



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches May 2026



SPRING FAIR

ALL SAINTS CHEDGRAVE

Saturday May 9th

10.00 a.m. to 12 noon



Plants

Cakes

Books

Raffle

Tombola

Games

Refreshments



'ALL ABOARD'

Station 366

Sing American Swing

Back by popular demand!

Holy Trinity Church Loddon
Saturday May 30th at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £12 (including buffet)
from Val Counter – valancounter@gmail.com
or 01508 520702

*Station 366 is a singing group who love performing
1940's American Swing numbers*

Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

Miriam Fife:	07593 163920	rector.cvb@gmail.com
Jill Haylock:	01508 520248	jillhaylock@aol.com
Ros Hoffmann:	07572 965271	roshoffmann2011@gmail.com
Martin Keenan:	01502 560178	martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk



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

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

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

Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches www.chetvalleychurches.org

The Diocese of Norwich www.dioceseofnorwich.org

Chet Contact

Editors:	Roger Outlaw, Miriam Fife
Advertising:	Peter Webster
Treasurer:	Paul Mizen
Distribution:	Roger Outlaw 01508 528710 and team
Printing:	Roberts & Son 01508 520221

Copy Deadline - noon on the 8th of the preceding month.

Email submissions to c.magazineloddon@gmail.com.

Please include your name and telephone number.

Chet Contact is published monthly (double issues in July/Aug & Dec/Jan)

Donations

Contributions towards production costs of Chet Contact, can be made as follows:

Account Name: Chet Contact Magazine, Sorting Code: 20-92-08, Account No: 70724742

Disclaimer

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

From the Editor

Things are hotting up in a lot of ways—I'm finishing this issue on the hottest day of the year so far—25degs here in the East. But also clubs, old and new, are getting going and some have new times and activities, so do check. The church is beginning a second new initiative this Spring, a lunch event. This is shown on p34.

The All Saints Spring Fair and any concert at Holy Trinity are always worth visiting!p2

Sisland has its annual Book Sale and refreshments will be available, p21. Our smallest church, up on the hill at Sisland, is worth a visit in itself and I am a great fan of their cakes!

The Bingo evening, p34, is raising funding for the Summer Art Festival and the Arts Trail, p38 should go in your diaries for June.

I hope you all get the opportunity to get out and about somewhere on our patch and enjoy yourselves.

Roger



Front Cover: <i>Garden Supervisor</i>		<i>Ed.</i>	
Regular items		Highlights	
Across Chet Valley Churches	7/9	All Saints Spring Fair	2
From the Parish Registers	11	Concert—Holy Trinity	2
From Your Local Councillors	13	Sisland Books Sale	21
Parish Council News	15-22	Medical Practice	29
Church Notices and Services	26-27	Holy Trinity Spring Clean	
Sport	23-24	Loddon Community Cinema	33
Community News	25-41	Free Hot Lunches	34
Local History Group	43	Langley Church Bluebells	34
Book Reviews	45	Arts Festival Bingo Evening	34
Nature Notes	47	South Yare Art Trail	38
Garden Notes	49	Plant Sale / Coffee Morning	41

Ministerial Musings

We live with a huge variety of noises in our environment, from personal earbuds to the noise from construction sites. I write as one of the residents of the far end of Chedgrave, whose quiet lives were suddenly assailed by the rumble of major earth movements (well, they felt major) earlier in the year- some noises we choose, and others we don't! One of the joys of our seasonal changes are the different sounds of nature- honking of migrating geese in the Autumn, sharp sound of ice in winter or the joyous sound of swifts shrieking as they hurtle through our skies in early summer. In 'May' the poet John Clare rejoiced in birdsong too:

'Come queen of months in company, Wi' all thy merry minstrelsy,
The restless cuckoo absent long, And twittering swallows chimney song ...'

He mentions other sounds in this month: crickets, bees and a bouncing ball as children play. Despite all the changes in our world since Clare's day we still hear those sounds, if we take the time. We are fortunate here in the Chet Valley with places nearby to be still and listen to the sound of nature, not least in our churchyards- remember that they are an open public space for you to enjoy in all our villages. Being still and listening is part of the Christian tradition, as with other faiths. Even though Jesus' ministry meant giving freely of his time to others, he frequently went off by himself to pray, to listen to God away from the clamour of everyday life. We all need times to reflect, to lay down all the thoughts that crowd in on us, diverting us from what really matters in our lives, stopping us from prioritising our own mental health, burdening us with guilt or making us oblivious to the needs of other people. 'If you have ears, then hear.' Jesus told his disciples. You can't do that if you don't listen.

There's a story in the Old Testament of the prophet Samuel as a young boy interrupting the sleep of Eli three times and saying, 'Here I am!' before the old priest realises that the call his assistant is hearing is God's voice. When Samuel listens after that he hears God saying, 'Soon I shall do something ... which will ring in the ears of all who hear it.' I wonder what would ring in our ears, if we all took the time to listen? Making the time to listen is not always easy in our busy lives, but just a few minutes out of the busyness can be transformative: listening to God, listening to that inner voice that we have been ignoring, listening to the beautiful sounds of May. Here's hoping and praying that we'll hear the cuckoo and the swifts above the clamour of daily life, transporting us to a place of calm and restoring our souls.

Belinda Barwick



Gillingham Early Years

Ensuring individual growth and learning in a nurturing, loving and enabling environment
01502 471861 /07506544360
gillearlyyears@gmail.com

We are situated behind Gillingham Village Hall and open from 8.30 to 4, Mon to Thurs & 9 to 3 Fri term time for 2-5 year olds
We offer inclusive indoor/outdoor early years education and play in a happy, relaxed and friendly atmosphere.
Please call to arrange a visit
Ofsted registered



The Hollies Classroom
Loddon (01508) 520286
www.loddonnurseryschool.co.uk

Open 8am-6pm, all year round
From birth to 5 years, we offer a beautiful natural Environment to inspire and stimulate your child's development
Funded places, full and term time contracts available
Holiday club for up to 9 yrs
Please contact us to arrange a visit
Ofsted Outstanding



Loddon
Primary
Federation

School Nursery Places Available

Teacher-Led Nursery for 3-4 Year Olds

Give your child the very best start to their learning journey in our warm, welcoming school nursery

Qualified teacher-led provision
Fully funded 3-4 year old places
High-quality Early Years curriculum
Safe, secure and nurturing learning environment
Dedicated outdoor learning area
Seamless transition into Reception class
Part of our supportive school community

We provide a stimulating environment where children learn through play, exploration and structured teaching, building the foundations for lifelong learning.

Contact us today to find out more or arrange a visit!

☎ 01508 505180 (Option 1)

✉ officeinf@lplfed.org

Loddon Infant & Nursery School,
Kittens Lane, Loddon, NR14 6JX



Armiger Electrical

All domestic & commercial
Installations
Test and inspection
Fuse box Upgrades
intruder alarms
Full and part rewires
and more
Part P and NAPIT
Registered

Tele:07825 794045

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), Common Worship, informal or Celtic style. See weekly news sheets for details or speak to a member of the ministry team.

Morning Worship is held regularly in Loddon, Chedgrave and Hardley.

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

Café Church 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 you can join in with as much or as little as you wish; every session will be a variety of coffee, cake, discussion, crafts, games, stories, reflection and song, suitable for all ages.

Breakfast Church every 3rd Sunday in Sat John's, Loddon

Contemporary family friendly worship Breakfast 8.30-9.15.

Service 9.30-10.15 (followed by usual Holy Communion service at 10.45)

Last Sunday Praise: Contemporary Evening Worship Service is held in St John's Chapel every last Sunday of the month. Refreshments from 6.30, service begins at 7pm. A warm welcome awaits at this informal, Spirit-filled service!

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.

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.



Located next to the River Yare in the heart of the Norfolk Broads, The Reedham Ferry Inn & Touring Park is a family run business which was established in 1949 by the Archers.

Looking out at our idyllic riverside views, the last working chain ferry in operation in East Anglia or simply taking in the ambient history, our seasonal menus, well-kept local ales and relaxed atmosphere are yours to enjoy.

To book:

01493 700429

reedhamferry@aol.com

Please see website www.reedhamferry.co.uk for updated opening hours and menus

Dog friendly



Dean Baldry Garden Maintenance

- Lawn Mowing & Strimming
- Pruning, Weeding & Planting
- Hedge Cutting & Rotovating
- Fencing
- Pressure Washing

Fully Insured - No Job Too Small

Tel: 07973 382843

Email: deanbaldry@googlemail.com

Lindsay Building Services

Interior and Exterior Home Improvements
Maintenance and Repair

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| ✓ Brickwork | ✓ Rendering |
| ✓ Plastering | ✓ Carpentry |
| ✓ Tiling | ✓ Painting |

No Job Too Small - Free Estimates
01508 521845

Maths and Literacy Tuition

Key stages 2 and 3

Highly experienced teacher offers lessons matched to your child's needs.
Booster sessions / preparation for tests.

Mrs Jo Fisher, B.Ed (Hons), M.A.

01508 480334

07748600232

jotfisher@btinternet.com

Canvas Prints

Show off your special photo on canvas with our single image, gallery-wrapped canvas prints.

High quality printing of your favourite pics, mounted and ready for hanging.

Prices on application
Call in for details
or phone

01508 520221



J.S. Pest Control

Rats, Mice, Moles, Wasps,
Rabbits & Insects

07903887146

joelspurdens@outlook.com



Bring us your favourite pics on disc, on a memory stick or send via email and we will work with you to position the image exactly as you wish to see it on the final print.

