



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

February 2023



QUIZ



Chet Valley Churches

All Saints, Chedgrave

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QUIZ

QUIZ

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ball880am@btinternet.com

Chet Valley Churches Information

Clergy

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Church Office—closed at present.

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

Phone: 01508 520897, Email: website.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

The e-mail account is being monitored regularly.



Weddings, Baptisms, Thanksgiving Service for the Gift of a Child

To arrange any of the above please contact Rev David on 01508 522993.

Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches
The Diocese of Norwich

www.chetvalleychurches.org
www.dioceseofnorwich.org



Chet Contact

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From the Editor

Are you a last minute person or someone who likes to get something done in good time? On the whole, I think I am the latter but sometimes as editor I have to turn into the former! As the first edition of Chet Contact of 2023 rolls off the presses, can I remind contributors that if you wish something to be included in this magazine, then it has to arrive in the Chet Contact inbox by noon on the 8th of the month at the absolute latest. Some are brilliant at this—thank you—it is much appreciated.

Chet Contact is distributed free of charge to over 2700 households. Do you appreciate it dropping through your letter box for the news, views, adverts... that it contains? If so, might you consider making a small donation towards production costs? The details of how to do this are on p3. I know that the Chet Contact team would be delighted to receive anything that you are able to contribute.

Having had the hottest year on record in the UK last year, together with floods of Biblical proportions in some parts of the world, and a deep freeze cyclone bomb in the US just the other day, who knows what climate treats are in store for us in 2023? Perhaps this is the year when everyone wakes up to the reality of climate catastrophe and does what they can to make a difference—individuals and local and national government alike. I certainly hope so.



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Ministerial Musings

How was 2022 for you? Was it a good year, or a bad year? How do you judge? Is it about health, wealth, and/or family and friends?

What about this year? Will it be better? We do that with New Years don't we? We hope that things will be different this year; we hope that we can put the past behind us and start again; we hope for a new beginning.

But, honestly, how many new beginnings can we hope for? Another thing I've noticed is that I'm getting older. I don't know about you Well, let's be honest—I do! You are getting older too. And one day there will be no time left for a different year, putting the past behind and starting again and no hope of a new beginning.

What a way to start the year! But don't we need a bit of honest reflection occasionally? Where are we headed? Do you remember that poem that begins with the words: 'I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year*...'? Who is the man?

The only one controlling the year is the One in control of everything. The only one who can give us a new beginning is the One who promised to give us a new heart and a new spirit; the One who told someone once that he needed to be born again—to die to the past and begin a new life. We all need that!

And that is what Christmas is really about. You can keep Yuletide if you like, but that is for traditionalists who don't like change. I have seen Cadbury's Creme Eggs on sale; I have seen Hot Cross Buns on sale. Reminders from the retailers that Christmas leads to Easter. Easter is about new beginnings; new life.

Why not start this year with that new life that only Jesus can bring?

Martin Keenan

* The poem referred to is *God Knows* by Minnie Louise Haskins.

Editor



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Across the Chet Valley Churches

Worship in the Chet Valley



You are welcome to join us at any of our services

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

Services of **Morning Worship** are held in Loddon and Hardley.

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

All Together Worship is on the third Sunday every month at All Saints, Chedgrave, starting at 11:00am (January, March, June and September are followed by shared lunch).

All Together Worship is designed to be as inclusive as possible: a mixture of formality and informality; traditional and modern; activity and stillness. In short, we will attempt to provide a service which will have points of connection for both children and adults—indeed people of all ages and all backgrounds.

Last Sunday Praise is held on the last Sunday of the month at St John's: a chance to sing old and new Christian songs and worship together.

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

In Loddon and Chedgrave there is an opportunity to enjoy a chat over refreshments after the service, Covid restriction permitting.

There are toilets and baby-changing facilities at All Saints, Chedgrave and St John's, Loddon.

Families are welcome at all of our services but are particularly catered for on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in Chedgrave.

Home Communion: If you would like home communion, because you are unable for any reason to get to a Sunday service, please contact the clergy or the Church Office and we will arrange for someone to bring communion to you.

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

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Thanksgivings & Baptisms



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

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

Please contact Rev Alison on 01508 528126 ball880am@btinternet.com

Noah's Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers 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

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 David on 01508 522993.



XTRA! Join us in St John's Church for an exciting, informal service every **Thursday after school**. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm. More from Rev David 01508 522993 or 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.



Next Meeting:

At our February meeting we will share plans for meetings in the year ahead, then have afternoon tea and a quiz. The meeting is on Thursday 2nd February.

If you'd like 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 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 and Thanksgivings

Willow Hughes, Abigail Lee and Hugo Yates
Baptised on 15th January 2023 at All Saints, Chedgrave.

*Heavenly Father, we praise you for all children.
Surround them with your blessing that they may know your love,
be protected from evil, and know your goodness all their days.*

Weddings

Funerals

Janet Isobel Roberts who died on 5th November 2022
Funeral: 2nd December 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Andrew Robin Godber who died on 15th November 2022
Funeral: 12th December 2022 at Waveney Crematorium.

Arthur John Blake who died on 22nd November 2022
Funeral: 20th December 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Joan Valerie Gisborne who died on 22nd November 2022
Funeral: 23rd December 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Elaine Watson who died on 22nd November 2022
Funeral: 14th December 2022 at Waveney Crematorium.

Colin Richard Barber who died on 22nd November 2022
Funeral: 30th December 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Dorothy Florence May Hemp who died on 2nd December 2022
Funeral: 4th January 2023 at All Saints, Chedgrave.

Richard Edward Topping who died on 17th December 2022
Funeral: 17th January 2023 at All Saints, Chedgrave.

Colin Alan George Shearmur who died on 28th December 2022
Funeral: 27th January 2023 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.*

I Thessalonians 4:14, 17b

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

To arrange a wedding, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com.

To arrange a funeral, at any of the churches in our area or at the crematorium, please contact Rev David on 01508 522993, or david.chetvalley@gmail.com.

Rev David can also be contacted about interment of ashes.

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Footpaths: I've had reports that the Church to Mill Road footpath in Loddon hadn't being swept recently, as a result, it was covered with wet leaves and was becoming dangerous. South Norfolk have now swept it and I will make sure this is in the program.

Re-opening of the Wherryman's Way across Hardley Flood: This should happen soon. The works to dredge the Chet and reinstate the bank have been completed and we expect to see reprofiling of the footpath and new bridges later in the year.

