care and consideration in the villages, be speed aware  
Our next meeting has a date change. It will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May. 7pm will be the Parish Meeting, if any resident wishes to come along, followed by the Council Meeting at 7.30pm

---

## Langley with Hardley Village Hall



**Cafe- I I-I. Friday 2nd May** All donations in aid of Dementia UK.  
Great food, company, bric-a-brac stall, books and clothes. All welcome.

**The Anyones, awesome band!!!, Saturday 10th May 7.30-11pm.**  
Tickets must be prebooked on 01508 520184 Jane or Tibby.  
Tickets £5 include a buffet. Bring your own alcohol.  
It's going to be a great night full of dancing!!!

**Kelvins Quiz Saturday 24th May 6.30 for a 7pm start. £4 per person.**  
Teams of 6. Booking essential on 01508 520184 Jane or Tibby.  
Nibbles provided but bring your own alcohol. Good fun for all!!!

To book the Village Hall call Jane on 01508 520184

## Notes from Sisland

Although it is lovely to see the bright sunshine in the last few of days in early April, the breeze is definitely a little chilly. As Easter is late, we hope that you have been able to enjoy the weekend with the hope of pleasant and warmer weather.



Our first event of the year is a second-hand Book Sale, which will start on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, with a coffee morning from 10am-12pm and continue over the Bank Holiday weekend. The church will be open 10am-5pm on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. We will be finishing with tea and cake from 3-5pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May. We will have a range of fiction and non-fiction, reference through to children's book available, in the church. We would welcome anyone who would like a browse and to pop in. The church will be open all day so please make a note of the dates in your diary. We will be raising funds for work which we need to do on the church tower. If you have visited us or walked past the church, you will notice that the lattice on the tower window needs replacing. For those who like to forward plan we will be offering Strawberry Teas on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Lodge Farm, Sisland.

As we welcome May, and comment on how quickly time goes by, in Sisland, it is the ideal opportunity to visit Sisland Carr. A small wood of mixed trees, managed by the Woodland Trust. There are a couple of paths which circulate among the trees and make it a very pleasant stroll. The wood contains a conifer plantation as well as some stunning mature beech and oak. The site has also recorded locally rare moths and noctule bats and you often see rabbits and deer. At this time of year, the area is known for its stunning bluebell display and in previous years these have been highlighted by some of the national newspapers. A true carpet of vivid colour. There is road access up to Sisland Carr and a small car park, but, as many will be aware, the access road is quite variable, so care is required. Sisland church also has a stunning display of these beautiful flowers, hopefully they may coincide with the book sale. Sisland church is open all year for the opportunity for quiet prayer and reflection. If the door is closed, usually for weather reasons, it will be unlocked. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Rowena Bryce, Churchwarden**

## Sport

### Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart High School Astro Pitches every Monday and Thursday from 8:00-9:00pm. Come along and join us for a non-competitive kick about to keep fit and socialise. £3:00 per session. First session free. For more info, contact Terry via email: [terryhayden.sportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:terryhayden.sportsclub@gmail.com).



### Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

With the outdoor lawn bowls season finished why not come and try indoor short mat? We meet on Tuesday afternoons, 1:30-3:00pm, in the Jubilee Hall and are a friendly little group. Beginners are very welcome; just bring flat indoor shoes and we can supply some bowls. The right money, £3, and a sense of humour are also appreciated. More information from Sara: 01508 521958 or Sheryl: 01502 677272.



### Loddon Ladies Hockey Club

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

We welcome new members of all ages (13+) and abilities. Come and get fit, have fun and meet friendly women from in and around the local area. We train on Tuesday nights at Langley School (NR14 6BJ), 7:00pm-8:30pm. For more info: [www.loddonhockey.com](http://www.loddonhockey.com) or email [hello@loddonhockey.com](mailto:hello@loddonhockey.com).



### Loddon Tennis Club

Loddon has two floodlit courts, situated adjacent to the Loddon & Chedgrave Playing Field. We are a thriving tennis community with over 150 members. Memberships are affordable; pay and play is also available at £5 per hour.



Website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub>

Email: [loddontennis@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:loddontennis@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk)

### Hobart Badminton Club

We are looking for players to join our friendly club of all ages from 16+. Playing experience desirable. We meet at Hobart High School sports hall, every Tuesday from 7:30-9:30 pm. Cost £6:00 per session, first session free. More information from Terry: [terryhayden.sportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:terryhayden.sportsclub@gmail.com).



### Loddon Junior Badminton Club

Held at Jubilee Hall, sessions are just £3.50.

Wednesday evenings: 6:45-7:45pm, children aged 8-14 years

Thursday evenings: 7:30-8:30pm, children aged 15-18 years

Open to all children regardless of ability.

Sessions run by qualified coach. Rackets and shuttles provided.

For more info, contact Paul on [paulr2677@gmail.com](mailto:paulr2677@gmail.com) or 07903 794613.



## **Loddon Community Gym**

The Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX  
Tel: 07534 946143 [www.loddoncommunitygym.com](http://www.loddoncommunitygym.com)



### **New for 2025 at your Community Gym!**

Exciting times at the gym with fantastic new toilet and shower facilities, thanks to a Pride in Place grant!

