



CHET CONTACT

Produced by the Chet Valley Churches

November 2022





Chet Valley Churches

All Saints, Chedgrave

Autumn

Fair



19th November 2022

10:00am-12:00noon

**Cakes; Table Decorations; Tombola;
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and a Swap Stall (for unwanted gifts and clothes –
find something you would like!).**

Donations of cakes and books will be gratefully received.
Please leave them in the church which is open during daylight hours.

All Welcome – We Look Forward to Seeing You!

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	www.chetvalleychurches.org
The Diocese of Norwich	www.dioceseofnorwich.org
The Methodist Church	www.methodist.org.uk
The RC Diocese of East Anglia	www.rcdea.org.uk



Chet Contact

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Email submissions to c.magazineloddon@gmail.com.

Please include your name and telephone number.



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Disclaimer

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From the Editor

We can almost stop talking about the weather now, it's been fairly normal of late, but, do the huge amounts of fruit of all kinds, from apples to conkers, sloes to acorns, holly berries to bullaces mean we are in for a hard winter? Sorry, couldn't resist.!

This issue has several references to new or forthcoming initiatives to help those in our community who find themselves most in need in these challenging times. Look for items on the Community Larder,p26, and the new 'Warm Space',p30, planned at All Saints Church and likely to be duplicated at St John's and the Library. It will take a little while to work out suitable days and times around the other uses of these spaces but it is hoped they will provide a warm and welcoming place for people under pressure, to let them get out and spend time in a comfortable environment at no cost to themselves.

Elsewhere there is mention of the All Saints Autumn Fair,p2. the Victorian Evening coming up fast (volunteers welcomed)p24, see the article) and Christmas Carol singing rehearsals soon p54.

Mid-month the Poringland Singers will be at St John's on the 12th for a musical evening. So there is plenty to choose from which is always a good thing.

Now I'm off to find my snow shoes in case the "autumnal harvest" I opened with, turns out to be true!

Roger



Contents

Cover: <i>Pink-foot geese arriving—pinterest.co.uk</i>		Highlights:	
Across the Chet Valley Churches	7-9	Autumn Fair	2
From the Parish Registers	11	Volunteers Wanted	24, 26, 52
From Your Local Councillors	13	Victorian Evening	24
Parish Council News	15-23	Community Larder	26
Church Notices and Services	28-29	Warm Space	30
Community News	30-43	Poringland Singers concert	30
History Society	47	Chet Valley Voices	39
Read Any Good Books Lately?	49	Can You Help?	52
Nature Notes	51	Neighbourhood Plan	52
Allotment & Gardening Notes	53	End Piece,Christmas Choir	54

Ministerial Musings

Be Prepared.

If you were ever a member of the Scouts you'll know that their motto is 'Be prepared'. It seems like a good idea to think about things beforehand and make sure you don't have any sudden surprises. I've just come back from a holiday for which we were told to be prepared for any sort of weather – I went to the north of Norway, where we could reasonably expect it to be cold and possibly very wet. The list of recommended items to pack included warm clothes to wear in layers, reliable water-proofs and good boots. We were also reminded that on the journey north we might also expect bright sunny weather too. We needed to be ready for anything.

In our day to day lives we are generally used to a regular pattern. We have a good idea of what we will be doing each day, and whether we need to make any additional preparations. Life is reasonably predictable most of the time.

But what about when things don't go according to plan? Or when we feel hurt or let down by other people? Or even when things are wonderful but unexpected, like a surprise party? Often we feel we are just not prepared for what is happening. For me, that's when I am grateful that through prayer I can take everything to God and know that he not only hears me, but also he cares about me.

The reality is, I can't be prepared for all the surprises that life throws at me. None of us can. But we can all share our joys and sorrows with God. He doesn't wave a magic wand and fix things, but he does support us and walk alongside us in every situation if we turn to him. We may not be prepared for everything, but we can be sure that nothing is outside God's care.

David Owen



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

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



Next Meeting: 10th November at 12 o'clock. **(NB this is the 2nd Thursday in November)**. There will be a choice of soup for lunch. Following this will be a talk by Elvie Herd. Our December meeting will be an outing to The Old Feathers Restaurant Framingham Pigot on 1st December for a Christmas lunch. Please could members meet there at 12, for lunch at 12.30pm. Details of Thomas Buckland's funeral are on p11.

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 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

There were no Thanksgivings or Baptisms this month in our churches so let's pray for all children across our world.

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.

Those whom God has joined together let no-one put asunder.

Funerals

Thomas Buckland who died on 9th September 2022

Funeral: 30 September 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Alice Whittaker who died on 10th September 2022

Funeral: 22nd October 2022 at Holy Trinity, Loddon.

Betty Grace Davies who died on 3rd September 2022

Funeral: 17th October 2022 at Waveney Crematorium.

Joan Payne who died on 17th September 2022

Funeral: 17th October 2022 at All Saints, Chedgrave.