Jubilee Trail: Signage for the new Jubilee Trail from Loddon Staithe to Chedgrave Common will appear shortly. In conjunction with Chedgrave PC, there will be a new bench half way for those of us who need a sit down.

It's a bit late to wish you a Happy New Year by the time this reaches you, nevertheless, I hope that you all have a good 2023 and certainly a better year than many experienced last year.

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

Councillor Kay Mason-Billig

Many thanks for everyone who helped and donated money to enable us to deliver 80 Christmas hampers to our over-60s friends and neighbours throughout our community again this year. In these difficult times, it's more important than ever that we work together to help and support each other.

As always, if you, or someone over-60 that you know, would like some help and maybe just some friendship, please phone ChetChat. Our new number is 07944 858929 if you, or someone you know, might need something. Please get in touch.



I'm delighted to confirm that my next surgery will be 2:00-3:00pm Saturday 11th February in Loddon library. Please drop in if I can help with anything, or just to say hello!

Please ring me anytime on 07733 323581 if I can help you. Many people do.

I'd like to also makes sure that everyone knows about the free, and incredibly useful, SNC Bins app, put out by South Norfolk District Council, which you can find wherever you get your apps from if you use them. From now on you'll know when every bin collection is due!

Finally, I'd like to say that I know that a lot of people are understandably worried about things at the moment, but please reach out if I, or anyone else across our wonderful community, can help you.

Councillor Jeremy Rowe



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Chedgrave Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley Goldson.

Tel: 01508 528310 Email: chedgrave.pc@gmail.com

Website: <https://chedgrave-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

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



Chedgrave Parish Council held its Meeting on 1st December 2022.

Happy New Year! Due to the timing of meetings and publication of Chet Contact, this update may be a little out of date.

New Councillor: A new member, David Richards, joined the council at the December meeting and the council is delighted to welcome him on board. There is still one vacancy left so please contact the Clerk if you are interested.

Langley Road Development: South Norfolk Council Development Management Committee met on 14th December 2022. Cllr Colin Gould, Vice Chair of Chedgrave Parish Council spoke on behalf of the parish council to object to this plan as did one Chedgrave resident. DCllr Jeremy Rowe also attended in support of the community. Despite this, the Committee approved outline planning permission for the development on Langley Road comprising 76 dwellings. The key reasons given were that South Norfolk Council cannot currently demonstrate a five year land supply due to “Nutrient Neutrality” impacts on other potential sites (see <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning-applications/apply/2>) and the fact that the site is included in the (currently draft) version of the Greater Norwich Local Plan. The development was recommended for approval by planning officers and there had been no objections from statutory consultees such as NCC Highways and Natural England as well as organisations dealing with water, drainage and flooding. Full details of the proposal are yet to be confirmed and the parish council will consider these matters in due course as they arise.

Chedgrave Courier: All residents should have received the Winter 2022 edition of Chedgrave Courier. If you have not received a copy, please contact the Clerk or pick one up from The White Horse pub.

Wherryman’s Way: Work has quietly been going on to ensure the re-opening of Wherryman’s Way. Dredging work has been carried out and there are plans to repair/replace the bridges. Many thanks to the Wherryman’s Way Working Group, led by Cllr David Johnson and including representatives from Chedgrave, Loddon and Langley with Hardley. The group is hopeful that the path will re-open in 2023.

Brian Clarke Room: A well-equipped modern bright room, including access to free WIFI and table tennis tables. Booking enquiries should be made to Georgina Buckle via brianclarkeroom@gmail.com or 07981 856270.

Next Meeting: Thursday 2nd February at 7:00pm in the Brian Clarke Room. All welcome!

Highways issues such as potholes, footpaths or public rights of way, road safety, flooding and overgrown trees and verges should be reported to Norfolk County Council on 0344 800 8020 or online at www.norfolk.gov.uk. Criminal and illegal activities, public disorder and nuisance, anti-social behaviour, speeding, uncontrolled dogs, should all be reported to the Police on 999 or 101 (non-emergency) and can be reported online at www.norfolk.police.uk.



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Loddon Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emily Curtis.

Tel: 01508 522020 Email: clerk@loddonpc.org.uk.

Website: www.loddonpc.org.uk;

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LoddonPC



Christmas Lights: Loddon has always been known for its beautiful display of Christmas lights and 2022 did not disappoint! We'd like to thank: the Council's contractors Loddon Garden & DIY and Cozens for once again installing the Christmas lights; the kind people and businesses in Loddon who offered power including the King's Head, the Terrace, Allens Cadge and Gilbert, Loddon Garden & DIY; and lastly The Loddon Swan for kindly providing the Christmas tree. The Council could not do it without your help, so thank you!

Planning Application 2021/2437: A public meeting was held on the 29th November to discuss the planning application submitted to South Norfolk Council for the erection of 9 self-build dwellings and 171 dwellings with access, parking, open space and landscaping, on land to the east of Beccles Road, Loddon. Paper plans are available to view at Loddon Parish Council Offices, Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00am- 12:00pm. The meeting notes are available on our website: www.loddonpc.org.uk/minutes-agendas.

If you wish to comment on the application, please submit your comments to South Norfolk Council as soon as possible quoting the planning reference 2021/2437, either by email planning@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk or by letter to SNC Planning, Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 0DU.

Chet Valley Community Larder: Thank you so much for the donations that are being received for the Community Larder! The larder is in the Library/LPC's lobby and is open to everyone. You can bring and take food, share food, receive food, or make a donation. If you would like to be involved with the running of the larder, please let us know. Open Monday to Friday: 8:00am-7:00pm, Saturday:8:00am-4:00pm, Sunday-10:00am-4:00pm.

Local Elections 4th May 2023: Would you like the opportunity to become an elected Parish Councillor in Loddon? The last date for nominations is 4:00pm Tuesday 4th April. Please pop into the office to find out more about the role and pick up a nomination form.

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

Small Grants: We have recently awarded several small grants to local organisations: 1st Loddon Brownies, Loddon Community Cinema, Loddon & District WI and Loddon Royal British Legion. If you would like to apply for a local group/organisation (generally up to £100), please see the our website.

Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Hollies Rear Hall (access via the back door) on Wednesday 8th February at 7:00pm and parishioners are welcome to attend. The minutes and agendas for meetings are available on the Loddon Parish Council website.

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Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Position Vacant.

Tel: 07703 124544 Email: clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

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



Next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 7th February at 7:30pm in 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 three days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Parish Clerk: We would like to thank Eleanor for all her work and help to support the Parish Councillors as the Parish Clerk. We wish her well in her new endeavours.