The gym was created to provide a facility for residents of Loddon, Chedgrave and the surrounding areas, although users from further afield are also very welcome. You'll find a relaxed, friendly space with no pressure and all the support you need.

If you're not sure where to start, or would value some advice about how to get the most out of your sessions, our experienced instructor, Louise will work with you to create the perfect programme to suit your needs. You can call Louise on 07534 946143 or pop in to the gym when you see the Gym Open sign on the railings outside the Library.

We are grateful for the ongoing support from Loddon Town Council, Chedgrave Parish Council and a number of local businesses.

Full details are on our website or scan the QR code shown.

We are open every weekday to those 16 years old and over.

There is a small annual membership fee and sessions can be paid for daily or, at a reduced rate monthly.

Sessions are bookable via [www.loddoncommunitygym.com](http://www.loddoncommunitygym.com).



## **Loddon Swan Bowls Club**

Our green will open Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 2:00pm for the 2025 season.

Anyone new to bowls, please come along and give this sport a try; current members will be on hand to help. We have some spare bowls in the clubhouse, flat shoes must be worn. If new to the area, or fancy a change of club, please come along.

Practice sessions (roll-ups) are held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons also Wednesday mornings. The club plays in many local leagues in the evenings, also Thursday afternoons. Inter-club competitions are held on Saturday afternoons.

Come on, join in the fun. A warm welcome awaits.

Any further information needed, please give me a call. Paul Clemence (Chairman) on 07833 764698.

## Community Groups, News and Events

### Davy Place

Bingo is on a Monday afternoon at 2:00pm. All money taken is given back as winnings.

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

Cards is on a Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm.

Come along for a relaxing time. All welcome.

Enquiries to Carol Castle on 01508 826488.

### Chedgrave Church Centre Hire

All Saints Church, Chedgrave has a lovely church centre open for 30 years. There are two rooms (one upstairs), a kitchen and a loo. Our wheeled tables are easy to move and put up. It is warm even in the winter! It is available to book with a suggested donation of £8 per hour. If you are looking for a venue for a meeting, a party, or an activity do contact Anne Jackson who is responsible for hall bookings on 01508 502278.

### Chet Valley Medical Practice—Patient Participation Group

“Working together to improve your patient experience.”

AGM on Mon. 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 3pm at Chet Valley surgery

All patients are considered members and are welcome to attend and are represented by a committee elected at this AGM.

We seek “Enthusiastic doers” to join the committee or to volunteer to support with upcoming events.

The Patient Participation Group (PPG), established in February 1996 and has played a key role in representing patients and supporting the practice. It is run by patient volunteers and the Practice Manager. We meet with Practice staff every three months, or more frequently if needed, to explore how we can enhance services and foster a positive relationship between the practice, its patients, and the wider community. Our goal is to improve two-way communication and address the changes we, as patients, desire. If you are interested in being part of shaping the future of your surgery, are willing to do something very worthwhile for the local community why not become a member or volunteer, please contact us via email. [ChetvalleymedicalpracticePPG@Gmail.com](mailto:ChetvalleymedicalpracticePPG@Gmail.com) to express your interest.



## Loddon Bell Ringers



Another very busy month for our members has seen quarter peals rung by our ringers here at Loddon and also at Necton, Ashill, Kenninghall, Downham Market, Mundford, Northwold, Stow Bardolph, Terrington St Clement, Kings Lynn and at the Mancroft Ringing Discovery Centre in Norwich.

We rang a quarter peal of 1260 Plain Bob Triples at Holy Trinity on 16th March to welcome our new Rector, Rev Miriam Fife and her family to Loddon. The ringers were 1. Stephen Rabong 2. Jeannine Roe 3. Paul Norris 4. Sandra Norris 5. Ann - M Webb 6. David Webb 7. Katie Wright (Conductor) 8. Levi Lovelock.

Peals have also been rung by some of our ringers. 5040 Seven Surprise Minor at Watton in 2 hours 35 minutes, 5042 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral in 3 hours 23 minutes, 5040 Stedman Doubles at Haddiscoe in 2 hours 33 minutes and 5024 Double Norwich Court Bob Major at North Creak in 2 hours 55 minutes.

**Steve Rabong**

## Loddon Players

We are very pleased to announce we raised the sum of £ 2260 at our charity quiz on the 5th April for the world cancer research fund this includes matched £ for £ by Barclays Bank PLC. We would like to thank Starkings and Watson for generously sponsoring the event, including the prizes. All those who attended and made the evening an enjoyable event.

We would also like to thank Phill Moore for being our quiz master, Sam Bailey for her time, The Hollies for the use of the venue, Norwich City FC for the signed shirt, and the following local business's and individuals for their generous raffle prizes, Bridge stores, Loddon Town Council, Loddon Garden and DIY, Lims Fish and chips, Rosy Lee's, Spoon cake, Skepelhorn family, Wards Butchers,

We are truly lucky to live in such a caring and giving town.

## Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch



With Seething Open day on May 4th, followed with VE Day80 on May 8th, the RBL are preparing for the events ahead of us. Knitted Poppies are still popular on our Gazebo stand at Seething during the summer and on our stand at the Church events. If anyone wishes to knit / crochet a few, please do and help support our Veterans. Veterans ages vary, from the young still being injured or suffering PTSD, to the slightly more mature ones.

