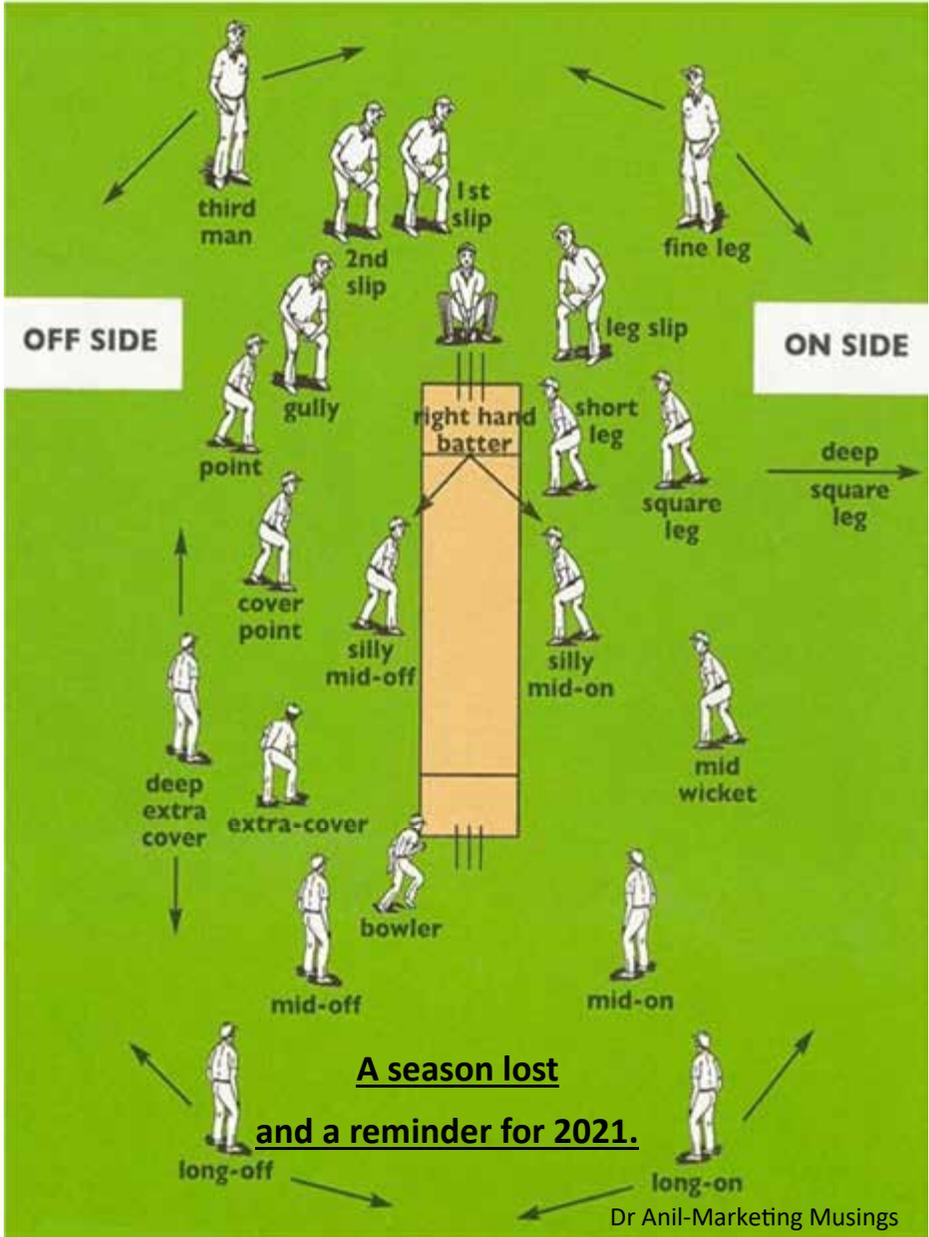


# CONTACT

Published by the Church in Loddon

September 2020



# Harvest Festivals

## All Saints, Chedgrave

**20<sup>th</sup> September 11:00**

The service will be followed by a picnic in the churchyard.

## Holy Trinity, Loddon

**27<sup>th</sup> September 10:45**

Collections will be taken at both services to support the work of the Disasters Emergency Fund. If you would like to contribute, but are not able to be at the service, please put your money in an envelope marked Treasurer (All Saints) or Treasurer (Holy Trinity) and deliver it to the church office.

If you would like to attend either of these services, please let Rev Alison (Chedgrave) or Rev David (Loddon) know for sake of logistics on the day.

We hope that the following services may also take place:

### St Mary's, Sisland

**20<sup>th</sup> September 17:00**

### St Margaret's, Hardley

**27<sup>th</sup> September 10:30**



Please look on the website to check details about the services: <http://www.chetvalleychurches.org/>



# Chet Valley Churches Information

## Clergy

David Owen: 01508 522993  
Louise Morrissey: 01728 830733  
Ros Hoffmann: 01508 548200  
Alison Ball: 01508 528126  
Jill Haylock: 01508 520248  
Fr. Pdraig Hawkins: 01508 492202

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[jillhaylock@aol.com](mailto:jillhaylock@aol.com)  
[office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk](mailto:office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk)



## Church Office

St John's Chapel, George Lane, Loddon NR14 6NB  
Phone: 01508 521179, Email: [chetvalley@btconnect.com](mailto:chetvalley@btconnect.com)  
Open: Mon & Fri: 10am-4pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10am-1pm



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

To arrange any of the above please contact the Church Office.

## Church Websites

Chet Valley Churches [www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org)  
The Norwich Diocese [www.dioceseofnorwich.org](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org)  
The Methodist Church [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)  
The RC Diocese of East Anglia [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk)

## Contact Magazine

Email: [c.magazineloddon@gmail.com](mailto:c.magazineloddon@gmail.com)

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**COPY DEADLINE IS ALWAYS NOON 8<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH**

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

Hand written submissions can be handed in at the Church Office.

**Please include your name and telephone number.**

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## From the Editor

I'm sat in the conservatory slowly melting in the early August heat and thinking how grateful I am that we have all at least had some pretty reasonable weather through the last difficult months to allow us to get outside, stretch our legs, breathe the fresh air and most importantly—though sadly from a distance—see and speak to friends and new acquaintances, all of us tangled in this same web of change to our lives which seems unlikely to unravel anytime soon. I've found talking to be by far the best medicine.

To help us all there are still a lot of community references inside where you can get help from many sources, do browse through.

Contact will be back to full printing for October for those of you who have found the online version a challenge and I want to thank the entire Distribution and Delivery team who get it out to you. Not one of them has dropped out of the gang, I just hope the good weather continues and they can at least start in sunshine!