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. He can also be contacted about interment of ashes.



Service in Memory of those we have Loved

Sunday 6 November 4.00pm in Holy Trinity Church, Loddon

Every year, at around this time, we hold a service offering a chance to remember those we have loved, but who have died. It may be that they died recently, or it may be that they died many years ago, but they are still in our minds and hearts.

If you would like to come to the service, you will be very welcome, whether or not you usually come to church. We will be serving tea and cakes after the service.

There's no need to say if you're coming, but if you'd like to know more contact Rev'd David Owen on 01508 522993.

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News From Your Local Councillors

Landscaping on George Lane/Roundabout/St Georges Park

I have been contacted by concerned residents of the St Georges Park Estate and elsewhere about the state of the landscaping around this area. I am currently in discussions with the planners and the developer to find a way forward. I believe we are almost at the point where I will be able to give you all timescales on what is going to happen and when. Please be assured this will be dealt with, as we all want to see Loddon looking its best.

Footbridge over the Chet at the Staithe

The works to repair the footbridge are taking longer than I would have hoped, you would not believe the bureaucracy involved! Currently this is with the Environment Agency, as they have to issue a license for works done across a waterway. I am pleased to report that Anglian Water have completed the lining of the pipe that runs under the footbridge. Hopefully this will prevent further incidences of raw sewage escaping into the Chet.

Loddon War Memorial

I was very pleased with the excellent work recently done to the war memorial steps, to sort out a subsidence issue. As part of this, a new ramp has been installed by South Norfolk Council. It all looks very smart and is now safe for wheelchair access. And finished before the Remembrance Day ceremony, as we had asked. I hope to see you all at the parade.

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

As mentioned last month, please let me know if you might be interested in becoming one of the team of community wardens, who will have a very important role to play if an emergency does occur; with events like extreme weather conditions happening more often, I think this team will do very important work.

All District Councillors have a members' grant of £1000 for local causes, I still have some of this year's grant left, let me know if part of this could help your group.

As always, if you, or someone over-60 that you know, need some help or maybe just some friendship, please phone ChetChat. Our new number is **07944 858929** if you, or someone you know, needs something.



I'm delighted to confirm that my next surgeries will be **2-3pm Saturday 10 December & 11 February** in Loddon library: please drop in if I can help with anything, or just to say hello!

Please ring me anytime on **07733323581** if I can help you, as many people do.

Finally, I know many are understandably worried at the moment, but please reach out if I, or anyone else across our community, can help you. **Cllr. 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 Common: Unfortunately, the council hasn't received any offers of help with the project to obtain Land Registry title of Chedgrave Common. The council would really like to encourage the community to get involved. It is a complicated matter and a new update of the "Chedgrave Courier" will be distributed later in the autumn with a special focus on Chedgrave Common. Many residents and visitors enjoy the walking on the Common and the council is trying to secure it for the long-term enjoyment of all. **Please get involved, the council needs your help!** Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in joining a working group to help with the effort to retain Chedgrave Common for all including possible fundraising activities. Thank you.

Councillor Vacancies: There are two vacancies remaining on the council. If you are interested but not sure what's involved, why not come to a meeting and observe? You will get a flavour of the wide range of topics the council deals with and meet other councillors. The next meeting is on 3rd November, details below.

Footway Lighting: The council hasn't received any feedback from residents regarding spiralling energy costs and in the short term is going to attempt to secure a fixed rate contract for the next 12 months. This will at least give budget certainty for a while. In the long term, the council may have to consider reducing the time the lights are running by switching them off in the middle of the night to save money. If you have any views on this matter, please contact the Clerk.

Christmas is Coming! It's that time of year again and the council is planning a pretty display of lights in the village as usual. In the coming weeks, householders will be approached for permission to hang lights from their properties and their support with this is very much appreciated, thank you.

Vandalism: There have been a few acts of vandalism around the village recently with play area signs and equipment being destroyed and graffiti appearing. All of this is paid for by Chedgrave residents via the parish council so please accept this polite reminder to respect our village and its facilities.

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 3rd Nov at 7pm 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 & illegal activities, public disorder & 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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Georgina Buckle

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Loddon Parish Council Remembrance Day Parade



This year's Parade is on Sunday 13 November 2022 and will meet on Cannell's Car Park and leave White Horse Corner at 10.30 am. The parade will arrive at Church Plain at 10.45am and there will be a short service by the War Memorial. This will be followed by a Service in Holy Trinity Church. All timings are approximate. Help required to steward the event please.

Christmas Lights- Loddon is always known for its beautiful display of Christmas lights and thank you for your part in that. The Council's contractor will be installing the LED lightweight string lights on properties and businesses on Church Plain, Bridge Street and the High Street at the end of November. We will contact businesses and residents for permission to put up the lights shortly and a prompt response would be appreciated. There will be additional displays on Church Plain and the Staithe.