Our meetings are a catch up for members - military and civilian, to chat and hear how we continue to support our Veterans.

We meet 3rd Monday evening of the month, at 7pm. The Lecture Hall, in Loddon. Contact Chairman Colin, if any queries (or Poppies) on 01508 521136."

## Church Services

### 4th May

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

### 11th May

9:30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	St John, Loddon

### 18th May

10.45am	Holy Communion	★ Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland

### 25th May

### Rogation Sunday

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.30am	Holy Communion	St Margaret, Hardley
10.45am	Morning Worship	★ Holy Trinity, Loddon
7.00pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John, Loddon

### 29th May

### Ascension Day

3.45pm	Holy Communion	St John, Loddon
--------	----------------	-----------------

★ **Summer time switch to Holy Trinity!**

## Other Services in Chet Valley Churches

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

## BLUEBELL SUNDAYS

ENJOY THE STUNNING DISPLAY OF BLUEBELLS IN THE CHURCHYARD AND SURROUNDING WOODLANDS OF LANGLEY CHURCH

**St. Michael's Church, Langley**

**Entrance from The Avenues, Langley, NR14 6BL**

**(Parking on the roadside in The Avenues)**

**Sundays, 4th, 11th, 18th May. 2-4pm.**

**FREE ADMISSION    LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

## Tuesday Market



Warmer days and longer daylight have brought out the spring flowers. Treat yourself to a bunch from our plant and flower stall which you will find outside the Hollies on fine days.

Inside you will find home baked cakes, savoury dishes, honey and preserves, fresh eggs, seasonal vegetables and local crafts.

We meet every Tuesday from 10 to 11.30.

This month we are offering you a FREE tea or coffee on production of this article. So why not meet your friends in our friendly atmosphere?

We need your support to enable the market to continue!

Orders and enquiries to Sheila Ford (chairman) 01508 520752.

## Loddon, Chedgrave & District Society

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday 7th May at 7.30pm in Chedgrave Church Rooms. Jenny Bemment from our local Parkinson's shop will give a short talk followed by Society business. There will be wine and nibbles. Don't forget, the annual membership fees of £6.00 are due this evening (cash only please). We hope to see many of you there.

**Somerleyton Hall:** By now, everyone who wants to attend this event on 8th May should have put their names down and paid.. A confirmation email will be sent to all attendees nearer the time. We look forward to a lovely day out touring the house and roaming the gardens.

**The Great Hospital:** Bishopgate, Norwich. On 3rd July at 11.00am we will have a tour of this beautiful and interesting historical site. This may seem like a very early promotion of this event but **payment must be made by 30th May**. The cost will be £10.00 (cash only please). The Great Hospital contains much of historic and architectural interest. Please note, the tour includes steep and uneven steps in narrow stairwells and corridors. Numbers are limited. Please contact June on 01508 528853 or email [lcdistrictsociety@gmail.com](mailto:lcdistrictsociety@gmail.com)

If you would like to join our friendly group, please contact Hillary Meredith on 01508 520457 or email [lcdistrictsociety@gmail.com](mailto:lcdistrictsociety@gmail.com). We will be happy to answer any questions.

## Loddon Players proudly present -

Keep calm and carry on, a celebration of VE day

"A commemorative celebration of the 1940's, reflected in humour, pathos, and song!"

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June (7.30pm) and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June (7.30pm)

At The Lecture Hall, George Lane Loddon. NR14 6QH

**Tickets on sale from Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 9am**

Ticket prices - Adults £10 / Children £5 (15 years and under) / Family ticket £25 (2 adults and 2 children) – see website for latest ticket offers

Available online at [www.loddonplayers.co.uk](http://www.loddonplayers.co.uk) or at our Box Office—0333 666 3366  
9am to 7pm Mon. to Fri. and from 9am to 5pm Saturdays. (Closed on Sundays)

Limited tickets for the performances, so please book early to avoid disappointment!



**South Yare  
Art Trail**

Artists & Makers open their  
studios to the public where  
you can see, experience & buy art

**Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th June 2025  
Open 10am to 4pm - Free Entry**

There will also be an art workshop,  
demonstrations, exhibition,  
open gardens & refreshments  
to enjoy along the trail.  
Please see our website  
to plan your visit.

**[www.SouthYareArtTrail.co.uk](http://www.SouthYareArtTrail.co.uk)**

## Loddon and District Women's Institute



So here we are – 95 and still going strong!! Thank you to everyone who organised our very enjoyable birthday celebrations! This month, in addition to the regular meetings and the usual Open House meeting for members, some of us are going to see Joseph at the Theatre Royal. We are also looking forward to the outings and events we have planned for the summer.

### Meetings for May

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – Knit, Natter & Crochet** - 2:30 – 4.00 p.m. at Loddon Library – This is a community event, open to all.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Monthly Meeting – Chair Yoga** 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.. St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane.