Roberts and Son Printers
2.4 and 6 Bridge Street, Loddon,
Norwich NR14 6EZ
Tel: 01508 520221
Email: print@robertsandson.co.uk

Church Groups

Friends and Neighbours

Don't be Lonely!

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

Future Meetings:

Thursday May 7th At the Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon

Lunch at 12.30 followed by a talk on "Herbs" by Lynton Johnson.

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. You will be made very welcome.

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



Small Groups

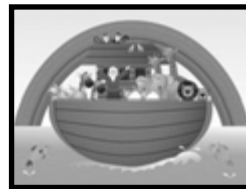
Some of us like to meet during the week in small groups where we can enjoy each others' company, study the Bible together and pray for one another and for others.

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



To join or just to know more, please contact the Church Office

Noah's Ark



Wednesdays 9.15—11.30

St John's, George Lane Loddon

Drop-in group for babies, toddlers, parents and carers. Friendly and fun! For info contact the Benefice Office or just call in on a Wednesday.



TMH Renovations

Creating Perfect Homes

We carry out all aspects of home renovation and improvement. Contact us for a quote and a professional, reliable service.

T: 07376 952 076

E: tim@tmhrenovations.com

Bathrooms – Kitchens – Flooring
Dry Walls – Painting/Decorating
Tiling - Windows/Doors
www.tmhrenovations.com

BRIDGE STORES

Newsagent & Convenience Store



PP Pay Point



24 hr Cash Machine
Groceries & Confectionery
Beers, Wines & Spirits
Cigarettes & Tobacco
Newspaper & Magazine Deliveries
Stationery & Greeting Cards
Toys & Gifts
Fax, Photocopy & Laminating Service
Dry Cleaning

FREE HOME DELIVERY

*Within 3 miles radius when £15 or more spent
(Excluding Lottery) Telephone orders are accepted*

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Mon-Sat 5.30am to 9pm
Sunday 5.30am to 8pm

41 Bridge Street, Loddon
(opposite Loddon Staithe)
Tel 01508 520699

DM WINDOW CLEANING



Traditional Cleaning
of
Windows, Gutters
Fascias &
Conservatories

Tel:07415 395 211

TOTAL CARE physio

SARAH CONSIDINE (HCPC, CSP) local physiotherapist in Loddon and Hales

Providing expert treatment for:

Neck and back pain
Sporting injuries
Headaches
Joint & Muscle problems
Dizziness & balance problem



01508 548535 07976009524

Haymakers, School Lane, Heckingham, NR14 6SL

www.totalcarephysio.com sa-
rah@totalcarephysio.com



Clares
Dog Grooming

WILLOW BARN
LOW ROAD
NORTON SUBCOURSE
NORWICH
NR14 6SA

07505 684561

emmi PET ULTRASONIC
TEETH CLEANING

WWW.CLAIRSGROOMING.CO.UK

hcpc health & care
professions
council



CHARTERED
SOCIETY
OF
PHYSIOTHERAPY

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

John Stanley Douglas Townsend who died on 13 Feb. 2026 aged 83 yrs.

Funeral: 13th March 2026 at All Saints, Chedgrave

Carol Linda Holland who died on 21st Jan. 2026 aged 79 yrs.

Burial of Ashes on 26th March 2026 at Holy Trinity

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 We pray for all the couples looking forward to marriage in our benefice in 2026.

May they know the peace and joy of Christ as they prepare for their special day.

All Saints Spring Fair is on May 9th

We would be grateful for your help in making the annual Fair a success!

We need your cuttings, seedlings, and other plants!

When you are potting up or pricking out this Spring please do a few extra plants for us!

THANK YOU.



Thank You

Mrs Margaret Cook and family would like to pass on sincere thanks for the support and kind words received following the loss of her brother Russell Sutton.

Particular thanks to Russell's kind and thoughtful neighbours, the brilliant team from Norfolk First Support who cared so well for Russell during his final days at home, Gordon Barber Funeral Directors for their professional service and Reverend Jill Haylock for her comforting and fitting funeral service held at Holy Trinity Church Loddon.

A donation has been made to Marie Curie in memory of Russell. Thank you all.

Julie Marshall

Mobile Foot Health Practitioner
for treatment of
corns ~ callus ~ thickened toe nails
cracked heels ~ fungal infections
Nail Cutting

*For a friendly, and professional service
in the comfort of your own home, call*

Julie Marshall 07789 041501

S.A.C.Dip. FHPT: S.A.C.Dip. FHAP



K F Footcare Ltd

Caring for your feet, ingrown
Toenails, corns, callus removal
and much more

Kirsty Foster

Medical Foot Health Practitioner

07824 632 048

kfootcareltd@outlook.com

Beth's Blooms

Quality Florist
for all occasions

Weddings

Funeral Tributes

Corporate Floral Displays

Bespoke Designs

Cut Flowers

Floral Sundries

Modern & Traditional Designs

Bouquets

Arrangements

Aqua Packs

Florist flowers
delivered worldwide

Loddon Garden & DIY,
25 Bridge Street, Loddon NR14 6NA
01508 520632

DOS SANTOS PLUMBING SERVICES

All forms of plumbing work undertaken, including
central heating systems.
Specialising in kitchen and bathroom
installations.



WATER SOFTENER SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION **COMPLETE BUILDING SERVICES TO
CREATE BEAUTIFUL ROOMS**

Free kitchen and bathroom design
Plus product advice and sourcing

HIGH QUALITY FINISH
(references available)

VAL DOS SANTOS

Tel 01508 520 345 - M 07775946061

Instagram - dossantos_plumbingservices

Brian Clarke Meeting Room Chedgrave



Bright modern room with free parking and access to surrounding play areas.
Ideal for clubs, family gatherings, meetings, birthday parties etc.

- Well equipped kitchen
- Wheelchair accessible + hearing loop
- Free WiFi
- Table tennis tables
- WC

To book please contact:

Georgina Buckle

Email: brianclarkeroom@gmail.com

Tel: 07981 856270

Many of you will know that Hopkins Homes, who are busy building in Loddon on the Beccles Road, have now started looking at the green open space off Big Back Lane in Chedgrave, for a further 140 houses. Many of you have contacted me about this and are deeply unhappy. I think we are all fed up of the amount of building going on in our area. It isn't that we don't want new homes for local people but is this what is happening? And what about some new infrastructure first? We already face problems with too much traffic on our streets, trying to get doctors and dentists appointment and so on, just how much more overcrowding can our community take?

The planning application for this speculative development has not yet been lodged. If it is, I will let you know. Everyone needs to have their say. Lots of individual comments on the South Norfolk planning portal will have impact. I promise to represent your views on this if it comes in front of a planning committee. We shouldn't just have to put up with it.

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

Kay Mason Billig

As mentioned here, the elections that should never have been delayed have finally arrived, with voting taking place on May 7th. It's important that we all use or vote; these elections are very important ones for the future of our community and our county.

I was delighted this week to hear that I was able to secure over £12000 worth of funding for the brilliant Loddon Community Gym, in addition to the £15000 to keep the Jubilee Hall open.

Having these volunteer-run assets in the heart of Loddon is very important – I know how valued they are, alongside many others.

As well as these larger amounts, all South Norfolk Councillors have a Members' Grant to support local causes; please get in touch if I can help. Our ChetChat group will be giving out Easter gifts again this year; many thanks to everyone involved.

My next surgery takes place 2-4pm Saturday 9 May, in Loddon Library. This will be the 40th one that I've done, which I'm proud of.

If there is anything I can help with, please get in touch. We are elected to serve you, and will always do that.

Jeremy07733323581

Paul Hamilton Clarke



Painter & Decorator
Experienced, local & reliable
No job too big or too small

Tel: 01508 520097 Mob: 07817863962
Email : hamilton.clarke.pc@gmail.com



The White House, Mill Road
Ashby St Mary, Norfolk NR14
7BN

w: www.woodlandstoves.co.uk
t: 01508 480351

AN EXTENSIVE AND COMPETITIVELY PRICED RANGE OF
WOODBURNING AND MULTIFUEL STOVES ON SHOWROOM
DISPLAY

FULLY QUALIFIED HETAS REGISTERED INSTALLATION
SERVICE AVAILABLE

SUPPLIERS OF FLUE LINERS, FLUE PIPES, CHIMNEY COWLS
AND ACCESSORIES

PLEASE PHONE FOR OPENING TIMES

M FROST MOTOR ENGINEER

ESTABLISHED OVER 20 YEARS

UNIT 1, NEW ROAD, NORTON SUBCOURSE, NR14 6SB

KEEP IT LEGAL

TOP PRICES PAID,
FOR SCRAP CARS, VANS,
TRUCKS, MOT FAILURES AND
ACCIDENT DAMAGED VEHICLES
ALL D.V.L.A. PAPERWORK COMPLETED



For prompt collection call

07775 905631 / 01508 548994

markfrost1973@yahoo.co.uk



Mortgage Advice Bureau

DARREN BEDINGFIELD
YOUR LOCAL MORTGAGE &
PROTECTION ADVISER

TEL: 07587 075289

darren.bedingfield@mab.org.uk

A J WARD BUTCHERS

2 High Bungay Road, Loddon

Quality Meats All Locally Sourced
Handmade Sausages & Burgers.
BBQ Orders, Kebabs & Marinades.
Homemade Sausage Rolls, Pies &
Quiches. Home Cooked Cold Meat
Stradbroke Bakery Bread. Cakes &
Filled Rolls.

Local Cheeses, Dairy & Eggs.