*Roger*

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Peace perfect peace.

The world is in turmoil at this time due to many reasons. Because of so many changes going on around us, there are stresses and strains in our own personal world too. All of this means we are often on an emotional rollercoaster, so it's good to try to find a healthy balance by finding ways to have some peace.

Growing up on a farm on Norton Road Loddon, it would be a busy time for my family in August and September. The cows needed milking twice a day, the barley and wheat was harvested, and the straw had to be brought into the barns to store for winter bedding. Somehow my mum would manage to take my sisters and I for a holiday in a chalet overlooking the sea at Hemsby. It cost £8 to hire the chalet for the week! We took our water containers, as we had to walk back over the dunes to fetch water from a standpipe. It was a wonderful time of playing in the sand and swimming in the sea, and the weather was warm most of the time. It was so peaceful there and we had a good rest.

Being confined to house and garden or the local area because of restrictions in these last months, and trying to deal with huge changes in circumstances and life decisions, this is a very tough time for both young people and the elderly.

There is a great need to find some peace in amongst all of this.

Looking around us at the diversity of wildlife, the beauty of wildflowers and venturing into the surrounding countryside has been a valuable way of finding some positivity and peace. A cycle ride on a quiet country lane, or a walk by the river can also give so much pleasure. We are lucky to have the long stretches of Norfolk coastline to enjoy a picnic and for exercise. Picking fruit for making jam and then eating that with fresh bread is another satisfying thing to do, so I hope there are plenty of blackberries this year!

Our creator God has provided these wonders all around us for us to enjoy. Peace is something we need to find even if only for a short while each day.

In the book of Psalms we can read about so many times when those with troubled hearts have conversations with God, and ask for peace and tranquillity.

Also, in the book of John, we read about the time when Jesus said to his followers "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Peace, perfect peace, is freely given to all.

**Jill Haylock.**



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

*Current Covid –19restrictions mean that our normal range of services has been altered to satisfy government advice.*



**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 10am and 12 noon, you can come and go as you please for coffee, cake, discussion, crafts, games, stories, reflection and much more.

**All Together Worship** is on the third Sunday every month, starting at 11:00am at All Saints, Chedgrave (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 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 ~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.*

*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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month in Chedgrave.*

**Home Communion:** If you would like home communion, because you are unable

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## **Saxon House, Kittens Lane, Loddon**



### **Saxon House is a Very Sheltered Housing Scheme**

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**For further information contact either Lyn Church (Orbit Scheme Co-ordinator) on 01508 528707 or Hales Care Manager on 01508 528971**

## Thanksgivings & Baptisms

 You are welcome to request thanksgiving and baptism for your children.

Thanksgiving Services will be held again by arrangement with the clergy after the emergency. An opportunity to give thanks for the gift of a new child ‘

Baptisms are usually held within the Sunday worship in our churches. They are an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the new life we have in Jesus and to welcome a child into God’s family, the Church.

**Monday Mardles has started again but will only take place in the church grounds until further notice.**



If you like a relaxed and informal chat with others or are looking to meet some new friends, join us at a Monday Mardles and remember social distancing.

Bring your own refreshments and use the benches set out near the porch.

Mardles are held every **Monday 10am-12pm**. 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!)*

**The following activities are currently suspended due to Covid-19**

### Noah’s Ark

A drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers.—**Wednesdays 9.15am - 12 noon.**



All are welcome. For further details please call Alison on 01508 528126

### Friends and Neighbours

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

If you are interested in joining the group when it resumes ring Jill on 01508 520248.



**Small Groups-** Some of us like to meet during the week in small groups where we can enjoy each others’ company, study the Bible together and pray for one another and for others. To join, or just to know more, please contact David Owen or the Church Office.



**XTRA!** Join us in St John’s Church for an exciting, informal service **every Thursday after school**. Refreshments, activities from 3.15pm. Service starts 3.45pm.

More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126

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## **A short, Summer column this month**

Thanks to the incredible work of the brilliant volunteers, we are able to announce that, from 1 September, we are launching our permanent **ChetChat** group.

Aimed at helping our over-60s friends and neighbours, we will do our best to help with whatever might be needed e.g. form filling, putting the bins out, getting prescriptions, shopping or just a friendly chat.

The number to call will be: 07876050110

I'll also start up my regular surgeries in Autumn - it'll be great to see people again.

Finally, please ring me on 07733323581 if there's anything at all that I can help with.

It's what we're here for.

**Councillor Jeremy Rowe**

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## What's Happening in Loddon Library

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All borrowed items will be automatically renewed until further notice, and we are asking people to keep library books at home for the time being. You will not be charged overdue fees, and any existing charges, as of 17 March, will not increase over time. This covers all items, including books, DVDs and music. Unfortunately, you will not be able to reserve items, or request inter-library loans whilst our libraries are closed.

From home you can join the Library via the Norfolk County Council website. If you have a library card but can't remember your PIN, email [libraries@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@norfolk.gov.uk) You can download a range of eBooks, eAudio books, eNewspapers, and eMagazines from a range of different apps, including Libby, Overdrive, Zinio and PressReader. For a full list of our apps visit: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/find-an-item/ebooks-and-eaudio> If you have any issues downloading your titles, you can get support from staff by emailing [libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk)

For children there are regular Storytimes, Bounce & Rhyme sessions, Brick Building Club, reading challenges, and a virtual reading group, among other things. All are available across our social media channels – more info below.

Online reference subscriptions available from home include Encyclopedia Britannica, Times Digital Archive, plus others. Login requirements may vary between titles.

The Business and Intellectual Property Centre can answer enquiries by email, contact [bipcnorfolk@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:bipcnorfolk@norfolk.gov.uk) If you need help learning how to use online services, register for Learn My Way and enter the name of your local library into the 'Centre' box for free online learning. <https://www.learnmyway.com/>

There are a range of Norfolk Library podcasts to brighten your mood. The Norfolk Heritage Centre Podcast; Norfolk Libraries – Escape with a Poem; Around the World in 80 Books: Classics in Translation

If you're missing your local book group, why not join the Norfolk Borrowers Facebook group? You'll be able to share what you're reading with others and get lots of recommendations to add to your 'to be read' piles. Just search The Norfolk Borrowers in Facebook. Website, Social Media, and Contact Info: Facebook: @NorfolkLibrariesUK or @LoddonLibrary; Twitter: @NorfolkLibs; Instagram: norfolklibraries; YouTube: NorfolkLibraries; Email: [libraries@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@norfolk.gov.uk) or [loddon.lib@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:loddon.lib@norfolk.gov.uk) Website: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries>

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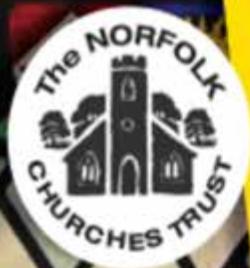
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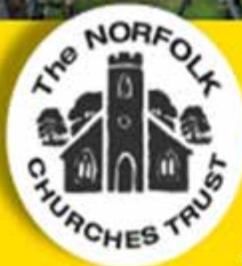
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Take a look at our website for details on our **on the day competitions and activities** and for details of making a donation or sending in sponsorship money.