*For more information we can be contacted through our Facebook page or at [loddonwi@gmail.com](mailto:loddonwi@gmail.com)*

**Could you help out our Chet Contact distribution network by bundling up and dropping off 18 packs of magazines in Hales, each month, for the deliverers to put through the doors? To offer or to find out more call the editor, Roger, on 528710.**

## Loddon Library



Keep in mind that Loddon Library regularly offers the following:

For adults, **Spectrum Connect**, a supportive and understanding social group for neurodiverse individuals. Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month, 12:30-1:30pm. For children, volunteer-supported after school activities. Suitable for all kids and their families. All ages welcome and suitable for neurodiverse children, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

**Bounce & Rhyme** is offered on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:15am.

Get one-to-one digital support with our volunteer **Computer Buddy**. They can help answer your IT queries, help you get online, set up an email account, search for jobs online and more. Weekly appointments available between 10:00am and noon. Speak with taff or call 01508 520678 to book.

As always you can: Borrow books, eBooks, audiobooks and online magazines for adults and children; Borrow a laptop, use our computers, or connect to our Wi-Fi on your own device; Print, copy & scan (even during unstaffed hours).

Pop in to see us at Loddon Library to see what else we have on offer.

## Chet Valley Voices



Chet Valley Voices is a community choir of varying ages from 15-80+. We enjoy singing a variety of music from classical to modern and are a happy friendly bunch. Come along, make new friends and get to know others in the community. Singing is good for your mental health and well-being, so you will leave rehearsals feeling uplifted. Why not come to a free taster session?

Rehearsals: Thursday 7:00-8:30pm (doors open 6:45pm) in St Johns Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. £5 on the night, £3 for under 18s. New members always welcome, especially men. More information from: Sue 01508 528069; suemartin303@btinternet.com or chetvalleyvoices@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter: @ChetValleyVoices. [www.chetvalleyvoices.co.uk](http://www.chetvalleyvoices.co.uk).

## Breathing/Vocal Technique Sessions

Do you enjoy singing but feel that your breath control could be better? Are you a non-singer but feel that you could do with help to improve your breathing? Would you like tips on vocal technique?

Tanya Chelovskaya is a trained vocal coach leading sessions at Chedgrave Church Centre on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:00noon. The cost is £8, which includes refreshments. If interested, please contact Tanya at [t.chelovskaya@gmail.com](mailto:t.chelovskaya@gmail.com) or WhatsApp on 07737 765098.

*"I come away from Tanya's sessions, uplifted and with the knowledge that I can own my voice, and possibly even have the confidence to sing. Breathing, vocal and gentle physical exercises combine and lead to a wonderful sense of well-being."*

**Bridget M Ward**



## The Loddon Band

We are a friendly and dynamic brass band in the historic town of Loddon. We are currently seeking the following players to come and join us: Cornet, Tenor Horn, Euphonium, Eb Bass. We welcome all brass players and percussionists.



Rehearsals are at The Hollies, High Street, Loddon on Tuesday evenings, 7:45-9:45pm. Our rehearsals are fun and enjoyable so why not pop along to see what we are about. For more information, contact Louis (Secretary): Email: [Loddon.band@gmail.com](mailto:Loddon.band@gmail.com) or phone 07463 770068.

## **Chedgrave Carr Charity**

John Lurkins lived in Chedgrave all his life, and was a parish councillor for over 40 years. He was passionate about the welfare of Chedgrave.

Just before he died in 2023, John acquired Chedgrave Carr, a wonderful area of wet woodland situated on the outskirts of the village. It lies between Chedgrave Common and the River Chet. He immediately bequeathed the Carr to the Chedgrave Carr Charity, created to arrange for the Carr to be made accessible for local residents to enjoy. John appointed his daughter, Rachel, and a few close friends to be trustees. The Carr has been left unattended for decades, but limited access will be made in a manner sympathetic to the natural environment.

There is much work to be done, which means the charity needs more trustees. If you would like to know more about this project and may like to be involved, then send us an e-mail telling us about yourself to: [cliveboyd@btconnect.com](mailto:cliveboyd@btconnect.com).

## **Volunteer with East Anglian Air Ambulance at Trek 24—Norfolk! Route from Reedham to Whitlingham, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

Trek 24—Norfolk, an East Anglian Air Ambulance flagship fundraising event, simply wouldn't be possible without the remarkable volunteers who, not only help everything to run smoothly, but who support, cheer and champion our Trekkers every step of the way.

We're looking for people to join us as volunteer marshals on Trek day in the beautiful Norfolk Broads on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

As our Trekkers will be passing through Reedham, Heckingham, Loddon, Chedgrave, Langley, Rockland Staithe and Surlingham before finishing at Whitlingham Country Park, we'd love your help if you can offer a few hours of your time. You'll be a vital part of the team helping at checkpoints, registrations, and generally contributing to the day's feel-good factor! If you would like to join our happy team for the day and be involved, please get in touch on [volunteer@eaaa.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@eaaa.org.uk) or call 03450 669999 (Monday to Friday 8:30am-5:00pm).





## Loddon Flower Club

Spring is here!

All welcome. Refreshments during a short interval and a chance to win the arrangements made during the evening.



Our demonstrator in May, on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, will be Jennifer Thompson giving us her take on 'Flowers in Rhyme'. There will also be a competition called 'Springtime'.

This year our annual outing is to Houghton Hall, on 23<sup>rd</sup> July. If anyone would like to join us we're hoping the coach will leave from Loddon (other pick up points available) around 9:30am, returning from Houghton at 4:00pm. Please get in touch for further details, email: [loddonflowerclub@gmail.com](mailto:loddonflowerclub@gmail.com) or call Tricia: 01508 480522 or Jenny: 01508 520254.