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables. Groceries.
Selection Parravani 1 Ltr Ice Creams.
Chutneys, Cooking Sauces & Jams.

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

Tues, Wed, Thurs, & Fridays

Telephone 01508 520228

Email Orders:

shop@wardsbutchers.co.uk

Details & Opening Times

www.wardbutchers.co.uk

J's Maintenance Services

For all your DIY & Gardening Tasks
Painting & Decorating Inside and Out
Gutter Clearing and Repairs
Door & Fence Repairs, Garden Tidy and
Mowing. Help in Moving House
Roof Repairs Chimneys swept
Fully Insured

07746375349

51najacques@gmail.com



01508 520688

Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Locum Parish Clerk: Kerry Sturman

Tel: 07592 933174

Email: clerk@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: <https://chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chedgrave-Parish-Council>



The Pits Play Area: Fundraising continues with grant applications in progress.

Councillor Vacancies: Please consider joining your Parish Council as we currently have **vacancies**. Our friendly and committed team are looking forward to welcoming new members. If you'd like to bring your perspective to local decision-making, please contact the Clerk at clerk@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Chedgrave Courier: The next issue will be the **Spring edition**. Please get in touch if there are topics you'd like included.

Parking on White Horse Plain: Please park considerately so the space can be used effectively by all.

St Felix Park Street Names: The developer has incorporated the council's suggested names. Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas.

Brian Clarke Room: A bright, modern space with kitchen, wheelchair access and hearing loop. Ideal for parties, meetings and clubs. Contact Georgina Buckle: 07981 856270 or brianclarkeroom@chedgraveparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Allotment Vacancies: A ½ plot is currently available. Residents of Chedgrave and nearby villages may apply. Please contact the Clerk.

Dogs: Please keep dogs on leads, out of play areas, and always pick up after them.

2026/27 Precept (Summary)- The Council has set the 2026/27 precept at **£57,195**, a **15% increase**. For a Band D household this is **£19.41 per year** (around **£1.62 per month**). The rise reflects higher service costs, ongoing commitments, and planning for future projects. A full budget summary will be published on the Council website.

Contact the Clerk with any questions..

Next Meeting: see parish notice board 7.00pm, Brian Clarke Room, Chedgrave.

EXCEPTIONAL LANDSCAPING & GARDEN CARE

NORWICH & SURROUNDING AREAS



VIKING

LANDSCAPING & GARDEN CARE



OUR SERVICES

- ✓ Patios
- ✓ Fencing
- ✓ Pergolas
- ✓ Driveways
- ✓ Landscaping
- ✓ Garden Maintenance

WHO WEARE...

We are a small local landscaping firm based in Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk. 16 years military background our core values mean we are able to deliver on our customers dreams!

NORWICH, NORFOLK

Email: us@gingerviking.co.uk



CONTACT US:
07731976615



PETE ELLIS
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
HANDY MAN
INSIDE & OUTSIDE
LODDON
&
SURROUNDING AREA
EST 1992: INSURED
07957750355



Chet Valley Acupuncture

Acupuncture to support a range of issues incl. musculoskeletal, neurological, gynae / menopause, headaches/migraines, psycho / emotional
Naomi Last BA, BSc, LicAc, MBACc
tele: 07522 231169
naomi@chetvalleyacupuncture.co.uk
www.chetvalleyacupuncture.co.uk

'ACCOMODATION IN CENTRAL LODDON'

The Barn offers *'The Garden Room'*-(off Loddon High Street)



Lovely self-contained converted barn room with private access, off street parking overlooking garden close to amenities and eateries.
Ideal for family reunions, celebrations & weddings
Booking via: the Airbnb website at: <https://airbnb.com/h/thebarnyardroom> or
Phone Tracyann Corke 07522675935 /
Email: lokefolk@yahoo.com

Loddon Town Council (LTC)

The Old School, Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX
01508522020 | www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk www.facebook.com/loddontc



Tennis Court Resurfacing

We are delighted to announce that we have secured a grant of £14,350 from Sport England to support the resurfacing of the tennis courts. We would like to thank the tennis club for their fantastic fundraising effort of £2,943. This will be match funded by County Councillor Kay Mason Billig with a further £2,500. Additional thanks go to Loddon Players for their generous donation of £250. The land-owners, Loddon Town Council and Chedgrave Parish Council, have provided the remaining required funding via their 2025/26 and 2026/27 budgets. The resurfacing is planned for Autumn 2026. www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub

New Matting at Kitten's Lane Play Area—The swings at the play area have had a major safety upgrade, new safety matting and replacement bearings.

Loddon Allotments—If you live in Chedgrave or Loddon and would like to be added to the allotment waiting list, please contact our Allotment Officer, Jo.

Love Loddon Community Group—Join this friendly group to help keep Loddon blooming! Meetings are at 10:00 am on Church Plain, unless otherwise stated.

Upcoming dates: All Sundays -19 April 2026 –10 May 2026 -17 May 2026

Small Grants

Loddon Town Council has recently awarded small grants to local organisations.

If you'd like to apply for funding (generally up to £100) on behalf of a local group or organisation, visit our website for more information and an application form.

Chet Valley Community Larder

Meal bags are distributed at Loddon Library during the following sessions:

Mondays: 12:00 – 1:00 pm and Saturdays: 1:00 – 2:00 pm.

Local Support

South Norfolk Council's Help Hub on 01508 533933 now also offers a handyman service. www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/community-safety/help-hub

Stay in Touch

For meeting dates, contact details, and the latest community news, visit: www.loddontowncouncil.gov.uk, email admin@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01508 522 020.

MARTIN STOREY
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS

“Clear Vision Exceptional Care”

BECCLES PRACTICE
82, NORTHGATE,
NR349AY
01502471915

BUNGAY PRACTICE
3 UPPER OLLAND STREET
NR351BD
01986948188

WEBSITE: martinstoreyopticians.com



[martinstoreyopticians](https://www.facebook.com/martinstoreyopticians)



[martin_storey_opticians](https://www.instagram.com/martin_storey_opticians)

JOHN RAMSEY
GAS SERVICE



Heating & Plumbing Services

Boiler Service from £52

Servicing of all Gas Appliances incl. LPG
jrgas@btinternet.com

01508 528304 07799 841163

John Ramsey Gas Service, Loddon

221513

Hair 4 U

1 Market Place, Loddon

Ladies, Gents and Children

Mon; Tues; Thurs & Saturday
9am-5pm
Friday 9am - 7pm.

O.A.P. discounts on Tuesdays
Tel: 01508 520468

Louise Cartwright (M.Ost)
Professional Osteopath



Registered with The
General Osteopathic
Council,
15 Years Experience

For the treatment of Neck, Back and
Joint pain, Sports injuries &
Rehabilitation

Rookery Park Golf Club,
Carlton Colville, NR33 8HJ
Monday, Wednesday, Friday,
Alternate Saturdays
Telephone 07876255168
louisec214@msn.com

Please book online

www.amyholmesosteopath.co.uk
www.greenviewtherapysuite.co.uk

Also Available Tuesdays at
Saxon Wellbeing, Beccles, 01502 717417
appointments@saxonwellbeing.co.uk



Tree reductions Tree removals
Stump removal Hedge trimming
Firewood deliveries etc

Free quotations

Fully NPTC qualified and insured
Contact Michael for any enquiries
you may have

07502 627074 - 01493 601249

Email: woodmentreeservices@hotmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/woodmentreeservices/>

Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

For all enquiries please contact:

clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk



Next Parish Council Meetings: Monday the 18th of May 26 @6.30pm **Meeting held on the 18th of May is the Annual Parish Council Meeting/** **Annual Parish Meeting**

Held at the Hales Assembly Hall, Briar Lane, Hales. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the brick bus shelter opposite Spice & 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 kindly remind residents and visitors to abide by the bylaws which are 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. Please let us know if you would like to get involved by emailing the Parish Clerk.

Councillors Vacancies – Due to resignations from 3 of our Parish Councillors. We have vacancies on our Parish Council. We provide a voice for concerns, ideas, and initiatives that help promote village life. If you care about where you live please get in touch with our Parish Clerk on the above email.

Do you need help? – South Norfolk and Broadland's hub assist with a wide range of problems. Contact details [Tel:1508 533933](tel:1508533933) or via email at helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk. Opening hours are 8.15am until 10.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays)



HBBrothers Ltd
BESPOKE CARPENTRY
KITCHENS • WARDROBES

Kitchens • Wardrobes • Media Walls • Alcoves
Bathrooms • Custom Joinery • Garden Rooms

Free Quote – Call or WhatsApp

07746 205000

Norwich • Loddon • Norfolk

info@hbbrothersltd.co.uk



DRAGONFLY
FLOORING

Taking the stress out of flooring

CARPET - LVT
VINYL - LAMINATE

Visit our shop at 60 Langley Road Chedgrave

T: 01508 830377 E: info@dragonflyflooring.co.uk



Hales Fencing and
Paving

All Fencing, Block Paving, Patios and
Landscaping work carried out, fully insured.

Contact :- Neil Burwood

www.halesfencingandpaving.com

01508 549958 / 07900 582 683



Find us on
Facebook

General Garden Maintenance

Grass Cutting
Hedge Trimming
Fencing Creosoting
Garden Clearance



"Give Rob a Call & he'll do it all"

Rob Gunton

01508 520194 or 07891 353056

Notes from Sisland

Although it is lovely to see the bright sunshine in the last few days in early April, the breeze is definitely a little chilly. As a reminder now that the clocks have changed the Evening Prayer service on the 3rd Sunday of the month will take place at 5pm, using the Book of Common Prayer.