Vacancy: Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer To work from home for 4-6 hours a week. We are looking for a good communicator with access to broadband, good numeracy and IT skills (including Microsoft Excel, Word, emails and website management). Equipment and training will be provided to the successful candidate. Ideally you will be a resident of Hales or Heckingham although all candidates will be considered. Please see the website for more details.

Until a new clerk is appointed, parish councillors will monitor the clerk's email address.

4th May 2023 Local Elections: Not all of our current parish councillors will be standing for re-election in May. If you are passionate about where you live, please consider standing. Details may be obtained from any of the current parish councillors or our website. Our aim is to provide a voice for concerns, ideas and initiatives that would benefit our villages and we need your help. There will be a sizeable addition to the funds available for the village as a result of the new Yarmouth Road development. We need to have a Parish Council to access these funds. Thank you for your consideration.

Go For It grants:

If you are passionate about an activity, project or interest, then we want to hear from you. There is up to £300 to help you get your idea up and running in your local community.

Go For It Grants will support projects that: encourage residents to get together in positive and supportive ways; inspire people to get active, participate and fulfil their potential; promote and support health and wellbeing in the community; provide innovative activities that respond to local needs. Download an application form from the website: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/>



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Langley with Hardley Parish Council

All enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk: Emma Webster
Tel: 07516 361239 Email: langleywithhardley.pc@gmail.com
Website: <https://langleywithhardleypc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>
Facebook: To be developed.



Parish Council budget for 2023/24: The Council has set the budget for next year and does not propose any increase in the Parish precept

Creation of new parking spaces in the Parish: Following enquiries by residents about the provision of parking spaces in the Parish anyone interested should make representation to our clerk, Emma Webster.

Maintenance of the Play Area: The recently removed wooden seat is to be replaced with a new picnic bench in the coming months

Renovation of the telephone box community library: The telephone box, successfully converted to a library, will undergo a re-fit and renovation. If you would like to help with this (cleaning/painting/building shelves) please contact our clerk. If depositing books/DVDs please stack them neatly on the shelves or on the floor in the box provided.

Volunteer for SAM2: Roger Stone is kindly currently looking after the SAM2 vehicle speed regulator for the Parish Council. If you would like to be part of this safety measure, please contact our Clerk

Memorial plaques for trees in the play area: Purchase of memorial plaques was agreed for the malus trees planted in the play area.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED): This was recently removed from the outside of the village hall. Please inform the Clerk or the Police if you have any information about this.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7th March at 7:30pm in the village hall. All are welcome.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall



Friday 3rd February: Cafe 11:00am-1:00pm. All ages welcome; children's activities provided. Homemade sausage rolls, cheese and fruit scones and a variety of cakes. Locally grown jacket potatoes as well as sandwiches with a choice of fillings. Tea/coffee/cold drinks all in a friendly atmosphere.

Saturday 25th February: Steve Treadway-Clairvoyant. Doors open 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. £16 a ticket. Pre-booking essential on 01508 520184 from Tibby or Jane. Jacket potatoes with a choice of filling included. Hot/cold drinks available. Bring your own alcohol.

The Village Hall Committee look forward to seeing you at our events.

To view the hall to look at its facilities, to book the hall, or to ask about cost, phone Tibby or Jane on 01508 520184.

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Notes from Sisland

I always look back at the words of previous entries when considering what I might include in the entry I am composing. When I looked back at February last year, written in early January, I was commenting on the frosty morning. This morning, after a trip into Norwich and my car noting a temperature of 14 degrees, we can only comment on the complete contrast. However, for both years, we can reflect on the opportunities of the last few weeks to gather and celebrate the Christmas season, the buzz of activity around the Victorian Evening as well as the carol service where we enjoyed mince pies, mulled wine and the opportunity to chat. We are grateful, after recent years, to be able to celebrate and enjoy these occasions. As we progress through the winter months we are looking forward to the longer days and the warmth of spring, but also the plans for community events and other opportunities to gather together.



This year we are hoping to offer a special edition of our Sunday Teas to coincide with the bluebells in Sisland Carr and in the churchyard. Obviously due to the unpredictability of the seasons we will not be able to make a decision on the date until closer to the time, but we will ensure as much notice as possible. The opportunity to come together and share, at Christmas time as well as in the spring and summer is an important part of the Christian faith and demonstrating a supportive community. Many will remember when sharing was an important part of church calendar. Parson Woodforde's calendar in 1778 commented that he "gave the shearers under the Norfolk custom ... a good breakfast, at 11 o'clock plumb cakes, a good dinner with plumb pudding and at 4 beer again."

With so many in our community willing to provide and share food in these difficult times, we will all continue, I am sure, to understand the importance of this work, but also the ability of food to bring many together for the mutual benefit of all.

Rowena Bryce (Churchwarden, Sisland)

Stay and Play

Free to attend for 0-5 year olds and their families.

Loddon Jubilee Hall, every Friday, 11:30am-12:30pm

Drop-in session for parents, carers and their children to play together and meet new people, every week, all year round.

All of our sessions are inclusive of and accessible to everybody.



Loddon Players

Loddon Players proudly present 'Mother Goose'.

For those that thought Loddon Players pantomime was "behind you" fear not. After nearly a three-year break, Loddon Players are bringing pantomime back to town in 2023.

Performances are in March as follows:

Thursday 23rd (7:30pm); Friday 24th (7:30pm); Saturday 25th (2:30pm and 7.30pm); Sunday 26th (2:30pm). They will be in The Lecture Hall, George Lane Loddon. NR14 6QH.

Tickets are on sale from 9:00am on Wednesday 1st March. Available online at www.loddonplayers.co.uk or by phone 07538 749803 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 2:00-5:00pm: Adults £10, Children (15 years and under) £5. There are limited tickets for the performances, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Please see our website for latest ticket offers.

If you've missed us, or never had the experience of a locally produced pantomime, we hope to see you outside Mother Goose's Cottage from the 23rd March.

"Well, here we had one of the best 'village' pantomimes you could wish for, from the evocative opening music to the finale" (National Opera & Dramatic Association UK review 2018).

Warm Space on Wednesdays

Now open at All Saints Church,
Chedgrave, **9:30am-12:30pm**

We are offering a free, warm church hall open for anyone, to spend some time with friends and neighbours. It is an opportunity to have somewhere to spend time in the warm as the colder weather moves in. There will be facilities in the kitchen to make tea/coffee/etc and there is also a WC.