If you need help with flowers for any family occasion, please get in touch, email or ring. We also have a Facebook page—Loddon Flower Club—and a website: [www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk](http://www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk).

All meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month in St John's Chapel-Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon. 6:30 for a 7:pm start. Visitors £7.50.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Parkinson's UK Charity Shop, Loddon

2 Little Money Road, Loddon Industrial Estate.

Look forward to seeing you all there, **Jenny**

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## Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the last **Wednesday** of each month in the back room of The Hollies, Loddon High Street.



### Next Meeting:

No speaker in May but members will meet at The Old Feathers for our annual dinner. 6.30 for 7.00pm

All menu requests should have been returned to Sue by the April meeting.

An annual fee of £10 is charged, plus £3 for each meeting attended. New members always welcome. Any queries please contact June 01508 528853 or Hillary 01508 520457.

## Loddon and District Horticultural Society

For our meeting on 14th May we have Martyn Davey coming along to show us ways of propagation, which should prove interesting and perhaps save us a bit of money! The meeting is held at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon and starts at 7-30pm. Refreshments are available and a raffle held. We will also be holding our Table Show for the Copland Cup.



Before that on Saturday 10th May we are holding our Annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning at The Hollies, High Street, Loddon from 9-30am to 12-30pm. We will have for sale hanging baskets, home-grown bedding plants, vegetable plants, perennials, herbs, house plants and sundries. All at really reasonable prices. Plus teas, coffee, cakes, etc. We hope you will come and have a look and see what we have on offer. Our meetings are held at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon, usually on the second Wednesday of the month. Membership £10 per year. For more details contact Chairman Jean Cope: 01502 710024 or [jeancope52@gmail.com](mailto:jeancope52@gmail.com) or Secretary Hazel Copland: 01508 520890 or [happyhaze50@gmail.com](mailto:happyhaze50@gmail.com). Follow us on our Facebook page.

## Social Whist

We meet in the back room of The Hollies at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. We have twelve hands of whist with a hot drink and a biscuit and some local chat.



All enjoyed in a friendly atmosphere. If you need a lift to The Hollies, please call Jane on 01508 528875. We look forward to seeing you.

## Loddon Community Cinema

Our next presentation is "**CONCLAVE**", 115 minutes and rated 12. Starring **Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow and Isabella Rossellini**. The film follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events: selecting a new Pope. The Church's most powerful world leaders are gathered, locked in the Vatican halls. Tasked with running this covert process, Cardinal Lawrence (**Ralph Fiennes**) finds himself at the centre of a conspiracy and discovers a secret that could shake the very foundation of the Church.



**Showing on Thursday May 1st** at The Lecture Hall, St. John's, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 7:00pm, film starts 7:30pm. Tickets: Adults £4, under-16 £2, are available on the door or in advance from Loddon Garden & DIY. Email: [loddoncommunitycinema@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loddoncommunitycinema@yahoo.co.uk).

## Chet Staithe Probus Club

We are a club for retired gentlemen, and friendship. The atmosphere is relaxed, jovial, with little formality. Dress code is casual. We have a good mardle, and a different speaker every meeting on varied subjects. Afterwards, members either go home, adjourn to the bar, or stay for a pleasant lunch. Your choice. We meet at The White Horse, first and third Tuesday of every month, start time 10:00am.

Next meetings:

6th May Piper Alpha—Roger Woodward  
20th May Suffolk Wildlife Trust—Vicky Eyles  
3rd June A Passion for Speed—Paul Smiddy

Come to a couple of meetings and try us out; no pressure to join.  
Clive Boyd, Secretary, on 520547,[cliveboyd@btconnect.com](mailto:cliveboyd@btconnect.com).



## Chet Valley Probus Club

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

Next meetings:

13th May “Mexico City to Chiccen Itza” - Pat Alka  
27th May Terri McLean-Bowman Cancer Research UK  
10th June “Jack Cates: Last Professional Wherryman” - Dale Wiserman  
Info from—John McCormack 01508 521899, [probusonline.org/chet-valley](http://probusonline.org/chet-valley).

## WEA

This Spring Term we have had a series of stimulating and exciting courses given by PhD students at the University of East Anglia which we all thoroughly enjoyed. It was interesting to hear a young person's opinions on such diverse subjects as Ecology, Gossip and Sport and to be able to discuss the topics with them.

We break now for the Summer Term and will start again in the Autumn.

If you are interested in attending our courses, please contact Alison on 01508 521976 or Sharon on 01508 520386.