Our first event of the year is a second-hand Book Sale, which will start on Saturday 2nd 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 4th 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.

As we welcome the month of 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 and managed by the Woodland Trust. There are a couple of paths which circulate around the trees and make for a very pleasant stroll. The wood contains a conifer plantation as well as some stunning mature beech and oak. The site has also recorded some locally rare moths and noctule bats and you can often see rabbits and deer.

At this time of year, the area is known for its stunning display of bluebells and in previous years these have been highlighted by some of the national newspapers for the stunning display. 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 Sisland Churchwarden

Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries

contact the Locum Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson.

Answerphone: 07516 361239 Email: clerk@langleywithhardley-pc.gov.uk

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

Find us on Facebook!



Langley with Hardley Parish Council held its meeting on 10th March 2026

Clerk Resignation: The council was very sorry to note the resignation of the Clerk, Natalie Wilson and was unanimous in the view that she provided first class service to the council, always with willingness and good humour and for that the council expressed its sincere thanks.

Staff Vacancy: Langley with Hardley Parish Council is looking to appoint a new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. The position is part-time working for 26 hrs per month (approx. 6 hours per week, flexible), is home based and includes attendance at bi-monthly parish council meetings. Salary is based on local government scales depending on experience and qualifications. The start date is negotiable but asap; a locum is in place to assist with handover. This is a permanent post, subject to a 6 month probationary period.

This friendly and engaged council is seeking an experienced, qualified Clerk/RFO, proficient in Scribe and WordPress as well as organisational, literacy, writing, numeracy and IT skills, in particular Word, Excel, Outlook, and video conferencing. Producing high quality work with accuracy and precision is important, as are personal qualities of integrity, discretion, objectivity, and impartiality as well as a friendly disposition and professionalism. The Clerk/RFO will be responsible for all the usual aspects of supporting a small parish council and a working knowledge of parish council procedures is essential. There will be a comprehensive hand-over and help as necessary from the current Locum and Chair. Work will focus around preparing agendas, taking minutes and providing clear guidance to Councillors and dealing with any actions arising. The Clerk will be key to ensuring that all legal, statutory, and other governing provisions relating to the council are observed, and that all council meetings are properly administered and decisions effectively implemented. As the Responsible Financial Officer, the Clerk is responsible for financial management of council funds, including presentation of the accounts, general record keeping and budgeting, ensuring full transparency and accountability. To apply, please send a short CV and covering letter (each 1 side A4 max) to the Chair,

Cllr Garry Moore cllr.moore@langleywithhardley-pc.gov.uk by Thursday 7th May.

Dogs: Please keep your dogs on a lead and under control at all times in public places, keep them out of our play area and PLEASE remember to pick up any poo left by your dog and not leave bags hanging on fences and hedges etc! **Thank you!**

Next Meeting: Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.30pm immediate after the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm, Langley with Hardley Village Hall. All welcome!

Sport

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 every other Tuesday night at Langley School (NR14 6BJ), 7:00pm-8:30pm. More info: www.loddonhockey.com; email hello@loddonhockey.com.



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.

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 or 07903 794613.



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

We meet on a Tuesday afternoon, 1:30-3:00pm in the Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon, and are a very friendly non-competitive 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. Info from—Sara: 01508 521958 or Sheryl: 01508 677272 .



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 at £5/hour.

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

Email: loddontennis@loddontowncouncil.gov.uk



Loddon Swan Bowls Club

‘The Loddon Swan Bowls Club Green is now open for the 2026 season’

There has been a Bowls Green at Loddon Swan for over 250 years. It is located behind the Swan public house in the centre of the town. The Club has been in existence for a good part of this time and has a membership of approximately 50. Lawn Bowls is played outdoors, and the season runs through the late Spring and Summer months. At Loddon Swan we have a very active season of League matches, Cup matches and Charity matches as well as practice sessions or roll-ups as they are called. Currently the Club plays in 4 leagues, namely: Benacre, Beccles, Framingham and Sunshine with one team in each and an additional team in the Beccles and Sunshine. The Open Cup games and also a number of games for Charity are played throughout the season

Lawn Bowls is a very enjoyable sport offering fresh air, exercise, competition and most importantly a social side which spreads throughout our membership and into the competitive arena with other clubs. The Club is always looking for new members and welcomes those with some playing experience as well as absolute beginners. There are ample opportunities to ‘give it a try’ and equipment is provided to do exactly that together with encouragement and assistance from members. We invite you to come and join us at any of our roll-ups or as a spectator at our matches when you see us on the green.

Should you have any questions or require further details do not hesitate to contact

Paul Clemence – our chairman who will be very pleased to hear from you.

Paul can be contacted by phone 01508 218078 or
paulclemence.l@gmail.com

Community Groups, News and Events

Loddon Bell Ringers

Our weekly Tuesday practice nights continue to be well attended and the bells are rung every Sunday morning for services. We don't ring the bells during Holy Week leading up to Easter so we have a social event instead.

During the last month, we have been out to ring quarter peals with others at St. Peter Mancroft in Norwich, Lowestoft, Brooke, Hethersett, Mundford, Watton, Shotesham and Blofield. Quarter peals are around 1260 changes long and usually take around 45 minutes to complete. We have also rung some here at Loddon including one on Easter Sunday afternoon. The 1260 changes of Plain Bob Triples was rung to celebrate Easter. The ringers were 1. Rona Sporle 2. Katie Wright 3. Mark Walland 4. Jeannine Roe 5. Ann Webb 6. Stephen Rabong 7. David Webb (Conductor) 8. Levi Lovelock.

We have also taken part in a peal at St. Leonard's, Mundford. The 5040 changes of 13 Spliced Surprise Minor methods took 2 hours 34 minutes to complete.

Steve Rabong

Loddon & Chedgrave Social Group

AGM - Wednesday 6th May - 7.30pm - Chedgrave Church Rooms

The evening will begin with a short talk on behalf of The Nook Children's Hospice in Framingham Earl. This will be followed by Society Business and time to socialise with wine and nibbles. We would like to encourage all members to join us on the evening to learn first hand how the Group has performed over the past year and what is planned for the next 12 months. Please note the annual membership fees will be due at the AGM.

Visit to How Hill and the wherry, Hather - Thursday 21st May - 10.30am - £3.00 per person (cash only please)

We have a day visiting the Secret Garden, Toad Hole Cottage, the pleasure wherry Hather and How Hill House (outside only). There will be an excellent food van on the premises or you could bring your own picnic (and chairs). Everything is within close proximity to the car park. Money raised will go the Wherry Yacht Charter Trust, the Broads Authority and the How Hill Trust.

Date for Diary

Thursday 11th June - Mississippi Paddle Boat River Trip at Horning - more details will follow in next issue.

How to join - Throughout the year we run a variety of events for our members including walks, talks and visits to gardens, museums etc. Hopefully there is something of interest for everyone. If you would like to join our friendly group please contact our new Membership Secretary, Mark Knowles, via mark@blackmouse-

Church Services

3rd May Easter 5		
9:00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary, Sisland
10:00-12 noon	Café Church	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Holy Communion	St John's, Loddon
10th May Easter 6		
9:30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:45am	Morning Worship	St John's, Loddon
17th May Easter 7		
10:45am	Holy Communion	*Holy Trinity, Loddon
11:00am	Morning Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland
24th May Pentecost		
9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	*Holy Trinity, Loddon
31st May Trinity Sunday		
10.45am	Benefice Service	St John's, Loddon
6.30pm	Last Sunday Praise	St John's, Loddon

*** Please note that from Sunday 17th May, Morning Services in Loddon return to Holy Trinity for the Summer**

*** From Monday 18th May Morning Prayer in Loddon also moves to Holy Trinity**

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches

Morning Prayer 9:00am <i>All Welcome</i>	Monday	St John's, Loddon *see p26
	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	St John's, Loddon *see p26
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland

YOUTH 4C ~ 4C ~ 4C GROUP

We meet in St John's Loddon on Fridays in term time, 4.30 – 6.00pm.

Working with Youth For Christ. our young people have fun, question and explore Christian faith through games, media, discussion and more, including all their 4C's (come along to find out what they are!) **Open to all Y6 – Y11 students**

£2 per person; £3 for two or more from the same family. To join contact Rev Miriam on 07593 163920 or Gary Watson at gwatson@norwichyfc.co.uk.

Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation
21 Upgate, Poringland, NR14 7SH
Priest-in-Charge: Fr Andrew Eburne
✉ andrew.eburne@rcdea.org.uk
☎ 01508 494770

Mass times:
Saturday 6pm
(anticipatory)
Sunday 9am
Weekdays
10am / 6pm

Weekday Mass times may vary – please check our website:
www.ourladyporingland.wordpress.com
Church Room available for hire, with modern AV facilities.
For services in Beccles and Bungay see www.WaveeueyValleyCatholics.church

Chedgrave Church Centre Hire

All Saints Church, Chedgrave has a lovely church centre. It has two rooms (one upstairs), a kitchen and a loo. Wheeled tables are easy to move. It is warm even in winter! Available to book for £8 per hour. If you're looking for a meeting venue, a party or activity space, contact Anne Jackson who is responsible for hall bookings on 01508 502278

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch



Loddon Standard has been out and about, keeping our branch known around Norfolk and Suffolk.

We had a wonderful speaker, in March meeting, to which we invited the public.

SJ informed us all of the changes in Nursing through Time. Including her training days, uniform and equipment changes over time, and much more. The talk was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present.

We have another speaker booked, the “First Responders”, for our June 15th branch meeting.