*Many historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are battling to survive. Roofs leak, lead roofs are stolen, ancient timbers rot and medieval stonework crumbles.*

**Now you can help** by joining a sponsored bike ride or walk discovering beautiful churches, which also raises money for their repair and preservation.

**THE SISLAND CHRONICLE**-Sisland is now almost pothole free after the Highways Authority carefully gave most of the lanes in our small parish new surfaces. How-ever, despite cutting the verges, setting a date, and filling potholes, White House Lane (aka White House Road; is there a member of Council staff who spends his time changing names?) is still waiting for its 'top dressing'!

The farming year in the parish has produced mixed results, mostly based on soil type. The weather has not co-operated, dry when rain was required. When the rains did come, some regrowth in corn crops caused problems at harvest, resulting in mixed yields/quality. How-ever the 'sunshine' crops, Rape and Maize, look good. Paul Hemment's grandfather bought Poplar farm in the 1920's, and Paul and his wife Millie also fatten pigs, 1000 on contract, and 200 cattle, milling some grain from their farm, plus added supplements to feed the latter. With their son, and a herdsman for the cattle, they don't have many spare moments! Most of the remaining land in the Parish is farmed by John and Jill Haylock of Lodge farm. They are another old established farming family, like many in the area.

The quantity of food products from these mixed farms makes an increasing contribution to feeding the nation and its population, and with the average size of farm only 213 acres, (86.4 Hect.), these form the backbone of the industry in England.

The rainfall in July for Sisland ; 45.6 mm.

**Sislanda**

**Hi, Freddie here.**



Whilst I like lying in the sun, he has overdone it a bit this year and I have been glad to nip indoors. Our house is just the place to cool off, it's very old and I'm not the only one who takes advantage of it, lots of birds make nests in it, and J. said some rude things about the mice who got into a cupboard and bit a hole in her red slippers. There have been a lot of funny insects in the garden this year, when I sniff them they leg it and vanish! T. says they are Grasshoppers, who make funny noises, very weird. Since I overdid it and hurt my leg chasing a bunny, T. has taught me to go up the stairs one foot at a time; he said something about 'teaching old dogs new tricks' which I thought was uncalled for, I'm a lot younger than he is! He has been pruning his orange trees – they live outdoors in the summer – but I got a fright when I sniffed their flowers – a big thorn jabbed my nose, which was sore for days!

**Cheers Freddie. PS. Keep Safe.**

## PILATES

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL  
GEORGE LANE  
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## Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

Enquiries to Parish Clerk: Eleanor Banister [clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk) or by phone 07703 124544 Website: [www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk)

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

**Next Meeting:** Wed 9<sup>th</sup> September online at 7.30 pm. You are welcome to join. Contact the Clerk if you would like to attend. Agendas are posted in the brick bus shelter opposite Masala Garden and on the website 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

**2 Parish Council Vacancies** – If you are interested please get in touch with the Clerk. It is only necessary to attend two thirds of the meetings held each year. The workload is not great, you can choose to concentrate on issues that interest you. We aim to diversify representation so residents feel involved in the village.

**Footpath along A146 to the Beccles bound bus stop** – At its last meeting the Parish Council agreed to go ahead with widening this footpath. To keep costs down and comply with restrictions controlling construction beside a public road it will be done by compacting the ground alongside the existing footpath with a roller.

**Traffic Speed on Yarmouth Road** – The Parish Council has applied to Norfolk County Council under the Parish Partnership Scheme for a grant towards the cost of a mobile speed activated sign. The sign will be moved between locations along the Yarmouth Road. Our Community Speedwatch Group will begin monitoring activities again while following additional guidelines to address Covid-19 safety. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you are interested in joining.

**Dog Poo** – There has been an increase in the amount of dog poo around the village. It is very unpleasant and a danger to human health as well as other dogs and farm animals. Please do the right thing - Good neighbours pick up after their pets.

**Green Lane and Beccles Road** – The “Green Lane” sign to be replaced with one saying “Green Lane leading to Beccles Road”. A solar-light to be fitted where the path leads from Green Lane to the A146 to aid pedestrians in the winter.

**Hales and Heckingham Playground** – In addition to ongoing maintenance the Parish Council is obtaining quotes for upgrading one item and the installation of combined five-a-side football goalposts and basketball hoops. If you spot anything you think needs doing at the playground please get in touch with the Clerk.

**Composting Scheme** - Following adoption of new processes enabling it to continue for the time being and follow Government safety guidelines the group are looking for new members. If you are interested please contact Alan Mason: [alan\\_mbc@btinternet.com](mailto:alan_mbc@btinternet.com) or 07738 933316.

At the next meeting the Agenda will include the following topics: ‘Terracycling’, the environment and amenities around the villages including planting, traffic and transport, planning applications and finance. Please let the Clerk know if there is something you would like to be discussed.

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## Loddon Parish Council

**Hand Sanitising Stations:** South Norfolk Council encourage us to 'Shop with Confidence', they have installed 5 hand sanitising stations around the Village. They are at The Staithe, Church Plain, the pavement area on George Lane, Co-op and outside the Post Office. Please let the Parish Council know if they need replenishing.

**Anyone for Tennis?** It is the perfect weather for tennis! Book Loddon Tennis Courts online - [www.loddonpc.org.uk](http://www.loddonpc.org.uk). There are 2 courts available at £5/ hour/court. All proceeds go to the Playing Field Committee.

**Facilities:** The Play Area, Skate Park and Staithe Public Conveniences have reopened. Please ensure social distancing guidelines are kept, and hand sanitiser is used regularly. Unfortunately, the Information Office for Tourists remains closed.

**Pyes Mill** is looking particularly beautiful at this time of year, so please enjoy it! Although Pyes Mill is owned by South Norfolk Council, the Parish Council regularly cuts the grass at the picnic area. The Parish Council has reported the damage to the foot bridge. Illegal camping has also been reported to South Norfolk Council and South Norfolk Police are visiting regularly.