We're also open on Mondays as a warm space from the same times. You'll meet the Monday Mardlers if you come then!



ADVERTS

Loddon Bell Ringers

Holy Trinity hosted a group of ringers from the Ladies Guild on 18th November. They enjoyed ringing the bells before going on to The White Horse in Chedgrave for lunch.



As well as ringing for normal Sunday morning services, we rang at the Victorian Evening, the Carol Service and on Christmas morning. We helped out ringing at a carol service at nearby Raveningham on 14th December and for a christingle service held at Haddiscoe on 23rd December.

Over the past couple of months, members have been out ringing peals at Mulbarton, Intwood, and Necton. We also took part in a peal at St. Mary's, Long Stratton which was the 68th consecutive one to be rung there on Christmas Eve. The 5040 changes of Cambridge Surprise Minor took two hours 43 minutes to complete.

As well as here at Loddon, we have rung many Quarter Peals which take around 45 minutes to ring. These were at Saham Toney, Ashill, Watton, Necton, Litcham, Attleborough, Ditchingham and Woodton.

We rang a peal here at Loddon on New Year's Day to welcome in 2023. The 5024 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Major took two hours and 51 minutes to ring and was a first in method for three of the ringers taking part.

Steve Rabong

Chet Valley Art Society

Are there any artists out there that would like to join Chet Valley Art society. We meet every other week at Highways Garden Centre. We will be exhibiting in Norwich at The Forum on 24th, 25th, 26th May. We will book a trip to London in the summer and other days to visit galleries. Do get in touch if you would like to join us. Phone Vee on 07557402211

Parkinson's

Would you like to meet other Parkinson's sufferers?

We will normally meet on the first Monday of the month at the Chedgrave White Horse at 12:15pm. Partners are also welcome.

Further details from Michael Osborne on 01508 522034.



Churchyard Spring Clear-up

All Saints Church, Chedgrave, is holding its Spring Clear-up on Saturday 11th March. We would love it if you would like to join us, together with members of 1st Loddon Brownies. Bring your own tools (secateurs, pruners, small forks for weeding, wheelbarrows...).

We will provide the refreshments. Everybody welcome.



Chet Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group



We want to update you on progress with the Chet Neighbourhood Plan. We had hoped to get the initial draft plan on to our website (www.chetnp.info) during December 2022 but regrettably we only received important information we need to progress the plan on the 1st December.

We will meet again in early January to put the pieces together before we place the draft on to our website—there's no point in making public something we may well change before you've even had a chance to comment!

We really want to thank all of you who have helped with the plan so far; including those who have helped with the focus groups and all those who have joined the walking parties—your input has been invaluable.

We are starting to assess the green spaces and local views you have suggested, looking to protect these areas for the future. And, just to let you know, we **will** be in contact with all the relevant landowners.

You can still let us know about anything you would like to see considered in the plan, including green spaces or views, so please do use the 'Contact Us' page on our website www.chetnp.info or send an email to neighbourhoodplan@loddonpc.org.uk or even drop a note into the Parish Council letter box on Church Plain.

Please visit our website to keep informed of progress, view the Initial Draft when it is posted and let us have your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you
Chet Neighbourhood Plan Team

Struggling with Money? Local Charitable Funds available:

There are two local charities to help local people in need: Loddon Town Estate Trust (for people living in Loddon); and Chedgrave Church Discretionary Fund (for people living in Chedgrave or who are regular members of the congregation at All Saints). These have received a boost from monies raised by the monthly quiz at The White Horse during 2022. The charities are only any good if people use them! In the past, money has paid for things like cookers and carpets. It has also gone towards solicitor's bills and rent. Please do not feel ashamed or embarrassed to call on the funds if you need them.

You can access the Loddon fund by contacting Julie Ponsford by phone on 07976 902487, or email: jules2906@hotmail.co.uk. The Chedgrave fund can be accessed by contacting Rev Alison, Rev David or the church warden, Roger Outlaw—contact details on p3.

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch



Happy New Year! We would like to thank you all for your donations to our branch and the Poppy Appeal, including the Remembrance Sunday collection at church, and Maureen and Anthony's donation from their talk at the 8 o'clock Club talk on the History of Pantomime. As you will know, the Poppy Appeal is the fundraising side of RBL and helps veterans, serving soldiers and beneficiaries, in one capacity or another.

Loddon & District Branch began in 1932, closed in 1933, and was reformed in 1945, changing from British Legion, to Royal British Legion in 1971. We lost our sub branch this last year, due to low numbers but we hope to keep Loddon Branch and its standard flying by recruiting. These days people do not have to have served in The Forces, just have a wish to help and support veterans, past and present.

Data protection rules require those needing help to contact us even if it's only for a chat or visit. If further help is required, we can direct the person to a specific section of the RBL Help & Support. Contact us on 01508 521136.

RBL Loddon & District Branch has jumped into the tech world of Facebook. On Facebook, look up our branch; we've put on a selection of photos, past and present. Events will be added, as and when they occur.

We meet at The Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon on the third Monday of each month, 18:45 for 19:00 start. Our next meetings are on Tuesday 20th February and 20th March.

For information on joining RBL please contact Colin on 01508 521136.

Social Whist



We meet every 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Usual start time of 7:30pm for a 7:45pm start in the back room of The Hollies. It is a chance to chat, play a bit of whist, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with a biscuit, all in great company. No need to have a partner or to have played before, it's just an enjoyable evening out. If you need a lift, please call me (Jane) on 528875.

Next dates: 27th January; 10th and 24th February.

Looking forward to seeing our regular players and meeting any new ones.

Tuesday Market, Loddon



The Hollies, 10:00-11:30am on Tuesdays. Our Market will re-open on Tuesday 14th February 2023. If you have any queries contact Sheila Ford 01508 520752.

Church Services

5th February

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

12th February

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

19th February

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

22nd February—Ash Wednesday

7:30pm	Imposition of Ashes	All Saints, Chedgrave
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26th February—1st Sunday of Lent

9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	St John, Loddon

Chedgrave Church Centre Hire

All Saints Church, Chedgrave has a lovely church centre attached to it which has been open for over 25 years. There are two rooms (one upstairs), a kitchen and a loo. 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.