Public are again, welcome to come along to this meeting.

The Veterans Coffee mornings & Breakfast Clubs around the area, are well attended - details on our RBL Noticeboard, next to the Meningitis Charity Shop.

Or contact us in 01508 521136/ 07900597432.

If a Veteran wishes for help, please ring RBL Direct on 08088028080.

Our branch meetings are held the third Monday of each month, dates on our Noticeboard, starting at 7pm. In the Lecture Hall, Loddon.”

Davy Place

Bingo—Monday afternoon at 2:00pm. All money 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 on 826488.

SAXON HOUSE



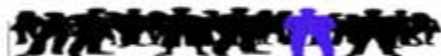
Inter-generational Music Group

We are a group of parents and carers who bring pre-schoolers along for a fun session of singing together with residents at Saxon House. Working with the Chet Valley Churches, we meet every Thursday from 10.00– 11.30am and share refreshments and chat afterwards.

Some of our toddlers have moved up to Nursery school, so we have places for newcomers. If you would like to join us, please contact the Rector (see page 3 for details) in the first instance, who will put you in touch with the group.

A great way to meet others with little ones and connect with older generations.

Chet Valley Medical Practice



Patient Participation Group

Working together to improve your patient experience

How can it be May already? The PPG hopes you have avoided all the colds and flu viruses that have been going around lately and that all patients who were eligible had their Spring Covid booster. It is encouraging that the DNA (Did Not Attend) figures are dropping but lets try to get this figure to ZERO! Out of courtesy to the surgery staff, and other patients who may need your appointment, do please cancel your appointment by ringing the surgery on the usual number and working through the system to cancel the appointment. Of course you can still ring the surgery to cancel.

We hope you are all familiar with the new system for appointments now. It is a very good tool which enables you to be triaged and assessed quickly to deal with your needs. You can find lots of information on the Chet Valley surgery website including notice of staff training days. These training days are very important to us as patients although it might be an inconvenience at the time. The surgery can be accessed via their website: loddondoctorssurgery.co.uk

The PPG is working hard behind the scenes to bring you more talks and even some fund raising ideas to raise money for much needed items the surgery need which fall outside their budget. Here's a date for your diary: The PPG **AGM** will be held in the Lecture Hall at St Johns Church, George Lane, Loddon on **Wednesday, 3rd June at 7pm**. There will be a guest speaker so do please come along and support your PPG. As always, you can contact your PPG by email: ChetvalleymedicalpracticePPG@gmail.com

We would love to hear from you.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Spud Club-Friday 1st May 11-1pm

Raffle, bric-a-brac, books, clothes and craft stall

Delicious food with a friendly atmosphere All welcome

Saturday 23rd May 7.30pm start - Paul Bannister-Clairvoyant

Doors open at 7pm Raffle with lovely prizes to win

£14 a ticket which includes tea/coffee/cold drink and biscuits

Tickets must be pre-booked on 01508 520184 Tibby or Jane

To book or view the village hall call 01508 520184 Tibby or Jane.

Loddon Community Gym

The Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX.

Tel. 07534 946143



The Gym was created to provide a facility for residents of Loddon, Chedgrave and the surrounding areas, although users from further afield are very welcome.

We are a well equipped not for profit gym, located in the centre of Loddon with lots of free parking. There are hourly sessions at varying times every weekday. 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 our experienced instructor, Louise will work with you to create the perfect programme for your needs. Full daily session details are on our website.

You can call Louise on 07534 946143 or pop into the gym when you see the Gym Open sign on the railings outside the Library.

We are open to 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

Chet Valley Patchworkers

We are a small group of friendly sewers who get together on the last Wednesday of the month to enjoy their shared pastime at The Brian Clarke Rooms, Chedgrave 9:30am to 12:00 noon where we share our quilting successes, failures and learn from and with each other. Whilst we do not 'teach' how to do patchwork or quilting we do share the vast amount of knowledge we have within the group—so those starting out in the craft can pick up how to, tips and tricks; somebody is always willing to give advice or show you how. If we don't have anything to work on at group meetings we often bring along other crafts such as crochet or knitting and enjoy a show and tell of finished items and each other's company. If this is something you think you might like to come along to, your first meeting is free - we pay by annual membership, which is decided each May. Contact Vicki Radley on 01508 538461 or email vicrad@live.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming you.

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.

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 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 or phone 07463 770068.

Loddon and District Women's Institute



The year seems to be speeding by at an alarming rate – or is it just this writer that feels like that!!!

But however fast or not the time goes by, Loddon WI continues to keep its members busy. By the time this goes to print we will have celebrated our 96th birthday and some of us will have enjoyed a tour of Norwich Castle and a treasure hunt and lunch on Women Walk the World Day. So now onwards into May and all the good things planned for us, one of which is a chance to 'Paint & Sip' at Chedgrave Church Centre 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. *(at the time of writing there are still places available. If you would like to come along check with Julie. Cost £15 payable in advance.)*

May Meetings

Thursday 7th Open House for members. (Venue TBC)

Thursday 14th Knit & Natter - 2.30pm - 4pm at Loddon Library. This is a community event supported by the WI in Loddon. Please do come along, tea and coffee available.

Wednesday 20th Monthly Meeting – a talk by Friends of Horsey Seals. 19.00 for 19.30 at St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane.

Our membership is still open, so if you think you might like to join us or find out more about what we do, just come along to the next meeting, or we can be contacted through our Facebook page or at loddonwi@gmail.com

ALL SAINT'S CHURCH - CHEDGRAVE The congregation and Parochial Church Council are looking for a volunteer caretaker to assist with the care of the buildings and churchyard. The role would include helping to maintain the church buildings and churchyard, keeping an eye on minor repair work and working with the PCC to ensure this lovely church building continues to be a safe and welcoming place for everyone in the community.

Our Church Buildings are a much-loved asset in our communities and we would like to keep it that way! If you are interested in taking on this role, or sharing it with another person, and would like to know more, please contact the Rector, Reverend Miriam Fife by email at: rector.cvb@gmail.com.

Loddon & District Day Centre

The Day Centre meets at Saxon House, Kittens Lane, Loddon, on Tuesday and Fridays from 10:00am-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? We'd love to see you!

Contact Karen on 07765 866 507 or via loddondaycentre@gmail.com.

Loddon Flower Club

Isn't it great to see the sun, and the bulbs and shrubs springing into life. At Loddon Flower Club we are looking forward to our next demonstration to see a few more ideas on making the most of our garden or supermarket flowers.



Moira Neville will be demonstrating for us on Tuesday May 5th, in St John's Lecture Hall on George Lane, Loddon, doors open at 6.30pm starting at 7pm. Her title for the evening is '**Whatever the weather**'. A great topic for our variable English weather!!

In June we have a garden visit so there will be no meeting, the next being in July, when Linda Kingcott will entertain us with her topic of 'From Sunset to Moonlight'. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month, in St John's Lecture Hall, everyone is welcome, visitors £7.50, homemade refreshments served in the interval and the arrangements made on the night are raffled at the end of the evening.

If you would like more information we have a website -

www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk, an email address - loddonflowerclub@gmail.com or contact Tricia on 01508 480522

HOLY TRINITY SPRING CLEAN **MONDAY 11TH MAY 10.00AM**

Can you join us to give Holy Trinity a deep clean before services move back for the summer? Materials will be provided but if you would like to bring your own please do. There will be refreshments to encourage & revive.

Val Counter 01508520702

Loddon Community Cinema

Our next presentation; "**H is for Hawk**," Rated 12a, 119 minutes starring **Claire Foy and Brendan Gleeson**.



Based on the memoir by Helen Macdonald, H is for Hawk follows Helen (Foy), who, after the sudden death of her father (Gleeson), loses herself in the memories of their time birding and exploring the natural world together, and navigates her profound loss by training a wild goshawk named Mabel. But as she teaches Mabel to hunt and fly free, Helen discovers how deeply she has neglected her own emotions and life. What begins as an act of endurance transforms into an intimate journey of resilience and healing.

Showing Thursday May 7 at St. John's Lecture Hall, George Lane , Loddon.

Doors open 7pm, film starts at 7.30. Adults £4, under 16 £2.

On the door or in advance from Loddon DIY.

NB. All our films are shown with subtitles.

Loddon Library



Summer Reading Challenge 2026 Young

Volunteer Recruitment - Are you a young person who loves reading, books and talking to children? Apply to help with this year's challenge themed "**Read to the Beat**" in partnership with Universal Music Group UK. Pop into the library to speak with staff and pick up a recruitment pack.

Lego Club - Join us on Saturday afternoons at 2pm for some creative fun! We have Lego suitable for different age groups, board games and colouring! Play as a family or with others in the library and make some new friends!

Community Larder - The Community Larder is available in the library on Mondays from noon to 1pm and Saturdays from 1pm to 2pm. The bank holiday Monday sessions will move to the Thursday of that same week: 7th & 28th May.

Digital Support - Struggling with a passport or Blue Badge application? Our Digital Champion can help with that! Half hour or 1-hour slots available Mondays between 10am and noon. Call the library on 01508 520678 to book.

Dementia Action Week starts the 18th of May. As well as our Reminiscence Kits we also have the Reading Well for dementia collection which recommends helpful reading and digital resources for people living with dementia. There are also books for family, friends and carers. The booklist provides reliable information, advice and support as well as personal stories and age-appropriate books for children.

**FREE HOT LUNCH
EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY
12—1pm**



We are starting a monthly, donations only, hot meal in St John's Chapel starting on the 13th May, then every second Wednesday.