**George Lane Junction:** South Norfolk Council and South Norfolk Police are aware of the issues with cars parking on the double yellow lines on the junction with Bridge Street. Please do not park here, as it creates a dangerous hazard.

**Signs:** The Council is once again replacing three signs at the Skate Park and Play Area on Kitten's Lane after they have been vandalised. Please report vandalism to the Council Office. These signs are funded by the parishioners of Loddon.

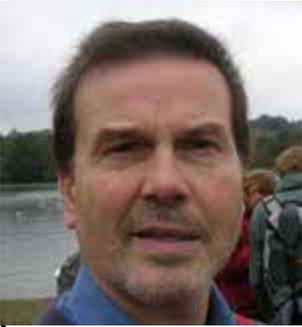
**Abandoned cars:** We have received two reports of abandoned cars recently. These can be reported on South Norfolk's website: [www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/neighbourhood-issues/abandoned-vehicles](http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/neighbourhood-issues/abandoned-vehicles)

**Streetlights:** Loddon Parish Council has formally adopted the streetlights from South Norfolk Council. This was necessary because several of the lights were classified as 'Not Needed' and would have been decommissioned if the Parish Council had not taken over the responsibility for them. Please report any bulbs out to Loddon Parish Council.

**Grants:** The Parish Council were delighted to support Loddon Football Club with their application for a grant for the defibrillator cabinet. This defib is now installed on the exterior wall of the Jubilee Hall for all to use in case of emergency. Thanks to local electrician Scott Armiger of Armiger Electrical for installing the cabinet free of charge.

**Loddon PC report continues on page 23**

## Home Tutor Needed ?



Leigh has been in Norfolk classrooms since 2009 and is based in Poringland

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## Loddon Parish Council continued

**Freedom of Loddon Award:** Thank you for your nominations for individuals that have made a notable contribution to the community of Loddon. The Parish Council is delighted to announce that the award will be presented to Mr Algar Taylor at the next Parish Meeting on the 09 September 2020.

**Hall Hire:** The rear hall of the Library Annexe is available for hire at a very reasonable rate of £10 for one hour for local community groups, or £15 per hour for birthday parties. If you would like to hire the hall for a regular booking, or an event, please contact the Parish Clerk or see the website for more information about the facility.

**Allotments:** Now is the growing season and we have vacant plots available.

**Future Meetings of Loddon Parish Council:** The Agenda will be displayed on the notice board on Church Plain and on the Council's website at least three working days before the meeting. The next meeting date of the Parish Council is Wednesday the 09 September 2020. Parishioners are welcome to attend via GoTo Meeting to reduce the spread of Covid 19.

**Contact Loddon Parish Council:** Telephone the Parish Council on 01508 522 020, or email the Clerk; Emily Curtis; [clerk@loddonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@loddonpc.org.uk). The office is in the Library Annexe, 31 Church Plain, Loddon and is ordinarily open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings between 9.00 am and midday. The office is currently closed to the public due to Covid 19, but appointments can be made to visit in person. More information is available on the Parish Council's website: [www.loddonpc.org.uk](http://www.loddonpc.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook for regular updates: Loddon Parish Council.

### **HOLY TRINITY BROWN BIN**

The brown bin in Holy Trinity churchyard is owned by the Church and is provided for the benefit of persons tending family graves. It is emptied by the volunteer Churchyard Team and not South Norfolk Council. Of late this bin has been regularly used by someone for disposal of their home garden waste and a notice was put on the bin to try and stop this from happening. However, the notice was removed and changed by someone to read 'for filling with general garden waste'

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***I Didn't Know That!?! .....Before Lockdown***

*I didn't know that there will be hundreds of baby seals along the coast around Horsey before Christmas – **the lovely volunteers for Horsey Seals told me when they were fund raising at the Bishop's Garden in Norwich a couple of weeks ago.***

*I didn't know that Dunwich, only an hour away, was once an international port as big as London – **until a local historian told me when I spoke about knowing Dunwich as a wildlife area.***

*I didn't know that one of 'The Few' was born in Sisland and that, like so many of those heroes, after some successes he was shot down late in 1940 – **until I read the story in the July issue of the Norfolk magazine.***

*I didn't know how Death Watch Beetles got their name - **until they were found in our church beams, the church archaeologist told me when she inspected.***

*I didn't know that people speak a different language in Norfolk – **until I found out what the Monday Mardlers are, where to look for a Loke and that a Harnser is a Heron.***

I know now though simply from conversations, some with friends but others just casual chats in passing. Also, a friend had recommended a magazine and it was full of interesting pieces.

**A friend said recently that you learn something new every day, an old expression true enough, but, actually often right. It seems to be the case for me.**

**What do you think?**

**AND, ONE THING I DO KNOW- -**

**IN OCTOBER CONTACT WILL RETURN AS USUAL**

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Visit <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/start-with-social-care/urgent-help/get-urgent-help-at-home-norfolk-swift-response->

### Churches and Lockdown Consequences

During lockdown all churches were closed both for worship and for visiting, just like everywhere else. It has been a worrying time for church treasurers everywhere, as well as for the team who deal with the finances for the church as a whole.



This time of year is when we would usually be receiving the most money, either from fees or fundraising events, but of course that can't happen. In a good year, our local group of churches almost manage to cover their costs, and pay their share into the central pot for Norwich Diocese, but it does have to be a good year. Needless to say, this is a very poor year.

If you value the church in your locality would you consider making a donation? Maybe you might donate the money you've saved by not being able to go to the hairdresser, or out for an evening's entertainment, or making long journeys by car. Maybe you could also GiftAid your donation. If you know your church treasurer, you could get in touch direct or drop a donation into St John's Chapel in Loddon, clearly marked for your preferred church. Otherwise, you can contact the Revd David Owen on 01508 522993, email [david.chetvalley@gmail.com](mailto:david.chetvalley@gmail.com)

## Church Services

### 6th September

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland
9.00am	Informal Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10am—12 noon	Xpressions Café	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon

### 13th September

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Margaret's Hardley
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.45am	Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

### 20th September

10.45am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Loddon
11.00am	Harvest, . All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
5.00pm	Harvest, Evening Prayer (BCP)	St Mary, Sisland

### 27th September

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10.30am	Harvest, Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10.45am	Harvest, Morning Worship	Holy Trinity, Loddon

### Church Services during the Covid-19 pandemic

The government has allowed our churches to open for worship. We continue to explore how we might do this whilst following guidelines so that all remain safe. ***The dates and times given are indicative of services that may happen in the Chet Valley; please look at our website for up-to-date information.*** On Sundays, our services are available on our YouTube channel: Chet Valley Churches. The URL for each service and a pdf are on the church website (**[www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org)**). If you would like a paper copy of the Sunday service, please contact one of the clergy.