Other Services in Chet Valley Churches		
*Every Saturday 6:00pm	Roman Catholic Mass	
**Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Come and Pray</p> <p style="text-align: center;">During the winter months we are not meeting together at St John's for</p> <p style="text-align: center;">'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'</p> <p style="text-align: center;">If you would like to receive the prayer e-mail, do contact Rev Jill Jillhaylock@aol.com.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>All are welcome</i></p>	
Thursdays during school term	<p style="text-align: center;">XTRA!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us at St John's for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3:15pm. Service starts 3:45pm. More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126</p>	
Every day Morning Prayer 9:00am <i>All Welcome</i>	Monday	St John, Loddon
	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	St John, Loddon
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

*Please contact office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk to confirm details of Catholic services.

**Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about current arrangements.

Save the Children 'Protect the Magic' appeal

Collections taken at All Saints Church, Chedgrave during Advent and Christmas and at The White Horse Pub Carol Service raised £788:37 for the Save the Children 'Protect the Magic' appeal. Thanks to all who contributed enabling children, across the world, to be fed who would otherwise starve to death.

Thank You...

Chet Valley Community Larder

Thank you to all who donated items for the Christmas event run by the community larder. People were overwhelmingly grateful to have received help from our communities in this way.

Denise Turner and her family would like to thank everyone who sent sympathy cards; messages of condolence, and attended the funeral service for her late husband, Nigel Turner on 16th November 2022.

The following amounts were raised in Nigel's memory:

£773.50 for the Head and Neck clinic at the NNUH;

£305 for Macmillan cancer support.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed; Nigel would have been pleased to know that so much has been raised in his memory to help others.

Big C Appeal

Miriam, Jean and friends made £262 at The Victorian Evening for the Big C appeal. "Thanks to all who donated prizes and who supported us on the evening."

Children's Society boxes

A magnificent total of £680.31 was raised in 2022. Thank you all so much. Keep putting your loose change in your boxes (if you have any!!) or a note or a cheque in your box will be equally appreciated. If you would like a box, then please contact Anne Baker on babaker10@sky.com.

Donations to Chet Contact

Thanks to all of our regular community contributors who have kindly donated towards production costs of Chet Contact in the last month. Ed.

Gardens for Nature

Hello everyone. With the Spring now fast approaching, I am thinking about my garden and how I can improve it for wildlife this year. I really hope that lots of you will be thinking that way too. If you have a B-Line roundel already, I imagine that you are.



If you haven't, but would like to know more, here is an opportunity. I am hoping to be able to set up some sort of support group for those in the area that are keen to help. We could exchange ideas and tips and maybe work out a way to record some of our sightings, especially any that we have not seen in our gardens before. A plant or seed exchange may also be an idea. So if you want to know more with a view to a new project, please do contact me and we can have a chat. Thanks. Carol 01508 500602 or chetcottchippy@hotmail.com.

Community Groups, News and Events

News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute



Loddon and District Women's Institute

Looking back to December, we would like to thank everyone who supported our stall at the Victorian Evening. It was a very enjoyable evening. Now, we look forward to what 2023 will bring. On 14th February each year it is the custom for the WI to highlight our concern for the planet and environmental issues. We will be doing this by making and sharing decorated felt Green Hearts in our community. In all there will be about 30 to 40 of the hearts put in various places around Loddon and Chedgrave. If you find one, please take it home, and perhaps use it to make you think about small ways in which you can do your bit to protect the people, places and nature we love from the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

Next meetings:

Wednesday 1st February Open House Venue to be decided.

Thursday 9th February Knit, Natter & Crochet: Loddon Library 2:30-4:00pm.

Wednesday 15th February Monthly meeting 2:00 for 2:30pm. AGM and craft activity. St John's Chapel George Lane. **(Note time change)**
(Book Club date and venue to be decided)

New members always welcome. For further information we can be contacted via our Facebook page or on 01508 528656.

Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Our next meeting will be an Annual Meeting when we shall be electing a new President and Committee. This will be on Tuesday 28th February at 2:00pm at the Church Centre, All Saints Church, Chedgrave.

For further information please contact Audrey 528393 or Angela 521120.

World Day of Prayer

I have heard about your faith.

The service this year is written by the women of Taiwan.

It will be held on Friday 3rd March at 7:00pm at St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon.

The service will be followed by refreshments. All welcome.

Watch out for further details in next month's Chet Contact.





FitzRoy are recruiting!

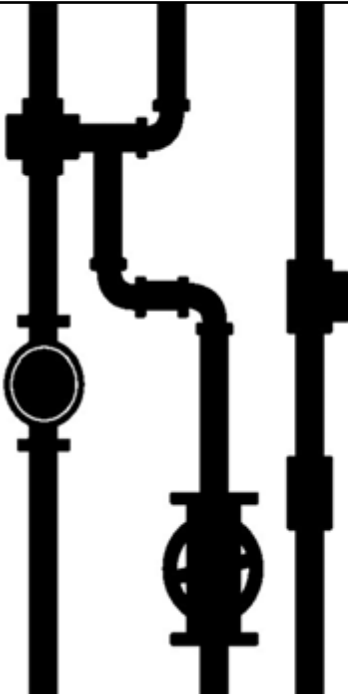
FitzRoy Registered Care and Nursing service in Hales provides care and support for twelve residents with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and complex health needs.

We are seeking exceptional new Support Workers who share our values to join our friendly team.

A support worker's day is varied, and flexibility is required. You will be providing care and support individually tailored to the needs and wishes of people with learning disabilities. You will work together to identify and achieve their goals, enabling them to have choice and control over their lives.

Full and Part time roles available.

Please call Mark on 07392 278005 for further details and how to apply



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Sport

Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astro Turf every **Thursday** from 8:00-9:00pm for a non-competitive kick about to keep fit and socialise. £3:00 per session. First session free. More information from Terry: tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

If you have never tried short mat bowls, now that the summer lawns bowls has finished, why not give this a go? We are a very friendly small group that needs some new members. We meet Tuesday afternoons 1:30-3:30pm in the Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon. Beginners are very welcome; just bring flat indoor shoes (no heels), and we can supply the bowls. The right money of £3 and a sense of humour are also appreciated. More information from Sara 01508 521958.



Short Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly non-competitive club on **Tuesdays** 11:30am-1:00pm at Jubilee Hall. All welcome.

For more information call 01508 520589.



Loddon Ladies Hockey Club

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

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 or email hello@loddonhockey.com



Loddon Tennis Club

The launch of the Tennis Club in June has been very successful and there are now seventy people regularly playing together in Loddon.

Pay and Play is available for £5 per hour via www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LoddonTennisClub.