Any profit will go towards a new commercial boiler which is desperately needed before the cold winter months

**If you can help, in any capacity, please call Val Counter—
01508 520702**

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, 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month, at 10am.

5th May Smoke and Mirrors—Andrew Stringer

19th May Miss Reeve's Own Battle—Georgette Vale

Come to our meetings and try us out; no pressure to join.
Keith Fulleylove, Secretary, on k.mfulleylove@btinternet.com



Chet Valley Probus Club

Chet Valley Probus Club welcomes people who are retired, semi-retired or approaching retirement and who've 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, sat 10:30am, lunch is optional.

12th May; "The Peninsular Wars, 1808-1814. Speaker Pat Alker.

26th May; "John Brighton: From Lakenheath to Lowry". Speaker Dale Wiseman.

Info from—John McCormack 01508 521899, probusonline.org/chet-valley.

Loddon and District Horticultural Society



Our next meeting will be on 13th May when we have **Paula Stone** coming along with her talk on **Herbs and Their Various Uses**.

She is a medical herbalist. The meeting starts at 7-30pm with doors opening from 7pm. A raffle is held and refreshments available. This meeting is held at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom.

Then on Saturday 16th May we have our Plant Sale and Coffee morning at The Hollies, High Street, Loddon. This is from 9am to 12-30pm. We have house plants, garden plants and vegetable plants with accessories and sundries for sale at reasonable prices. Plus come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee. Hope to see you there. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon. For more details contact our Chairman Jean Cope on 01502-710024 or jeancope52@gmail.com or our Secretary Hazel Copland on 01508-520890 or happyhaze50@gmail.com. Follow us on our Facebook page which has photos from our meetings. Membership is £10 per year.

BLUEBELL SUNDAYS

ENJOY THE STUNNING DISPLAY OF BLUEBELLS IN
THE CHURCHYARD AND SURROUNDING WOOD-
LANDS OF LANGLEY CHURCH



**St. Michael's Church, Langley Entrance from The Avenues, Langley,
NR14 6BL (Parking on the roadside in The Avenues)**

nn

2.00 – 4.30pm Sunday 3/10/17 May 2026 FREE ADMISSION

BOOKS FOR SALE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

The Friends of Langley Church Proceeds for Church renovation.



Bingo Evening—16th May

In aid of the
**Loddon and Chedgrave Arts Festival –
3rd July to 5th July, 2026**



Volunteers arranging the Arts Festival are raising funds to ensure costs for the majority of events being made available to all are free and are arranging a Bingo evening on Saturday, 16th May, start -7pm sharp in The Hollies, Loddon. £10 per book with two additional optional flyers. Bring your own drinks (and glasses please) and snacks. Tea & coffee will be available. Hope to see you there. Any queries please contact Jane Hale 010508 5288753

Loddon Lifelong Learners (formerly Loddon WEA)

Following on from our successful course during the Spring Term we have arranged two courses in the Autumn Term.

The first 4 week course will start on the 28th September, entitled '**Digging into our Past**'. Tutors will discuss local archaeology, including the Caister Roman Project and Life and Death in Norwich. This will be followed by a 4 week course in November on Iran entitled '**Dressed to Resist: Women and Change in Iran**'. This course will explore Iranian women's contemporary social history through their own voices, highlighting how they have shaped social and political change despite enforced dress codes and other social limitations. Each course will cost £40.00.

We meet in the Club Room of the Jubilee Hall in Loddon on Monday afternoons from 2.00 – 4.00 pm. Further details will be on the posters and sent to our mailing list.

If you have attended our courses in the past you will know that we are a lively group who enjoy a good discussion!

If you would like to be informed of developments and join our mailing list, or have any suggestions for a lecturer, please contact Sharon, email swsmith949@gmail.com or Alison on 01508 521976.

Hardship Funds Available in the Chet Valley If you are struggling to make ends meet at the moment, funds are available to help. Local charities, set-up to help people in need in Chedgrave, Hardley, Langley and Loddon. If you are in need, please draw on these funds.

Loddon Town Estate Trust: Contact Julie on 07976 902487.

Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund: Contact Rev Miriam, rector.cvb@gmail.com 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).

WIDDINGTON HEATING LTD

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Boiler Installations & Replacements
- Boiler Servicing & Repairs
- Central Heating Upgrades
- Power Flushing
- Gas, Oil & LPG Services
- Air Source Heat Pumps
- Renewable Systems
- General Plumbing & Bathroom Fitting

WHY CHOOSE US?

- 25+ Years of Experience
- Friendly, Reliable Local Team
- High-Quality Workmanship

FLEXIBLE FINANCE AVAILABLE
Spread the cost of your new boiler or bathroom with easy monthly payments.

Use code: **Warm26** for 20% off any works carried out!

CONTACT US TODAY

☎ 01603 663558
info@widdingtonheating.co.uk



SOUTH YARE ART TRAIL

Many of you will remember the very successful Open Gardens weekend in the community several years ago. It was a wonderful opportunity to get out, meet neighbours and find out more about where we live. This year's event comes with an added art and demonstrations bonus!







Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June 2026
Open 10am to 5.30pm - Free Entry

Art Trail | Exhibition
Open Gardens | Demonstrations
Refreshments

Please see website to plan your visit

37 Artists open their studios to the public where you can see, experience & buy art. Discover a variety of media including painting, original print, sculpture, jewellery, ceramics, textiles and furniture.

www.SouthYareArtTrail.co.uk

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.

Wednesday May 6th - A Life in Art - Frida Kahlo.

Guests are welcome 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>

Parkinson's UK Charity Shop, Loddon



2 Little Money Road, Loddon Industrial Estate.

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

Social Whist



We shall be meeting in May on the 13th and 27th in the back room of The Hollies, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start at 7.45pm. You don't need a partner, this is a chance to learn and/or play the game with likeminded players, enjoy a chat, a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

If you need a lift, please call me, Jane Hale-see below-and I'll arrange it.

Looking forward to seeing you

Jane 01508 528875

Tuesday Market

Good news from the Tuesday Market team.....



We can now take card payments. As always we welcome cash payments.

May flowers will be a colourful edition to our plant stall outside the Hollies. Why not come inside and have a coffee and cake with your friends? You'll find a warm welcome and lots of delicious baking both sweet and savoury, preserves, local eggs, and a good selection of handmade crafts.

We welcome customers old and new at the Hollies—

10 to 11.30 am every Tuesday.

For more information contact Sheila Ford 01508 520752.

J & M TOWNSEND LTD Oil & Gas Boilers

Service & Repairs Boiler
Replacement



System Upgrade
& Maintenance



Oil Tank Replacement

Power Flushing

Call today for more information
and a free estimate

Office - Mon to Fri 9.30 to 1.30

01508 550838

Call Matthew - **07771 732397**

E:matt@jandmtownsendltd.co.uk

OFTEC & GAS SAFE

Registered

DHS Landscaping

Complete landscaping service available
including: paths, patios, driveways,
decking, turfing, seeding, fencing,
planting, tree work, clearance and
renovation, as well as Garden design.

Call Mark for all enquiries and
quotations.

01508 538734
07798 516919

The Old Forge, Bramerton
www.dhslandscaping.co.uk



Cooper



Home Improvements

FULL RANGE OF CARPENTRY & DOUBLE-
GLAZING SERVICES

WOOD/UPVC Window & Door Maintenance Repairs
& Installations

Upgrade to Energy Saving Glass - Cat Flaps - Locks &
Handles

24/7 Call Out - Contact Us on

01508 480551 07982 711499

E:enquires@cooperhomeservices.co.uk

DESIGN & PLAN LTD

Planning Drawings

Building Regs Approvals

TEL 07888 649 290

www.designandplanltd.co.uk

WHY SPEND ALL WEEKEND CLEANING

LET US DO IT FOR YOU

- Trusted in local homes since 2003
- Police checked vetted and insured cleaner
- Cleaning on regular basis



**WE LOVE 2
CLEAN HOMES**

www.welove2cleanhomes.co.uk

Email: admin@welove2cleanhomes.co.uk

Call 01508 490 808 or 0782 444 1016

Langley Indoor Pool



Private, heated pool in a
beautiful setting from £20/hour
Liezl Hutton 07379 429678
www.langleypool.co.uk

Chedgrave Art Group

This friendly painting group has **relocated** to the **Brian Clarke Meeting Rooms, Chedgrave** & will now meet there every Thursday morning 10.00 - 12.30. Information from—

Sandra snowart05@gmail.com or Linda linda@ashehamhouse.com

Chet Valley Photography Club



Our monthly club meeting in May is on Monday 11th at Brian Clarke Meeting Room, Chedgrave, doors open 6.45pm for 7pm. Curious about drones and photography? We welcome guest speaker Robert Taylor who will be sharing insights on this subject and covering the key CAA rules that every responsible pilot should know. Hopefully this will leave you better informed and perhaps inspired to get involved yourself.

Visitors and potential new members will be made very welcome. Please see our facebook page (search Chet Valley Photography Club) which details some of the things we have done over the past few months or have a look at our website www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk for more information if you are interested in joining the club. The club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience.



Plant Sale & Coffee Morning

Hanging baskets, home-grown Bedding Plants, Vegetable Plants, Perennials, Herbs, horticultural sundries and more. Tea / Coffee, Cakes, Buns & Biscuits.

ALL AT BARGAIN PRICES!