<b>Every day</b> <b>Morning</b> <b>Prayer</b> <b>9.00am</b> <i>All Welcome</i>	Monday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Tuesday	St. Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

Holy Trinity (Mon-Sat) and All Saints (Mon-Sun) churches are open for private prayer . We have to adhere to government and Church of England guidelines about maintaining social distancing, use of hand sanitisers... in the buildings. Please be mindful of instructions when you visit.

<b>Other Services in St John's, Loddon</b>	
Every Saturday 6.00pm	<b>Roman Catholic Mass</b>
Tuesdays 7.30pm- 8.30pm	<b>COME AND PRAY</b> If you would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people you are welcome to come along to <b>'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday <b>Midweek Communion with Blessing</b>
Thursdays during school term	<b>XTRA!</b> Join us for an exciting, informal service. Refreshments from 3.15pm, Service starts 3.45pm More from Rev David 01508 522993 or Rev Alison 01508 528126

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

Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about arrangements for Tuesday Prayer and Reflection.

Please contact Father Pdraig (office@east-angliadiocese.org.uk) for details of Catholic services.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS NEWS & EVENTS

### Loddon Flower Club

Contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or [tricia646@aol.com](mailto:tricia646@aol.com) or take a look at our new website at [www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk](http://www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk) We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions.

### Loddon Women's Institute

The members of Loddon WI have been keeping in contact with each other. We have circulated a monthly newsletter to keep everyone up to date with the Federation News and our own. It is unlikely that we shall meet together again as a group until later in the year. However, we are hoping to maybe have an afternoon outdoor meeting in August. We have been busy puzzling, reading, gardening and crafting. Prem baby hats are still be knitted. We are also hoping to produce a 'Lockdown Journal' with a contribution from each of our members. Contact us through our website; or Facebook, or via [LoddonWI@gmail.com](mailto:LoddonWI@gmail.com).

### Chedgrave & District Women's Institute

Our usual meeting place is All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave at 2pm. Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held there on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 2pm. For further details, please contact Rosemary Whettem on 01508 528291

### Langley with Hardley Women's Institute

The group meets on the third Tuesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm at Langley with Hardley Village Hall. Further details from Secretary Gillian Ball 01508

### Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 o'clock Club

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

For more information contact Hillary 01508 520457 or June 01508 528853

### Patient Participation Group

Our meetings are not currently taking place and we will advise all through Contact when normal service is likely to resume.



**Church Cycle Ride** Please do consider cycling for one of the local churches. Get some people to sponsor you and then have an enjoyable cycle round the countryside raising money as you go. Half of the money will come to the church that you nominate and half to the Norfolk Churches Trust. They'd be very grateful. Details on pp 16.

## Footballers Wanted!

A friendly, relaxed group of guys of all ages and abilities who meet at Hobart Astroturf every **Monday** evening from 8.30pm-9.30pm for a non-competitive kick-about to keep fit and socialise. We are looking for like minded people to join us once restrictions are lifted. Cost £2.50 per session, first session free.

For more details, please contact Terry on:

[tezzahayden99@gmail.com](mailto:tezzahayden99@gmail.com)

Facebook: Loddon Men's Football Club



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## Hobart Badminton Club

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

Trial Members: £4 per session for 4 weeks. Visitors: £5 per session

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

Further info. from Barbara Boardman: Email: [tomenelli@btinternet.com](mailto:tomenelli@btinternet.com)



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## Short Tennis Club

Come and join our friendly non-competitive club on **Tuesdays 11.30am - 1pm** at the Jubilee Hall. All welcome. For more information call 01508 520589.

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## Hales & Loddon Cricket Club

For details contact Pete on 07931711323 or [Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk](mailto:Pete.dye@canaries.co.uk)

The Club run teams in the Norfolk Alliance as well as the Norfolk League, as well as teams at U9/11/13 age groups.

If you would like to play, whatever your age or ability, you'll be very welcome at Hales and Loddon. All our Youth Coaches are DBS checked and are qualified to work in youth Cricket. Just off the A146 after the roundabout near Hales. Garage.



---

## Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

We are a small village club, who plays home games at Ashby Hall "The Meadow", a wonderful location. We play competitive friendlies on a Sunday afternoon, also midweek 20 over games April—September. If you are new to the area, not played for a while, or perhaps want a change in clubs - call us.

Come and join us—you will enjoy it! For more information, please contact Paul on 01508 218078.



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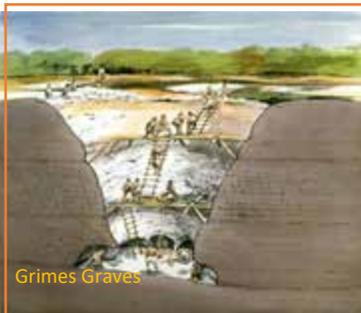
## Jubilee Short Mat Bowls Club

Calling all bowlers and non bowlers. Do you fancy bowling throughout the year? Why not give short mat bowls a try. Free taster session on your first visit. Then just £2.50 a week. Join us on Tuesdays 1.30-3.30pm at Jubilee Hall. Bowls can be provided, just bring indoor flat shoes. Further information from Sara 01508 521958

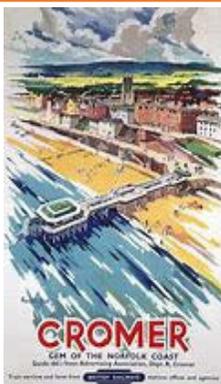
## Loddon and Chedgrave District Society

Contact June on 01508 528853 for further details unless otherwise stated.

All bookings for lunches, walks, events etc. must be made in good time through the person named. Events marked with an \* must be booked or paid in advance by the date noted to guarantee a place.

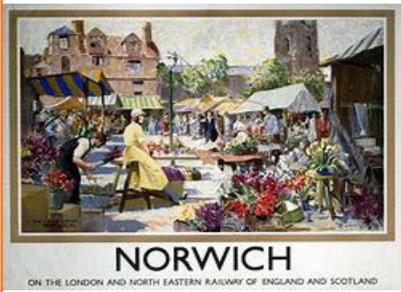


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## **Loddon Community Gym**

Although lockdown has been eased and there is a lot of talk about the 'new normal' many of us are only tentatively returning to our usual routines. Whoever thought six months ago that 'social distancing' and 'face coverings' would be 'normal'?