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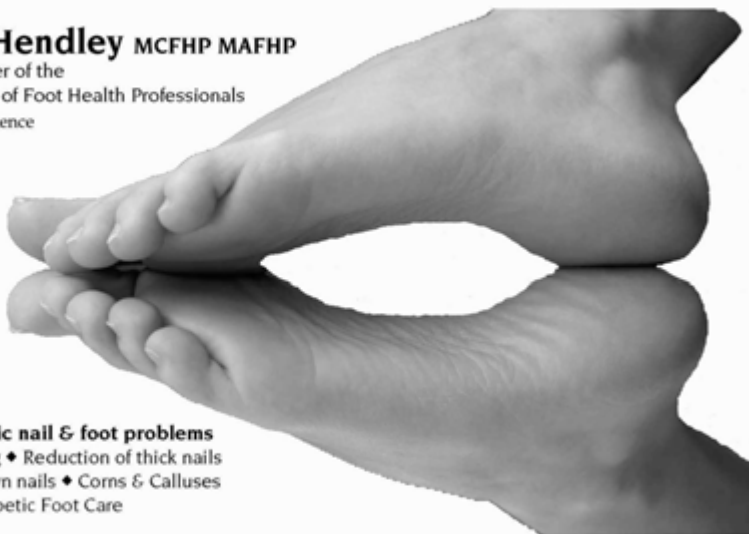
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## Chet Valley Community Larder



The community larder is open in the library every Saturday from

1:00- 3:00pm and every Monday from 12:00noon-2:00pm. This service is open to residents of the Chet Valley (Loddon, Chedgrave, Hales & Heckingham, Langley & Hardley, Sisland).

On completion of a registration form, you can collect a food bag with items to make a couple of meals, together with additional items on the day, for £1. Once you are registered you can collect a food bag whenever you are in need of food support. If you need urgent food support, outside of the library larder times, please contact the Loddon Town Council office on 01508 522020 or email either [clerk@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk) or [jane@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jane@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk).

The donation shelves and fridge are still open in the library annexe every Monday-Friday 8:00am-7:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-4:00pm and Sunday 8:00am-4:00pm. The shelves have donations from the public.

## Hardship Funds Available in the Chet Valley

If you are struggling to make ends meet at the moment, there are funds available to help. Local charities were set-up to help people in need in Chedgrave, Hardley, Langley and Loddon. If you are one of those people, please draw on these funds.

To access the funds:

**Loddon Town Estate Trust:** Contact Julie Ponsford on 07976 902487.

**Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund:** Contact Rev Alison or churchwarden, Roger Outlaw (phone numbers on p3), or treasurer Richard Ball on 01508 528126.

**Hardley and Langley Discretionary Fund:** Contact Rev Miriam or churchwarden (details in Hardley church porch).

**Langley Trust Fund:** This can be applied for via its Trustees, who are: Barbara Leathersich (01508 521979); Stephen Lutkin (01508 480989); Stella Wright (01508 520102); Susie Wheeler (01508 528429); Shirley Keeler (01508 528939).

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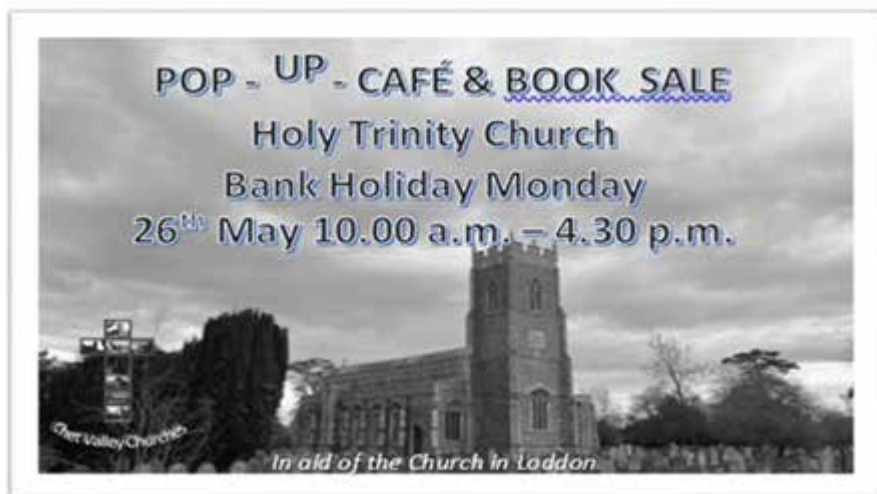
## Waveney Valley Arts Society



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

Next meeting: Wednesday 7th May - Aubrey Beardsley in Black and White - Matthew Sturgis

Guests are welcome to join us for an individual lecture but there will be a charge of £10 and pre-booking is essential. If you wish to join the waiting list to become a member of our society, the contact details are on the website: <https://theartssocietywv.org.uk>.



## Loddon & District Day Centre

The Day Centre sends Bev all the best on her retirement and a huge thank you for all the work she has done for us. We're pleased to welcome Sarah as our new organiser and we're looking forward to working with her. The Day Centre meets at Saxon House, on Tuesday and Fridays from 10.00am to 2.00pm. We chat, enjoy games, talks and light exercises, together with refreshments and a home made two course lunch. Why don't you come and join us? Please contact Sarah on 07584570206 for more information. We'd love to see you!



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## Chedgrave Art Group

This friendly painting group meets every Friday morning at Chedgrave Church Centre, All Saints Church, off Hardley Road 10:00am-12:30pm.

New members welcome: all abilities, including beginners.

For further details, please contact either Sandra [sandash34@icloud.com](mailto:sandash34@icloud.com) or Linda [linda@ashehamhouse.com](mailto:linda@ashehamhouse.com).