**Saturday 16th May
9:30 - 12:30**

at The Hollies, Loddon

GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Garden Maintenance	Trees
	Hedges
	Shrubs
	Strimming
Allotments	Initial Start up
Vegetable Plots	Maintenance

ROBERT WHITING
07446 749051/ 01508 522934
Over 30 Years Experience

Decorating Ian Poole



Painting, Wallpapering
Hand-painted kitchens & furniture
Reliable & Insured

Mobile: 07952022436
E:decor@ipooledecorator.co.uk
www.ipooledecorator.co.uk

LODDON GARDEN & DIY

Garden Tools, Fertilisers, Weed Killers, &
a massive range of Garden Accessories

Beth's Blooms Floristry Service.



A Huge Range of DIY Tools,
Plumbing, Electrical and
Fixings. Paint, Sealants, Aggregates, Ce-
ment and Postfix

Pet and Animal Food and Accessories

Grass Cutting from Lawns to Estates.

Lawn Mowers Serviced.
Tools Sharpened.



Calor Gas, Wood, Coal, Logs & Kindling.

25, Bridge Street, Loddon, Norwich NR14
6NA

01508 520632

loddongardenanddiy@live.co.uk



PILATES WITH KATRINA

New Pilates Mat Class
Langley Village Hall, NR14 6AD
Mondays at 10.15am

Strengthen, Stretch, and Energise Your Week

Contact Katrina to book a space or for more information.

07725 527669

katrina@pilatesswithkatrina.co.uk
www.pilatesswithkatrina.co.uk
[facebook.com/pilatesswithkatrina](https://www.facebook.com/pilatesswithkatrina)

Whether you're new to Pilates or
looking to deepen your practice,
this class is designed for everyone.

Scan code for website and full timetable



Start your Mondays the right way—move, breathe, and feel great!

St John's Chapel and Lecture Hall ROOM HIRE

Excellent facilities, fully equipped kitchen, disabled toilets, parking

George Lane, Loddon, NR14 6NB

Very competitive rates

For details & to book please email us at
website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

Loddon and District Local History Group

Dr Andrew Tullett spoke to us in March about 'The history of Norfolk - on a stick' which involved showing us many of the 513 village signs that he has visited. His father had started the research which Andrew then continued with on retirement. There are more village signs in Norfolk than anywhere else, probably because the idea of having these signs started in Norfolk when the first village sign was created for the Sandringham estate. During the Second World War they were deemed to be too helpful to any possible invaders but after the war George VI was keen to restart the idea so the Daily Mail ran a National competition which saw 617 entries. Norfolk entered but did not do well. Most signs are made of oak. Andrew used various Norfolk signs to take us through time starting with the Palaeolithic period. West Runton's sign displays a tall mammoth whose six to seven thousand year old bones were found in the cliffs there. For the Neolithic period the sign for Weeting was used as it shows a Neolithic flint miner from Grimes Graves with an antler. Necton's sign pictures a Bronze Age warrior in front of a Roundhouse while Snettisham's village sign demonstrates the Iron Age with a torc as this area is famous for the hordes of torcs and jewellery that have been found in the ground.

Andrew then moved through various later periods. Burgh Castle represents the Romans with its shore fort, Babingley on the Sandringham estate shows St Felix introducing Christianity in the Anglo Saxon period, the Vikings are represented on many village signs such as those at Ormesby and Aldeby while the Normans are depicted on the Castle Acre sign by a large ecclesiastical building.

Moving into more recent periods Andrew used Wymondham's village sign to show the Tudor period as Robert Kett is pictured with the famous oak tree. Hingham saw 200 of its villagers emigrating to Massachusetts in the U.S. in Stuart times and this is painted on their sign while the sign at Burnham Thorpe is used to illustrate Georgian times with Nelson and his battles. For the Victorian period Andrew chose to include Bradenham's use of Rider Haggard who had lived there. Even both world wars have signs reflecting events - Swardeston with Edith Cavell and Trimmingham where beaches were mined. Andrew finished with Seething as their sign depicts the Millennium. This was a very clever way of showing Norfolk's involvement in historical events.

Carole Rylands

Next meeting: Wednesday May 20th - New Buckingham Castle with guide Rik Hoggett. This is a self drive visit and booking is essential.

To book email loddonhistory@gmail.com.

All welcome. For more information email Elvie: Elvie.herd@uwclub.net.



MODEL & CRAFT SHOP

MODEL KITS, DOLLS HOUSES,
TOOLS & MATERIALS

www.hobbies.co.uk 01508 549330

Find us at: Units 8B-11

The Raveningham Centre,

Raveningham, Norfolk, NR14 6NU

ROBERT SHROPSHIRE HAIRDRESSING



PROFESSIONAL
HAIRDRESSING AND
BARBERING FOR LADIES
& GENTLEMEN IN THE
COMFORT OF YOUR OWN
HOME.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO SUIT YOUR
TIME & CONVENIENCE TELEPHONE

079 464 333 95

GREAT YARMOUTH AGGREGATES

Open to Trade & Public
Delivering in your area-



Sand
Cement

Type 1
Topsoil

10 & 20mm Ballast

10 & 20mm Stone

20mm Granite

25kg Bag Salt Tablets

Call for a Competitive Quote 01493 604922

www.gyaggregates.co.uk



ADEPTA LTD Accounting & Bookkeeping Services

Proud to be serving local people & businesses for 20 years

Free consultation | Upfront pricing | Experienced staff



Annual Accounts



Tax returns & advice



Making Tax digital



Bookkeeping & VAT



Payroll & pension
compliance



New business start
ups

Call Jacquie 01508 537024
jacquie@adepta-online.co.uk
www.adepta-online.co.uk

Hill Farm | Kirby Road | Kirby Bedon | NR14 7DU

Read Any Good Books Lately?

The Taming of the Queen, by Philippa Gregory

Philippa Gregory's march through the Tudors continues with this historical novel about Kateryn Parr, King Henry VIII's sixth and final wife. Welcome to Tudor England, where the King is ruler and commands all without question or challenge. When Henry commands Kateryn Parr, a thirty-year old widow in a secret affair with a new lover, to marry him, she has no choice but to obey. This is the story of a woman who unites the royal family and rules as Regent but is constantly looking over her shoulder in fear for her safety. As a leader of religious reform and the first woman to publish in English, Kateryn stands out as an independent woman with a mind of her own. But in the end she cannot save the Protestants, under threat for their faith, and then Henry's dangerous gaze turns on her.

A Lesson in Cruelty, by Harriet Tyce

We decided to read a Harriet Tyce book in our bookclub, partly because some of us were intrigued about her writing after seeing her in the TV show *The Traitors!* *A Lesson in Cruelty* is a psychological thriller featuring three unusual women with three different storylines. Anna wants a fresh start after three long years behind bars. Lucy craves the attention of the only man she can't have, her alluring Oxford professor. Marie has spent too long as a recluse living by someone else's rules. Full of twists and turns the threads are slowly drawn together, although it can be confusing at times. This is definitely a page turner!

Project Hail Mary, by Andy Weir

The film of this spectacular book has been the biggest hit so far this year and yet it really only features one person - a lone astronaut. It's the story of Ryland Grace. He's the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission - and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish. Except when he wakes from an induced coma on a spaceship he doesn't know that. He can't even remember who he is, let alone the nature of his task or how to complete it. With his crewmates dead and the haphazard return of his memories, Ryland realizes that an impossible task now confronts him. Hurling through space on this tiny ship, it's up to him to puzzle out an impossible scientific mystery and conquer an extinction-level threat to our species. But he soon discovers he's not quite as alone as he thought he was and with that discovery everything changes...

Going to read!

The Other Bennet Sister, by Janice Hadlow

I've really enjoyed watching the BBC adaptation of this book and think the homage to Jane Austen's England and her other titles are really well done. It gives a really nice alternative look at *Pride and Prejudice* and the more minor characters.

Ruth Redford

DO YOU LOVE CLEANING?

Cleaning position available

- Self-employed basis, car not essential
- Hours to suit the candidate
- Regular permanent jobs
- Domestic cleaning only
- All materials supplied by home owner
- Reference and police check required



**WE LOVE 2
CLEAN
HOMES**

Web: www.welove2cleanhomes.co.uk
Email: admin@welove2cleanhomes.co.uk
Call: 01508 490 808 or 0782 444 1016

Advertise your
business here from
only £110
per year

++

Flat Glass Tinting (Loddon)



- >Improve Privacy
- >Stop Solar Gain
- >Stop Solar Glare
- >Stop harmful U/V

Make your summer space more comfortable
Reduces your Energy use, less Summer cooling and winter heating Daytime privacy improved All without the need for expensive Blinds.
Call for a free survey and estimate
You will be surprised!

Whats App or Call: 07753724644
Email:
enquiries@flatglasstinting.co.uk

**FROST
LANDSCAPING LTD**

Paths & Patios inc. Porcelain & Sandstone
Driveways, Fencing Digger work
Wood & Composite Decking, Hedge & Tree
Trimming. General Clearance and more.
Free quotations available
Stuart Frost
High Bungay Road, Loddon
07900 432108
frostlandscapingltd@icloud.com



Chedgrave Dog Park



Let your dog run free
in a safe, enclosed field
Liezl Hutton 07379 429678
www.chedgravedogpark.co.uk

WALKER ELECTRICAL

Domestic Electrical Services
For extra sockets, new lighting,
fault finding, fuseboard upgrades etc
Call, text or WhatsApp 07824 723319
For a free no obligation estimate call
Trevor Walker BSc. City & Guilds
Qualified NICEIC Domestic Installer
trevor@walker-electrical.co.uk

ECOPAINTERS

Interior & Exterior Painting

- * Dustless sanding
- * Interior/Exterior lime wash specialist
- * 14years experience
- * Free quotes
- * Fully Insured
- * Repairecare™ filling lasts up to 10yrs
- * Glazing repairs

Contact Oliver on **07824679329**
Email: oliver.ecopainters@gmail.com
Website: www.ecopainters.org.uk

Nature Notes

Here we are at the beginning of April, and spring is certainly upon us. Everything is bursting into life: breaking out into their green finery, birds busy singing and nest building, and the first summer migrants arriving. I have already heard Chiffchaffs and a Blackcap, and have had reports of Swallows, Sand Martins and Sedge Warblers on the other side of the River Yare, as well as a Cuckoo at Worlingham Marshes.