Indoor gyms can now open but with lots of safety precautions in place. The Gym Committee has met and, in consultation with the Jubilee Hall Trustees, has produced a risk assessment for reopening. However, the government has decided that schools will reopen in September as a priority but has warned that if the infection rate rises other facilities may have to close again. With this in mind, the Gym will not open immediately. When we have a date for reopening, those on our e-mailing list will be informed by email. Please also check local social media and this website for updates. [www.loddoncommunitygym.com](http://www.loddoncommunitygym.com)

Take care, until we met again at Jubilee Hall, George St., Loddon

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

## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - LODDON AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

Hopefully you will by now have had chance to visit our VJ display in Young's window, Loddon, but it will stay up for a while longer, so do get to see it if you can. We hope that you could also participate, at a distance, in our local and national VJ 75th commemorations on the 15th August and you will have noted the wreaths laid on local war memorials, including Loddon and Chedgrave.

It is with sorrow that we note the passing to Higher Service of two of our long serving members, Col Thomas Brooke (from Mundham) and William (Bill) Clutten, who will be remembered from his time (with Jessie his wife) running his newsagent's shop in Chedgrave. Our very sincere thoughts and condolences go to the families of both these gentlemen and you can be assured that we, as their local Legion family, will not forget them.

Legion branch meeting arrangements are still very much subject to change but, all being well, we will be able to meet again as usual in the King's Head 7.00pm Tuesday 15th September. Christine Hartley (branch secretary 01508 521136) will be able to confirm nearer the time.

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## PARKINSONS

Would you like to meet other Parkinsons sufferers? We will normally meet on the first Monday of the month at the Chedgrave White Horse at 12.15pm. Partners are

---

### Davy Place Social Club

Hello from everyone at the Davy Place Social Club. Thank you to two very kind people who have donated a piano stool and a tea trolley for our residents to use in the Davy Place Common Room. We are very grateful for your generous gifts.

Our exercise classes on Tuesday and Friday mornings continue to be good fun and are proving to be very beneficial. We have a few spaces available for our Friday morning sessions with personal fitness instructor Mike, of Long Stratton Leisure Centre. If you are interested in joining us contact Janet—see below

Bingo is held every Monday afternoon, eyes down at 2pm.

Please contact Janet 01508 522115 for further information about any or our

---

### Loddon & District Cooperative Day Centre

Why not come and meet some new people? We play games, do crafts and exercises, chat and have a two course lunch.



For up to date info contact Bev on 07826 299290.

---

### Loddon and District Horticultural Society

Schedules for our Annual Open Show in September are likely to be reviewed in the light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Show Secretary Tricia on 01508 520273 or [patricialoades@btinternet.com](mailto:patricialoades@btinternet.com). Will produce information when available. For other information contact:

Secretary Hazel on 07765098345 or [happyhaze50@gmail.com](mailto:happyhaze50@gmail.com)

Chairman Jean on 01502 710024 or [jeancope52@gmail.com](mailto:jeancope52@gmail.com)

Follow us on our Facebook page or take a look at our webpage on [www.loddon.org](http://www.loddon.org)

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*Two little old ladies were walking through the park one Sunday afternoon. On the bandstand, the band was playing a catchy sounding tune, and one of the old ladies said, "I wonder what the name of that tune is". The other one noticed a sign posted near the bandstand and said, "It looks like they post the names of their selections. I'll go down and see". A while later she came back and told her companion, "It's the Refrain from Spitting".*

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## LATE SUMMER SUPPER

### Sticky sweet-and-sour plums and sausages - Yotam Ottolenghi

*I have pinched this from The Guardian to share with you because it is so easy and scrummy and can easily adapt for meat/veggies alike. The rich purple-juiced sauce was enough on its own to get me drooling. The red onions went with the purple theme but any colour scheme could be created by choosing other fruit/veg.*

This one-tray bake celebrates plums in all their glory, *I used dark purple ones, firm and just as dark inside when opened. I almost had a friend convinced they were mini beetroot when I had put some in fruit salad! But, any fairly firm summer stone fruit would probably work*, they break down into a sweet-sour sauce for the sausages and potatoes. Use any kind of sausage you like here: duck or chicken would work well, as would vegetarian ones.

Prep 25 min

Cook 1 hr 35 min

Serves 4

**5 red onions**, peeled and cut into 6 wedges each (750g net weight)

**2 heads garlic**, cut in half widthways

**3 baking potatoes** (750g), skin-on, cut into quarters lengthways

**120ml olive oil**

**Salt and black pepper**

**750g plums** (ie, about 10), halved and stoned (600g net weight)

**3 rosemary stalks**, leaves picked and stems discarded

**8 pork sausages**

**3 tbsp apple cider vinegar**

**90g pomegranate molasses**

**50g soft brown sugar**

**2 tbsp sumac**

**2½ tbsp (10g) parsley**, picked leaves with soft stalks attached

Heat oven to 200C (180C fan)/390F/gas 6. Put onions, garlic, potatoes, 5 tablespoons of oil, 100ml water, 1 and 1/2 teaspoons of salt and a grind of pepper in a roasting tin (about 40cm x 30cm). Toss together, bake for 35 minutes, stir once halfway, until veg. has softened and taken on some colour and water has evaporated.

Lay the plums cut side up in tray, add rosemary leaves, nestle in the sausages. In a medium bowl, whisk the vinegar, molasses, sugar, two tablespoons of water, a tablespoon and a half of sumac, two tablespoons of oil, half a teaspoon of salt and a good grind of pepper, pour all over the contents of the tray, then return to the oven for 40 mins, turn the sausages once halfway, so they cook and colour evenly.

Turn up the oven to 220C (200C fan)/425F/gas 7 and roast for 10 minutes more, until everything is nicely browned, the plums have broken down and the sauce is bubbling and sticky.

Toss the parsley with the remaining teaspoon and a half of sumac and remaining tablespoon of oil, dot all over the sausage mixture, then serve warm straight from the tray.

*I used dark brown sugar instead of molasses and fresh squeezed orange juice instead of sumac as I had it in the fridge from my dessert.*

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## Loddon Community Cinema

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

---

## Social Whist

We meet every second and fourth Friday of the month though there is no pressure to attend every month. We welcome new players. We meet in the back room of The Hollies and start playing at 7.45pm. The evening consists of 12 hands of Whist, each with a different partner, a drink and a biscuit at half time together with lots of chat. You don't need a partner and if you need a lift to get there this can be organised. All proceeds are for local charities. If you need a lift please call

---

## Chet Staithe Probus Club

Have you recently retired or just moved to the area? Are you missing male company, on your own, or just want to get out and meet new people? Why not visit the Chet Staithe Probus Club which is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at the White Horse, Chedgrave. Meetings start at 10am and finish around midday with the option of staying for lunch. Several of our members do.