Hobart Badminton Club

Players wanted! Come and join our friendly club of all ages from 16+. Playing experience desirable. We meet at Hobart sports hall, **Tuesday** evenings from 7:30-9:30pm. Cost £5:00, first session free!



Loddon Junior Badminton Club

Open to all children aged 10-16 years regardless of ability. on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-7:45pm; Jubilee Hall. £4 per session; Rackets and shuttles provided.



For more information contact Paul on paulr2677@gmail.com or 07903 794613



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Loddon Community Gym

The Library Annexe, Church Plain, Loddon, NR14 6EX
Tel: 07534 946143 www.loddoncommunitygym.com



From now on the Gym will open at some part of every day
Monday to Friday: Monday 1:45–5:25pm; Tuesday 4:45–7:05pm;
Wednesday 9:00–11:20am; Thursday 6:00pm–8:20pm; Friday 10:15am–12:35pm.

February 2023! If you made New Year's resolutions, chances are you have already broken or forgotten them but, if one of them was to get a little fitter, the community gym is here to help. Using a grant from Saffron Housing we want to publicise more widely what the gym offers to everyone in Loddon, Chedgrave and the surrounding villages who wants to improve their health, fitness and mood in a safe and friendly atmosphere and under expert instruction. Watch out for our new website coming shortly. With the cost of living crisis it has become even more practical to join a local facility run entirely for the benefit of its members. The gym is well equipped with all you might expect in a much larger commercial gym and it is on your doorstep. We are open on the days and times above but please contact us if you feel strongly that other times may be more popular or if you belong a group who would like a session designed especially for you. If you are one of our local retained firefighters and want to pass your annual fitness test the community gym is here for you. Equally, if you have medical conditions for example, high blood pressure or diabetes, your GP will happily give you a referral form for the gym and Louise is qualified to design a programme especially for you. If the Gym Open sign is on the railings outside the library on Church Plain, why not pop in and see for yourself what is on offer.

If we are successful with further grant applications we will enhance the gym even further and may be able to offer free taster sessions. Watch this space. As we are a relatively compact gym you will still need to book via www.picktime.com/easternriverscommunitygym. Alternatively you can book a first session by ringing Louise on the number above.

Front Cover Photos

Thanks to everyone who responded to my call for photos from frosty days for the front cover this month. There were some amazing photos, so what influenced my choice? Some photos were too small to enlarge sufficiently; some of them didn't work when they were cropped to be portrait rather than landscape; and some didn't look right once there was a title on them as well. We are always happy to receive local photos from local photographers which might be appropriate for the front cover. Don't forget: portrait in as high a resolution as possible is best. Also we are working a month ahead so this time's photo was for the February edition even though we're in January.

Editor



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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 every first and third **Tuesday** of every month, start time 10:00am.

3rd January: Wildlife in Fresh Water—Tony Brown

17th January: My life in Radio—Wally Webb

Come along to a couple of meetings and try us out; no pressure to join.
Clive Boyd, Secretary, 01508 520547 cliveboyd@btconnect.com



Chet Valley Probud Club

Chet Valley Probud 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 at Chedgrave White Horse at 10:30am and lunch is optional.

Next meetings:

14th February: Harriet Kettle: Pauper, Prisoner, Patient and Parent in Victorian Norfolk—Andy Reid.

28th February: Railways of East Anglia—Douglas Bourne.

14th March: Blakeney and Cley: A maritime history of the Glaven Ports—Jonathan Hooton.

Contact: Hon. Secretary John McCormack 01508 521899.

Chet Valley Photography Club (CVPC)

Our monthly club meeting in February is on Monday 13th in St John's Methodist Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 6:45 for 7:00pm start. The topic for this meeting is "Composition" and further details will be posted on our website.



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 for more information.

Please contact Jackie Franklin, email secretary@chetvalleyphotography.org.uk if you are interested in joining the club. New members will be made very welcome. The club is open to everyone regardless of their photography knowledge or experience.

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Loddon WEA



Our speaker for the Spring Term is Nigel Herwin, who will give a seven-week course starting on 16th January 2023 on **Eerie East Anglia—local Tales of Weirdness!** The eastern counties have a rich and colourful history of very strange tales. This course will explore the most intriguing of these stories: the strangest, the spookiest and the just plain daft. It will attempt to separate the folklore from fact while trying to get to the truth of what really happened. As the phrase goes: the truth is out there!

The lectures will last for two hours, starting at 2:00pm in The Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon, NR14 6NB. The cost for the course will be £56.00 and bookings can be made using the WEA Student Services, phone number 0300 3033464 or online at enrolonline.wea.org.uk. The course number is C2229200. Remissions are available for those receiving certain benefits.

For further details, contact Alison on 01508 521976 or Sharon on 01508 520386.

Loddon & Chedgrave District Society

We are a friendly group of people who like walking, visiting interesting gardens, historic buildings, and the occasional social evening. Membership fee is £6.00pa. Members will receive a programme. New members welcome.

Next meeting: Thursday 16th February at 7:00pm at Chedgrave Church Centre. Wine and cheese evening; A chance to catch up and socialise.

Cost £10.00.per person. Contact June on 528853 if you would like to come.

For more information about our events, contact: June at junecs@btinternet.com Tel: 01508 528853

For membership, contact the membership secretary Hillary meredithp3@sky.com Tel: 01508 520457.

Chet Valley Voices



Chet Valley Voices is a community choir aged from 15-80+.

We enjoy singing music in a variety of styles from classical to modern. 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 lifted. Rehearsals: Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm (doors open 6:45pm) in St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Subs: £5, £3 for under-18s. Free first session. New members are always welcome.

Contact, Sue 01508 528069; suemartin303@btinternet.com or chetvalleyvoices@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram @ChetValleyVoices, on Twitter @ChetValleyVoice or on Facebook. www.chetvalleyvoices.co.uk

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Loddon Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the Old Town Hall in The Swan pub car park, Loddon. It's a members' club with inter-club league matches every evening; roll ups on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons starting at 2:00pm and on Tuesday morning starting at 10:00am (restricted to the first 12 turning up). New members are always needed. Subs just £12 per year. Rink fee £2 per session. Just turn up and give it a try. For further information, please contact Paul Clemence (chair): 01508 218078.

Loddon and District Horticultural Society

On 8th February we have invited Jane Steward along to talk to us about Medlars. Jane is an authority on growing them and she will be bringing some of her products made from the Medlars for us to sample.



Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Jubilee Hall Clubroom, George Lane, Loddon and start at 7.30pm. Visitors are £2, refreshments are available and a raffle held.