## Chet Valley Photography Club



Our May monthly club meeting is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> in our new venue at The Brian Clarke Meeting Room, Chedgrave, NR14 6JB. Doors open 6.45pm for 7pm start. This evening we will be an in-club session discussing how to use “layers and masks” within photography editing software and a general open questions and answers session. You do not need expensive equipment at all – really good images and creative images can be taken using a mobile device (phone, tablet) or a basic “point and shoot” camera. If you want to take photographs and want to know more please come along to one of our meetings. New members will be made very welcome. The club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience. Have a look at our website [www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk](http://www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk) or search Chet Valley Photography Club on Facebook for more information.

## Holy Trinity—Church Watch & Welcome Team

Can you help?

For some years we have had a team of people who have looked after the many visitors that Holy Trinity Church receives during the spring and summer seasons, to welcome and help those visitors, as well as keeping an eye on the church.



We need to find more people who can help. Church Watch is from ~10:0am-3:00pm, Monday to Friday. Actual hours and day(s) of your choosing within that time frame. You could share the responsibility with a relative or friend. You do not need to be a regular church attender to become involved in Church Watch.

If you would like to help, please call Paul Mizen on 01508 520535 or Email: [website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com).

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## Loddon and District Local History Group

Georgette Heyer was unable to give us her lecture in March for medical reasons so Elvie Herd stepped in at short notice to give us an interesting talk on 'The Loddon Doctors'. We wish Georgette all the best.

Elvie's earliest record of a doctor living in Loddon is for Dr Samuel Swaine who died in 1727. She also came across Dr Charles Palmer who married the daughter of John Randell who lived in Chedgrave Rectory. Dr Peter Conold died in 1752 and he was probably related to Samuel Conold, the vicar of Loddon and Chedgrave.

Elvie then moved on to the Loddon houses associated with the doctors. Dr Nelson operated from Farthing Green House which he left to his daughter who had married Dr Hunt, a doctor, surgeon and male midwife. Dr Hunt had practices in Norwich, Gissing and Loddon.

Loddon House was the 'lunatic asylum' run by Doctors John and Thomas Ebdon. John had served as a military doctor during the American War of Independence. Elvie has found some adverts that John placed looking for 'lunatic' patients and an apprentice to train under them providing the apprentice paid 'a premium'. Between 1763 and 1822 Guyton Jollye lived at Loddon House and he also advertised for patients. After his wife died he married a young widow only to find that her missing husband had turned up in Yarmouth. There was also a murder of an employee on the premises. Later on Dr Robert Pedgrift rented the premises from Guyton's son but he lost his licence in 1845 when an inspection found poor standards of hygiene in the practice. Eventually Dr Prior took over and added a small consulting room (later became the Post Office).

Rodwell House was the home and practice of Dr George Rodwell and later on his 3 sons, Doctors Henry, Edward and John. There is a memorial window in Loddon church dedicated to the Rodwell family. The Chestnuts was rented or owned by several different doctors but was later bought in 1952 by Dr Pat Bennett who retired in 1978. He was horrified by the state of the surgery at the side of the house so brought in improvements. As the village was growing in size he took on Dr Armitage (retired 1988) and then Dr Bevington (left 1991). Eventually the surgery moved to Church Plain and then to George Lane, becoming the Chet Valley Medical Practice.

Next meeting:

Wednesday 21st May - 'Castles in the Landscape' by Rik Hoggett.

All meetings are held in St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon starting at 1:30pm. Admission £3 (includes light refreshments). All welcome.

For more information email Elvie: [elvie.herd@uwclub.net](mailto:elvie.herd@uwclub.net).

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## Read Any Good Books Lately?

### **Careless People, by Sarah Wynn Williams**

An essential read for anyone interested in the reach of social media and Facebook in particular. Careless People exposes both the personal and political fallout when boundless power and a rotten culture take hold. Wynn-Williams rubbed shoulders with Mark Zuckerberg, Sheryl Sandberg and world leaders, and in this book reveals what really goes on among the global elite – and the consequences this has for all of us. Sarah Wynn-Williams saw Facebook's potential and knew it could change the world for the better. But, when she got there and rose to its top ranks, things turned out a little different. A gripping but horrifying read!

### **Mansfield Park, by Jane Austen**

This year marks 250 years since Jane Austen's birth and I'm rereading her novels. I thoroughly enjoyed the improvised comedy show, Austentatious, at the Theatre Royal recently. Mansfield Park is not the best known of Austen's novels but it's one of my favourites. Taken from the poverty of her parents' home in Portsmouth, Fanny Price is brought up with her rich cousins at Mansfield Park, acutely aware of her humble rank and with her cousin Edmund as her sole ally. During her uncle's absence in Antigua, the Crawfords arrive in the neighbourhood bringing with them the glamour of London life and a reckless taste for flirtation.

### **Trust, by Hernan Diaz**

Everyone in 1920s New York has heard of Benjamin and Helen Rask. He is a legendary Wall Street tycoon; she is the daughter of eccentric aristocrats. Together, they have risen to the very top of a world of seemingly endless wealth—all as a decade of excess and speculation draws to an end. But at what cost have they acquired their immense fortune? A literary puzzle about money, power, and intimacy, Trust is a novel that challenges the myths shrouding wealth, and the fictions that often pass for history.