We are a friendly informal club, jackets and ties not required. Members range in age from 60 to almost 100. We have guest speakers with topics range from clocks, Whitehall, cartoons, space and even stagecoach journeys to Norwich.

Meetings are: re-starting in August Please contact Clive Boyd on 01508 520547, or e-mail [cliveboyd@btconnect.com](mailto:cliveboyd@btconnect.com)

---

## Chet Valley Probus Club

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

*All meetings are regrettably cancelled due to the current health crisis.*

*Undaunted, and despite being a non-profit organisation with limited funds, the Club has decided to contribute the generous sum of £500 to the Cambridge University Covid-19 Research Programme - <https://shar.es/aHqXxZ>. This is in addition to its usual more modest donations to local charities each year.*

---

## Chet Valley Photography Club

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## Loddon & District Local History Group

Like many of you we are looking forward to being able to attend History Group Meeting, and other community activities. Sadly, that is still some way in the future.

This month I thought I would leave the Churchwardens Accounts and look at a different source, this time, a "History and Gazetteer and Directory of Norfolk" Published by William White Limited in 1890. This Directory (like many others) is a treasure trove as it gives information about each parish and also lists the business men and women, and some of the "Private Residents".

This particular directory contains information I have found in no other, relating to a small pear wood reliquary found in 1841 when a derelict cottage in the Gravel Pits was demolished. It was stated that: "This curious specimen of medieval art -was probably intended for a pilgrim, to carry about some relic or other valuable deposit; and appears to have been attached to his girdle, the holes for the straps still remaining. On the front panel St. James and St. John are represented, and the back panel is ornamented with foliage." This was said to be in the possession of Mr James Cole Copeman. The box is 10.5 cm tall.



Fascinated, I did a Google search and lo and behold found the *Loddon Reliquary* listed on the British Museum on-line catalogue with pictures. The entry stated that it had originally been loaned to the Museum in 1973 and "purchased in 1977 from the Trustees of the Rev Percy Hattersley-Smith MA".

He was a Master and Housemaster at Cheltenham College for 44 years, a County Cricketer for Cheltenham and was a player member of the MCC who died in 1918 aged 70.

His sister Rose Susan Smith 1836-1908, married James Cole Copeman in 1865 in Cambridge where her father lived and worked as a newspaper printer & publisher. So the Rev Percy 1847-1918, was in fact the brother in law of James Cole Copeman 1826-1898, who we are told in the same directory was the senior partner of Copeman & Cadge; Solicitor and was just about everything else legal in the Loddon District and also an Antiquarian, (he wrote the article I referred to last month). When the Rev Percy died Edward Cadge (now head of the firm of solicitors in Loddon) was named as his Executor.

Rev Percy Hattersley-Smith and Eleanor his wife had at least 7 children; 3 single daughters and a son attended his funeral in 1918. The last of these daughters, Ruth, died in 1976, which would have resulted in the winding up of the Trust created to provide for the daughters in 1918. This would have allowed the purchase of the Reliquary from the Estate in 1977. **Elvie Herd**

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## The Uninhabitable Earth

Have you ever read a book which scared or troubled you? I have recently finished reading “The Uninhabitable Earth” by David Wallace-Wells.

The author is discussing global warming and its potential consequences. I had appreciated that the warming would mean climate change – hotter summers, milder winters, more extreme weather patterns – stronger hurricanes, flooding, droughts etc., but I had never seriously considered the economic and social consequences for the whole world with a 5C rise in temperature by 2100 due to the increase of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

A rise in sea levels causing severe flooding in Bangladesh, Florida being inundated, the Pacific Islands disappearing, our own coastline being eroded; more wild fires; drought in Africa, the Americas and across the Mediterranean causing (unsuitable) crops to fail and all these leading to mass immigration, more refugees to neighbouring countries, loss of food, starvation, more disease, and skirmishes and wars as short supplies of food, land and housing are quibbled over by governments. The heat alone will cause deaths especially amongst the elderly. And Europe won't be spared.

We intelligent humans have unwittingly caused this situation over the past few centuries by using up the earth's unrenovable assets, especially fossil fuels. And this state of affairs has accelerated massively in the last fifty to hundred years. Yes, we all do our bit by up-cycling, re-cycling, using 'green' energy sources, buying organic and fair trade food, some growing their own food, planting suitable flowers to encourage the birds, bees and bugs, and supporting organisations that do so on a national scale.

We are hopeful – but Greta Thunberg (2018) said she didn't want us to be hopeful or to give us hope, she wanted us to PANIC. A protest banner recently stated “the intelligent human is destroying the only home and planet that we have”. It seems we need to make an emergency stop – put the brakes on fast and hard if we, as a species, are to survive.

The author himself gives us a glimmer of hope: the intelligent human could find a solution to the looming crisis given the motivation; and Greta, in a recent interview on BBC, thought that, as the present pandemic has forced governments with speed into some co-operation, if they can be persuaded to view global warming as a similar crisis, the catastrophe could be mitigated or possibly averted.

But why don't you read the book and judge for yourself whether the planet can be saved? And think about what more we can do to ensure that it does survive, for our grandchildren and great-grand-children. After all, 2100 is only eighty years away – that's one lifetime!

Eira Leach

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## **Read Any Good Books Lately?**

### **“Liberation,” by Kate Furnivall**

A cleverly plotted mystery story with a thread of romance running through it and a variety of different characters, all of whom come alive off the page as you read about them. The background is Italy (mostly in Sorrento and Naples) just after the war - the post-Mussolini period - with the Allies trying to deal with the Italian peoples' dreadful poverty and the antagonism met by them from a great many of the population, both rich and poor.

The central character is Caterina, a twenty-one year old young woman, doing her best to look after her blind grandfather and her eleven year old brother. Caterina's father is dead and her mother went off with another man eleven years earlier, just a few months after she gave birth to her little son. Caterina is a skilled worker in wood, as was her father, and the key to this whole story is a search for a particularly beautiful and valuable table which he once made and which vanished several years ago after his death.

### **“At the Edge of the Orchard,” by Tracy Chevalier**

Tracy Chevalier writes books about really varied subjects; she could never be accused of being formulaic! Back in the nineteenth century a poor family move to a swampy part of America so that they can have land belonging to themselves and can grow produce to support themselves, plus they have an orchard. Life proves far more difficult for them than they had hoped for; there are ten children in the family, of whom five have died. One of the surviving children is absolutely determined to help his father make a success of the orchard project, but circumstances cause him to leave home when he is old enough and he goes on to travel extensively, never losing his interest in apple trees and trees of all kinds, especially Redwoods and Sequoias.