I made two trips to Lowestoft after hearing reports of a couple of species I wanted to see. One, a small overwintering warbler, had been regularly reported around Sparrows Nest Gardens. I started there but drew a blank, as did several others searching for the bird. I decided to walk along the promenade from Links car park to Hamilton Docks. I quickly spotted a pair of Stonechats — my first local sighting of the year — along with the usual Turnstones on the rocks. I was also fortunate to catch up with a Purple Sandpiper, which often overwinters around Ness Point, though their numbers seem to have declined in recent years.

I then returned to Sparrows Nest Gardens for a second attempt at seeing the Hume's Warbler. A couple of birdwatchers were by the entrance, looking intently at a line of bushes. When I asked if the bird was around, they pointed it out hopping about in a leafless shrub, allowing me some clear, close views.

A couple of days later I went to Carlton Marshes hoping to see American Wigeon — a duck somewhat off course. It was regularly seen from the hide at the far end of the reserve, so my dog and I set off. On arrival I was looking straight into the sun, which made viewing difficult. I wasn't despondent though, as I had already seen White-fronted and Tundra Bean Geese, plus Black-tailed Godwit — all new for me this year. Looking back along the path, I noticed a group of people standing still, which is usually a good sign in birding. I retraced my steps and joined them, and was rewarded with excellent views of the American vagrant very close by.

Recently we spent a few days up north and saw nothing new. On our way back we called in at RSPB Fairburn Ings, a reserve we had visited eight years previously, where we had watched Tree Sparrows and Willow Tits on the feeders outside the reception hide. This time neither was present. I was told that after feeders weren't put out during Covid, both species had left, permanently. I felt disappointed, but the sight of a Lesser Redpoll at close quarters more than compensated.

Whether through a window or by stepping outside and being aware of our surroundings, nature offers a multitude of joyful experiences — so take a moment to enjoy them.

Richard Hull

Maintaining Comfortable Feet

Michelle Hendley MCFHP MAFHP
Registered Member of the
British Association of Foot Health Professionals

Over 13 Years Experience



Call for home visits
07584 040478
mhendley3@yahoo.com

Treating all basic nail & foot problems

Nail cutting & filing - Reduction of thick nails
Ingrown nails - Corns & Calluses
Diabetic Foot Care



Ladies Mobile Hair Stylist

I want to make you look and feel fabulous without the pressure of a salon visit

Fully qualified with over 25 year's experience in salon and mobile hair dressing
Offering: Hair Cut, Shampoo & Style, Hair Colouring, Glossing, Permanent Wave Hair & Scalp Therapy

For an appointment call me on
07508 266808



CHET TAXI -be met by Chet
*Never Double book *On time*

Any distance - Airport & Seaports
24 hour & Sundays by prior arrangement
Licenced Drivers M/F*Police checked & First Aid
trained *Passenger Assistants
Established over 40 years(36 present)
vehicles

(WAV,4,5,8,16-57 seats),
Local*Long Distance*Weddings*Races*
Accounts welcome
Tel: 01508 520705

Email: chet.taxi@btconnect.com
www.chettaxischedgrave.co.uk

The Loddon & Chedgrave Jubilee Hall

Book Your Event Today!

<https://www.jubileehallloddon.org/book>
Situated on George Lane, Loddon,
NR14 6NB

- Large hall for functions, meetings, or classes
- High ceilings for parties and bouncy castles
- Full hall hire for fitness classes, craft fairs, short mat bowls, and a wide range of community events
- Court hire available, nets supplied - Table tennis, badminton, short tennis, pickleball
- Fully equipped kitchen available for hire

hall@jubileehallloddon.org

DIGITS ICT SOLUTIONS

Computer and Laptop Repairs
Data Recovery, Virus Removal
Software Installation & Upgrades

Home visits timed to suit you.

Great value for money.

Call John 07789675563

john.h@digitsictsolutions.co.uk

Gardening Notes

Now that the clocks have sprung forward into Spring it's all go in the garden. Pairs of birds are busy gathering twigs and fibres for their nests. The Bug Hotel I made last year contains some sheeps wool and it's disappearing fast. We are privileged to have Blue tits. Robins, Dunnocks, Wren and Blackbirds. Pigeons are roaming the range and Jackdaws are busy too strutting up and down the fence.

It's so exciting, seedlings are popping up all over, potting on and finding space for everything is now a challenge. The Cannas have been turfed out of their pots, split up and repotted. Chrysanthemum cuttings are speeding up their growth. I have prepared two very big pots ready to grow vegetables in but I'm still deciding which varieties I want.

I planted out some different shrubs that I grew on for several years. Ones I found self-seeded in the garden, brought to me by the birds and the winds. Now that they are big enough to fend for themselves, they will eventually fill gaps in the hedge and possibly create biodiversity and new habitats for different species of pollinators and birds.

I have started listening to short meditations on my phone whilst sitting in the garden, with the sunlight through my closed eyelids, the breeze on my skin and the heightened sounds of buzzing insects and birdlife all around. It's the perfect way to set myself up for the rest of the day. I think it's really important to have a nice place to sit and just be in your garden, even if it's for a short time before something catches your eye that requires attention. After all, gardens are far more than a place to just grow plants.

Hazel Copland

Congratulations!



In March, the school choirs went to the Norfolk County Music Festival. The junior choir sang two two-part songs both about being underwater: *Creatures of the Deep* and *Under the Sea* (from *The Little Mermaid*). They sang really well and were given Highly Commended by the adjudicator. The infant choir sang two songs about the weather: *Jack Frost* and *When It's a Sunny Day*. They were awarded 'Outstanding' for their performance. That is a really amazing achievement as they only started singing together as a choir last November.

Both choirs deserve huge congratulations. It's a privilege to conduct them. Perhaps you'll be lucky enough to hear them sing one day!

Alison Ball

"The whole team is kind, respectful and sensitive to individual needs. Nothing is too much trouble."

- Resident's family

Residential Care

Corton House
Norwich NR1 3AP
☎ 01603 620119

Independent Living

Brakendon Close
Norwich NR1 3BX
☎ 01603 622957

Brewster Court
Blofield NR13 4JT
☎ 07739708871



Corton House &
Brewster Court

www.cortonhouse.co.uk

01508 TAXIS

Any where! Any time! Any Day!

Local trips or long distance. Airport Transfer Specialists. Wheelchair Friendly Vehicles. Got an appointment, wait and return. Children taken to and from school. Lady drivers available. All drivers fully CRB checked. PATS and First Aid Trained drivers.

COURTEOUS, RELIABLE AND PUNCTUAL

Business and Private accounts welcome. Ring back on missed calls.

24hrs a day; 7 days a week; with NO increase after midnight.

Email: 01508taxis@mail.com : www.01508taxisloddon.co.uk

Vanessa & Pat welcome
old & new customers

Tel: 01508 321321

4, 6 & 8
seaters

Halls for hire in Loddon
Parties, christenings
meetings, workshops
exercise classes.....



Volunteers!
Help us to restore and
preserve historical
buildings in Loddon.

01508 521173 - loddonbpt@gmail.com - The Hollies, 10 High Street, Loddon, NR14





BROWNE & SONS

KEEPING YOU MOTORING

- Catering for all your automotive requirements since 1952
 - Vehicle sales, service & repair
 - Air-Conditioning recharge & repair
 - Tyres, brakes & exhausts
 - Local collection & delivery
 - Courtesy car fleet
- MOT Testing Station – Cars, vans & motorcycles



www.browneandsons.co.uk

TEL 01508 520315 EMAIL service@browneandsons.co.uk
Loddon Industrial Park, NR14 6JD



R.B. COPPING

FUNERAL SERVICE

Independent family Funeral Directors Since 1935

For Personal Attention with
Dignity and Respect

Private Chapels of Rest

Memorials & floral
tributes supplied

Pre-paid funeral
plans available



56 Langley Road, Chedgrave, Norwich, NR14 6HE
www.coppingfunerals.co.uk Tel: 01508 521159



CECILAMEY.CO.UK



HIGHER, FASTER, FURTHER!

Prescription Sports Glasses and Sunglasses



LODDON MOTORTEC LTD

MOT TESTING CENTRE Cars and light commercials

Including: Petrol Diesel Hybrid and Electric models

Vehicle servicing and repairs carried out to a

high standard by experienced qualified technicians.

All our services include a brake strip and inspection .

Hybrid and Electric car repairs and servicing

With technology moving fast in the motortrade we are well qualified and happy to offer a cost effective alternative to the visiting the main dealer network.

TYRES DIRECT A huge range of makes and sizes direct from the largest wholesaler suppliers daily .Fitted and balanced free.



Independent



Family business

LODDON MOTORTEC LTD

Loddon Business Park, Beccles Road Loddon

TELEPHONE 01508 521949

Preferred Mechanic
Voted best mechanic out of 60
in the south norfolk area 2023

RAC
Accredited Repairer