It is £10 per year to join our Society and for more information contact Chairman, Jean Cope on 01502-710024, email jeancope52@gmail.com or Secretary Hazel Copland on 01508-520890, email happyhaze50@gmail.com. Follow us on our Facebook page.

Loddon Community Cinema

Our next presentation is 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris' [PG].

A new adaptation of Paul Gallico's much-loved novel about a widowed cleaning lady in 1950's London who falls in love with a Christian Dior dress owned by one of her clients.

When she gets an unexpected opportunity, she decides to gamble everything and travel to Paris to buy her own haute couture dress.

Thursday 2nd February, St. John's Lecture Hall, George, Lane Loddon. Doors open 7:00pm and the film starts at 7:30pm. Tickets £4, £2 under 16 available on the door or in advance from Loddon DIY.



Snowdrop Sundays at St. Michael's Church, Langley

Enjoy the early appearance of spring by viewing the magnificent display of snowdrops in the churchyard, and the surrounding woodlands of Langley church. Light refreshments available.

On Sundays: 5th, 12th, 19th February from 2:00-4:30pm.

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Loddon Flower Club

For our next meeting on 7th February we have invited Simon White from Beales Roses to give us a talk entitled 'Growing for Gold'. This talk will be accompanied by photos of Beales Roses entries into the various flower shows held over the country. Simon will also be bringing some roses, plants and sundries for sale.



We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions. Please take a look at our website at www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk for upcoming events and photos from our past meetings.

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

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. An annual fee of £10.00 is charged plus £3.00 for each meeting attended. New members always welcome.



We will be deciding our plans for 2023 at the AGM. Watch this space!
Contact June 01508 528853 or Hillary 01508 520457.

Waveney Valley Arts Society

We are a friendly group who meet at the Fisher Theatre in Bungay on the first Wednesday of every month (excluding July and August). Our 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 is on Wednesday 1st February: Caravaggio—The Master of Light and Shadow; Shirley Smith.

Guests are welcome to join us for an individual lecture but there will be a charge of £10. If you wish to become a member of our society, the contact details are on the Website: <https://theartssociety.org/waveney-valley>.

Loddon & District Cooperative Day Centre

The Day Centre is meeting again, so if you'd like to get out from your four walls to meet others to chat, play games and have a hot meal, please give Bev a ring on 07826 299290. We'd love to see you at the Brian Clarke rooms in Chedgrave.



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Events

- **1:1 PC Support** Monday, 10:00am-12:00noon. Book in advance on 01508 520678 or just turn up on the day. For help with computers, tablets, and mobile phones.
- **Bounce and Rhyme** Monday, 10:15-10:45am. Hot drinks and toys available afterwards; do stay and chat.
- **Colouring Club** Monday, 3:30-4:30pm. Come and colour yourself calm with our ever-changing array of colouring sheets. Suitable for all ages.
- **Board Games** Thursday, 3:30-4:30pm. Suitable for all ages.
- **Beginner's Backgammon Club** Thursday, 12:00noon-2:00pm. Learn to play backgammon and play against our volunteer.
- **Knit, Crochet, & Natter** 2nd Thursday of the month, 2:30-3:30pm. Pop in to learn a new skill or to chat to friends whilst you knit.
- **Just a Cuppa** Friday 10:30am-12:30pm. Pop into the library for a free tea or coffee, chat to others in the library or our staff.
- **Loddon Loves Book Group** 2nd and last Fridays of the month, 5:45-6:45pm. Come and discuss the chosen book for the month. Advance booking essential. Please use the details below to book.
- **LEGO Club** Saturday 2:30-3:30pm. Suitable for children aged 5+.

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Loddon and District Local History Group

In November we had a really interesting talk by David Hamblin on 'The Chemists and Druggists of Loddon' concentrating on the period 1882 to 1992. David had been one of these chemists when the shop was owned by Rees T Coghlan and had found a book on the premises outlining some of the prescriptions previous Loddon pharmacists had issued. This had sparked his interest in finding out more about the lives and works of his predecessors.

David outlined some of the Pharmacy and Public Health legislation that had been passed in the 19th and 20th centuries to improve health and hygiene and regulate practice. In 1841 the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was founded, gaining a Royal Charter from Queen Victoria in 1843. In 1868 a Pharmacy Act restricted the sales of poisons like strychnine so that only registered pharmacists could sell them. In 1933 a Pharmacy and Poisons Act meant pharmacists had to be trained and pass exams while the Medicines Act in 1968 limited the number of pharmacists who were allowed to prescribe drugs. Although anatomy was well understood by the medical profession, the transmission of diseases was not. Two Public Health Acts (1848 and 1875) started to improve the hygiene in towns by supplying services like clean water but there were still some outbreaks of cholera and typhoid.

David provided some details of the five owners of Loddon Pharmacy before Boots took over. John Bailey (1764-1854) acquired the premises of 4 The High Street and Baley's Yard where he started his practice, probably before 1841 when he was listed in the census. He was also a landowner and worked in insurance too. Thomas Ellis (1835-1900) succeeded him and lived there with a family of nine children, four of whom had died by the 1891 census. He was also the postmaster and liked to entertain with puns and terrible rhymes. He is buried in Loddon churchyard. Frederick Larder (1873-1934) took over in 1911. He kept an account of the prescriptions issued, some of which David read out to our horror and amusement; patients did well to survive some of their treatments. His son Frederick Arthur Larder (1904-1971) ran the pharmacy alongside his first aid work.

Rees T Coghlan (1926-2022) succeeded him. He qualified as a pharmacist in Nottingham in the 1940s and had a strong Christian faith. He developed his own system of buying medicines in bulk to sell on in smaller quantities which meant it was cheaper for customers. Rees also made his own medicines which would not be allowed today. He went on to buy three more pharmacies in Norfolk and even opened a care complex in Aylsham for which he was given an MBE. He retired in 1991.

Next Meeting: 15th February—Annual General Meeting with news of activities during the year and maps on show.

All meetings held in the St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon starting at 1.30pm. Admission £3. All welcome.

Carole Rylands

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

Poems to Fall in Love With by Chris Riddell

I've always liked dipping into a bit of poetry in the winter months. This is a gorgeously illustrated edition of some wonderful poems about love—maybe a perfect present for your valentine?! This is one of a series of poetry compilations that Chris Riddell has illustrated and I would recommend them all. As a side note, if you send him a letter he generally tries to write back with a hand-illustrated envelope and letter.