The book tells a fascinating and absorbing story of a dysfunctional family and of the hard life lived by so many people of that era.

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## Read Any Good Stories Lately, continued

### **“How to Stop Time,” by Matt Haig**

How would it feel to live for several hundred years, ageing very, very slowly? Tom Hazard is one of few people born like this and it brings some very difficult experiences, while also allowing him to meet some of the most interesting people in every century. This is a delightfully written, imaginative novel having a quirky and unusual plot which is unlike most novels written in our time. Not to be taken too seriously, but worth reading!

### **“The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin,” by David Nobbs**

Do you remember this being dramatised on television many years ago? (Leonard Rossiter gave a superb performance as the title character). Reginald Perrin is ostensibly a happily married man with a responsible job in a company dealing in all sorts of fruit-flavoured desserts. Over the years he has become somewhat less enthusiastic about the job and also about working for the boss of the company. At the age of 44 he wants life (and especially work) to be a bit different, so he takes surprising steps to do something about this! The book is basically a humorous one, but the author writes perceptively about the kind of working life so many people go through life enduring, not enjoying.

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*I said, "Yes, we have loads of them... But my name is John."*

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## Nature Notes

Summer is passing into Autumn and day light hours are shortening. As I write this at the beginning of August, on what may well be the hottest day, reflecting on what we have seen over the past couple of months. Already the swifts have departed, most of the ones we see overhead had left by the end of July. Our Common Whitethroat finally fell silent in the middle of July, having sung its scratchy song daily since its arrival in April, from dawn to dusk. It had a territory stretching over a hundred metres which it regularly patrolled.

We were fascinated by the behavior of one of our Blackbirds as we watched it through the kitchen window. It took a while to work out just what it was doing, but the penny finally dropped as we realised it was “anting”. A process of putting ants under its wing so that they would release their defense chemical, including formic acid, to get rid of any of the ectoparasites living amongst the bird’s feathers.

The said window also overlooks a Buddleia, which when in flower is a magnet to butterflies and other insects. Although not in large numbers we have had a variety of species including Comma, Red Admiral and a Hummingbird Hawk Moth.

Rachel and I have been kept amused watching birds coming to get a drink or bath in our two raised ponds. There are also couple of shallow dishes nearby. Some birds seem to detect this source of water and drink easily from these dishes (sparrows, robin, blackbirds) while others seem thrown into confusion and walk through them (pigeons!). We were privileged to see a chaff chaff using the solar fountain as a shower.

We have both found in different parts of the garden young frogs, which is encouraging, as their numbers, and those of toads seem to have decreased over the years. We also saw an adult smooth newt in our pond. We have often found young ones around the garden, but this was the first adult we had observed since we moved in 14 years ago.

The other day, working in the garden there was the screaming of a bird of prey overhead, it was a Hobby seemingly angry with a Buzzard, which was the commotion that attracted me. The following day, in a friend’s garden in Sisland we had a rerun of the same scene.

While walking the dogs across Chedgrave Common some weeks ago, it was good to see a patch of Ragged Robin in flower where some of the scrub had been cleared.

Our garden bird list has grown to 77 since the beginning of lockdown, which includes two species we have never seen here. Both on the same day we had fly over Crossbills which were fortunately calling otherwise I would have missed them. Then a pair of distant Common Terns flying over the river Yare.

We are just entering the migration season as birds that have come here to breed return to warmer climes and those who breed much further north pass through. I have already seen a couple of Wheatear at Seething on their way from their Moorland breeding areas to Africa.

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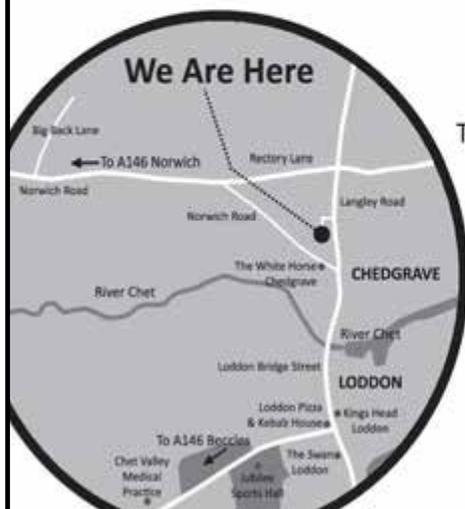
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## **From the Garden**

As I write this we are experiencing the hottest days of the year so far and many areas of the garden are in need of a good rain shower. If our summers continue to be hot and dry maybe we need to look at plants which will cope with hot dry conditions and also survive cold and wet winters. Plants with grey leaves or from warmer climates will cope with drought such as carnations and pinks. I have planted several carnations over the years, cultivars unknown as the labels have been lost. They are a mixture of pinks and deep reds but they all have a rich perfume. Now is the time to propagate new plants as they are not generally long lived although mine were planted over 10 years ago. You need to select a non-flowering shoot, cut or pull from the plant, remove the bottom leaves and cut just below a leaf node, dip the cutting into hormone rooting powder and place the cuttings round the edge of the pot of compost, water and place into a propagator or you can cover with a plastic bag secured with twine and place on the windowsill. The cuttings should root in about 4 weeks, then pot on individually before planting out next spring. If you don't have hormone rooting powder, you could try cinnamon, this was recommended by the gardeners on Radio Norfolk earlier this year. I will experiment and let you know how I get on next month.

## **From the allotment .....**

Starting where I left off last edition. Complete cutting back summer raspberries and tie in canes for next year, prune blackcurrants by cutting out a third of the older branches back to the stool to promote new growth, possibly a late prune of the gooseberries, redcurrants and whitecurrants to maintain the goblet shape if a bush shape. If trained as a fan or espalier against a wall remove crossing /weak branches and tie in strong new growth. Main aim - to have good air circulation which reduces diseases. Autumn raspberries should keep producing fruit until the first frosts so feed once or twice a week. Cut back completely to base when they have finished.

Apples and other top fruit become ready to harvest or to eat at different times starting in August e.g. Beauty of Bath and Discovery, which don't keep so eat straight away, and continuing into the winter e.g. Winter Majentin, so look up the varieties you have. Lightly prune apples and pears now to remove minor crossing or damaged branches, but serious pruning should wait until the trees are dormant. Depending on the mildness of the winter this may not be until January. Stone fruit are the opposite of apples and pears so DO NOT prune plums, damsons, gages, etc from the end of August until June as silverleaf fungus infects through the wounds.

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