The 'to be read' pile **Sunrise on the Reaping - The Hunger Games**, by Suzanne Collins—I read the other books a long time ago now but I remember how fast-paced and brilliant they were. This is the eagerly awaited fifth Hunger Games book - and second prequel - which places fan-favourite Haymitch Abernathy centre stage in an unputdownable tale of danger, action and intrigue set during the fiftieth deadly contest. As the day dawns on the fiftieth annual Hunger Games, fear grips the districts of Panem. This year, in honour of the Quarter Quell, twice as many tributes will be taken from their homes.



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## Nature Notes

I must start by sincerely apologising for the absence of April's Nature Notes you will have to put it down to me having a "senior moment" as it completely slipped my memory.

So here we are in May, spring is in full swing, and the majority of our summer migrant birds will be with us. In the next few days Swifts should be arriving and their screaming calls heralding the coming Summer. Despite the cold winds, March and so far, April have given us many sunny days and our solar panels are in overdrive. Having become accustomed to the familiar call of Chiff Chaffs. I wondered which would be the next summer visitor I would see. I must admit I would never have guessed what it would be. On the 4th of April walking back up Hardley Staithe from the Yare I caught sight out of the corner of my eye a medium sized grey bird, which I initially took to be a wood pigeon, flew up from the reeds and conveniently landed on top of a fence post. To my surprise I was looking at a Cuckoo, unfortunately it didn't stay long enough for me to get a photo. Anyway, that took my year total to 122, and birds seen around Hardley Staithe this year to 68. This morning while walking the dogs from Hardley Staithe as far as the shooting duck lake my total went to 69 when I found an Avocet on the edge of the water there.

The rest of the day I had planned to take a friend birdwatching at both Ranworth Broad and then on to Hickling. We arrived at the first port of call expectant to see an Osprey. Yes, we were told that the male was around collecting sticks for his nest. Sadly, after waiting for an hour and a half, the Osprey didn't appear. Though we were entertained by several pairs of Great Crested Grebes doing their courtship displays. We also saw a Common Tern diving for fish. The hope is that this year the Ospreys will nest and raise young there, so a return trip is on the cards. Returning to the carpark I heard my first Blackcap of the year and while eating our lunch we had Swallows putting on a show overhead. Hickling Broad proved more successful as I was hoping to see Garganey, a small summer visiting duck whose drake has a wonderful white crescent over each eye. At the reception we were told where the best place was to see them. Unlike the Osprey the Garganey were far more obliging and we quickly spotted three males. Also, we saw a couple of Little Ringed Plovers (LRP,s). Moving further around Brendons Marsh at Hickling we found three more LRP's, four Ruff, a Dunlin, three Black Tailed Godwits and a snipe, heard Common Crane bugling and numerous other wildfowl. In all my year list increased by six to 128. Despite not seeing the Osprey we had a most enjoyable day.

So, keep your senses alert and see what you can find in our wonderful world , it can really do you a power of good.

**Richard and Rachel Hull**

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## Gardening Notes

### Growing Fruit and Veg from scratch: Part 6b Crop Rotation

In the last article I covered the basic rotation system on an allotment and how to feed the soil in preparation for each new crop. This time I'll discuss variations.

A basic 4 rotation plan would be POTATOES → ROOTS → BRASSICAS → PEAS & BEANS → POTATOES. → = Follows

If you only have room for 3 beds you can amalgamate the brassicas and roots.

If you have a large plot you may want to grow other ground hungry crops like squashes or grow more of one thing than another to meet family needs. I have seven equally sized beds each 6 x 3m and use two beds to supply enough potatoes to last the winter (they ran out in January this year) and a whole bed for onions and shallots (I still have a few shallots left but the onions also ran out in January).

Maybe your family love beetroot or salads, in which case you will devote a bigger area to these. No point growing what the family don't eat. Salad crops like radish can often be grown between the rows of slower growing crops, but lettuces need more space to develop so you will probably want to dedicate some specific space.

If you have the bad luck to get club root in your plot you can leave brassicas out of the rotation as long as necessary.

**A final reminder: the key to any rotation plan is keeping a record.**

**Andrew Milner**

### From Another Garden

Sunshine arrived with the Spring Equinox, calling me into the garden at every opportunity. There I am privileged to be joined by my fearless little mate the Robin who lands within inches of me and we chat, he loves Vine Weevil grubs.

The ground beneath the Bramley tree has been cleared. The immovable metal pole has been cut off with an angle grinder. Around the back of the shed were bags full of homemade compost and turf which was removed before the greenhouse went in. They are now lovely friable rich earth which I have used to raise the soil levels and nourish the plot, as a lot of it had been under paving slabs for decades.

I've laid an area of old bricks and Norfolk pammments, on which the newly sanded and oiled garden seat sits. It looks good against the shed which I have painted black and is in a shaded north facing position, a cool place to sit out of the summer sun.

I am pleased to see that most of my overwintering plants which looked like they had expired are actually alive, especially the Cannas, Lemon Verbena and Pomegranate bush which I wonder if will ever bear fruit.

All tomato plants have been potted on. Seeds sown this month, German Camomile, Helichrysum, Bush Basil, Liquorice, Chillies, Courgettes and 3 types of stringless Beans. Some of which have already germinated, things are starting to get very busy in the greenhouse now.

**Hazel Copland**



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