It Ends With Us by Colleen Hoover

I mainly read this to find out what all the fuss was about after seeing it resting at the top of the fiction charts for so long. It's a very readable story about love, life and ghosts of the past coming back to haunt you. Lily's life has been one of trauma, growing up in a house with domestic abuse, she befriended a homeless boy, Atlas, and they tried to rescue each other. Moving on years later and Lily is in a very different place when she runs into Atlas again but history is about to repeat itself—in all kinds of ways. This was followed up with **It Starts With Us** last year but I'm not keen to revisit the characters just yet....

Many Different Kinds of Love by Michael Rosen

I dipped into this out of interest and then virtually read it in one sitting! It's a very absorbing account of the poet's struggle with covid. It incorporates poems about his recovery and memories of being in hospital with nurses' medical diaries. It's deeply moving and a beautiful tribute to the NHS.

Sea of Tranquility, by Emily St John Mandel

Showered with acclaim last year, Mandel's latest (slim) novel is connected but not a sequel to two of her previous books—Station Eleven (now a successful TV series) and The Glass Hotel. This time we travel backwards and forwards in time, to the near and distant future, with Mandel imagining a new life for humanity lived on moon colonies built to escape the ravages of climate change on Earth. A beautifully written slice of science fiction.

I won't be reading...

Spare by Prince Harry--I'm pretty certain I won't need to; it's been talked about obsessively in the media anyway!

I will be looking out for...

Old Babes in the Wood by Margaret Atwood, a compelling-sounding collection of short stories—not out until early March mind you!

Ruth Redford



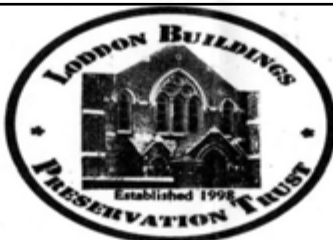
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Nature Notes

By the time you read this it will be February, but I will still wish you a very Happy New Year. Did I meet my target of 200 birds seen during 2022? The simple answer is no, despite the fact that by last June I was only around 20 short. I just seemed to have lost steam, even though there were some rare birds around, I was unable for various reasons to go to see them. This year, who knows, I will probably just enjoy seeing what is in my local area with occasional trips further afield.

This year, I have already seen 76 species just round this area. Having struggled to catch up with barn owls last year, it was encouraging to see two separate birds on our way to Seething on New Year's Day. Next day, there was one quartering the marshes near our home. We used to see them there regularly. Just before New Year's Day looking out of our kitchen window a flock of small birds landed in our neighbour's silver birch. Assuming them to be the usual goldfinches, I lazily picked up my binoculars and looked for their red and gold colouring but I became momentarily confused as I couldn't find what I expected. Then my brain kicked in gear and I realised they were lesser redpoll. One new bird for 2022! Would they hang around until 2023? Well, yes, there was one today with some goldfinches.

Taking the dogs for a short walk, first thing in the morning just before Christmas, there staring at me from a low branch of a silver birch was a tawny owl. Fumbling to get my phone out and the camera switched on, while not letting go of the dogs, was too much for it and it disappeared. Then this morning, same short walk, same tree, different branch, less fumbling and I managed to get a few shots of the bird; although only in silhouette it is obviously a tawny owl.

During December I was seeing kingfishers regularly around both Hardley Staithe and Langley Dyke, I also had really good views of one flying across Chedgrave Common. Enjoying the adrenaline rush of watching this bird I was then surprised by a muntjac deer staring at me from a patch of bracken on the track off the common. There was its beautifully-stripped face framed in the bracken.

Volunteering at the Earsham Wetland Centre last week, clearing up branches I saw, what I now know was a Harvest Mouse. Lovely orangey-brown colour, small, elongated body, long tail and small ears. It has been many years since I last saw one.

Not knowing what this year will hold for us can be a worry, but remember there is always something to see in the natural world that can lift our spirit and bring a smile to our face.



Richard and Rachel Hull



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Gardening Notes

From the Allotment

Hopefully one of your New Year's resolutions is to grow more of your own fruit and veg. Allotments often become available at this time of year so for the Loddon allotments by the Mill then contact Emily clerk@loddonpc.org.uk 01508 522 020 and for the Chedgrave Hardley Road allotments contact Hayley 01508 528310 chedgrave.pc@gmail.com. If none are available at the moment, then they can add you to the waiting list.

My avid reader (Hi!) recently asked me how the various trials I undertook in 2022 were getting on. Well starting with the mushrooms, these were a disaster. I followed the instructions as closely as possible though quite how you exclude worms when you are using horse manure and straw to build the beds I don't know. Manure comes with its own compliment of worms if it has stood for any time at all. On the other hand, the gherkins were brilliant and from just three plants I had so many jars I don't really need to grow more this year. Anyone like a partly used packet? For the coming year I was experimenting with winter onions, winter lettuce and winter spinach (as advised by Monty Don!). All survived the cold snap.

I have mentioned before how important allotments can be for pollinating insects, but a camera trap recently installed at Loddon allotments found some larger beasties, including the increasingly threatened water voles, along with common water shrew, short-tailed field vole, field mice, hedgehogs and wrens. Happy New Year.

Andrew Milner

From the Garden

February is the time to start sowing seeds. I have been looking at the plant and seed catalogues that have arrived over the Christmas period (postal strikes allowing) and always have to scale back the order as I get carried away with all the new varieties and colours.

This year I am going to sow Echinacea, Scabiosa and Campanula. Some of the plants I have ordered are a blue hibiscus, asclepias tuberosa and amaryllis. The amaryllis are usually grown indoors as they are often available as Christmas gifts so I will try them outside, plant from March onwards, they flower 10 weeks later, leave in the ground with a mulched to protect them from frost. Asclepias tuberosa also known as butterfly weed has orange flowers and flowers until autumn, also they are not a favourite food of the deer! I will keep you posted. We have a few new trees and hedging to plant purchased from the Queen's Jubilee trees for Norfolk, part of the Queen's green canopy. I am keen to add a few evergreens to the garden, either a dwarf cedar or a mountain pine, also berberis for the berries in winter.

There are several gardens open locally this month for snowdrops: Lexham Hall, Horstead House, Hindringham Hall, Raveningham Hall, Bagthorpe, Chestnut Farm and Gable House Redisham. Gable House is open on the 12th February and is well worth a visit as they have many unusual bulbs, plant sales and refreshments. Enjoy planning your garden.

Shirley Cross

End Piece

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