Victorian Evening -The Christmas light switch on and Victorian Evening is on Friday 09 December 2022. Thanks to the Victorian Evening Committee for organising this annual event.

Small Grants-LPC 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 PC website for more info/application form.

Chet Valley 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.

Emergency Plan-An Emergency Plan is being formed for Loddon & Chedgrave and emergency volunteers are being sought to represent zones in Loddon. Please email: emergencyplan@loddonpc.org.uk for more information.

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 the 09 November 2022 at 7.00pm and parishioners are welcome to attend. The Minutes and agendas for the meetings are available on the LPC website.

Contact Loddon Parish Council: The office is open between 9.00am – 12.00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Should you wish to contact the Council, please email; info@loddonpc.org.uk If there is a genuine out of hours emergency, please call; 01508 486 128, at any other time, please use 01508 522 020.

Website:www.loddonpc.org.uk**Facebook page:** www.facebook.com/LoddonPC.

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Hales & Heckingham Parish Council

All enquiries please contact Parish Clerk: Eleanor Banister

clerk@halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk or by phone 07703 124544

Website: www.halesandheckingham-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Hales & Heckingham Parish Council



Next Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 29 November 2022 at 7.30 pm 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 3 days before the meeting. Minutes are displayed in the same places.

Remembrance Sunday – 3.00 pm Sunday 13th November @ Hales War Memorial –

A short Service of Remembrance at Hales War Memorial to reflect on those who died and lay a wreath. It is a lovely event held outside and everyone is welcome.

Dark Nights: As nights draw in please be prepared with spare batteries for torches and bicycle lights. Make sure that you wear reflective clothing if you are walking or cycling in poor light and ***drivers please be aware there are other road users who are more vulnerable than you*** on our country lanes. Please Stay Safe.

When the Going Gets Tough ... It looks like this winter will be difficult for many. If you can offer help in any way please let the Clerk know. Please don't be afraid to ask for help. We have got some handy money/energy saving hacks that you may find useful. See our website or contact the Clerk. We have a list of organisations that have information and help, which we are happy to share. Do let the Clerk know if you would find it difficult or struggle in the event of a power cut. We will try to support you and can better prepare if we know your needs in advance.

2023 Village Projects: Next year's budget will be discussed at the meeting. Ideas for future projects and funding are welcomed. We will also discuss projects suitable for joint funding under Norfolk County Council's Parish Partnership Scheme.

Dykes and Flood Prevention – If your house or garden backs on to a dyke or ditch please keep an eye on it and make sure it is kept clear to reduce the risk of flooding. Please let the Clerk know if this is a problem for you. Residents are responsible for ensuring that drainage systems are clear of debris. Thank you for your assistance.

Signs, Potholes & Footpath Issues – If you see anything that is not right please advise South Norfolk Council through their webpage <https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>. It would be helpful if you could also advise the Parish Clerk.

Vacancies: If you are interested in either of these please get in touch with the Clerk for more info. B—Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator—Village Tree Warden

Do You Need Help? Do get in touch with South Norfolk & Broadland's Help Hub either ring 01508 533933 or email helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk. They can help with a wide range of problems. Telephones are manned Monday to Friday between 8.15 am and 10.00 pm (except Bank Holidays).

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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



Langley with Hardley Parish Council hold their meetings on the first Tuesday of every second month at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend. **Next meeting Tues, 1st November**
TREES FOR THE PLAY AREA 3 malus trees are to be planted in the Play Area (one each of Floribunda, Royalty and Red Sentinel) to mark the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the Accession and Coronation of His Majesty King Charles.

SAVE MONEY BY JOINING THE OIL CLUB Thurlton and Langley with Hardley Oil Club aims to provide the best savings possible, purchasing heating oil in bulk for each village. An internet-only organisation administration costs are low allowing savings to be passed on.

Ordering smaller amounts such as 500 or 1000 litres directly from a supplier is costly. The Oil-Club orders in quantity and a number of Parishioners in the area benefit from this overall bulk purchasing power, saving money. Over the course of a year this can be hundreds of pounds.

Free Membership. Customer service available online 7 days a week, 363 days a year. The more members, delivery arranged more often and the better the price.

Further details at www.oil-club.co.uk with information on how to join is explained.

RENOVATION OF OUR TELEPHONE BOX LIBRARYThe Red Telephone box, successfully converted to a Library has been well used by Parishioners and is due to undergo a re-fit and renovation

If you would like to help with this (cleaning/painting/building shelves) please contact Emma our Clerk.

If depositing books/dvds please stack them neatly on the shelves or on the floor.

Langley with Hardley Village Hall

Thank you to everyone who attended our Friday Cafes. For St Margaret's Church, Hardley we made £434. For Macmillan Cancer Support we made £530. This is a great amount for both charities.



Cafe on Friday 4th November. 11-1. Great company and homemade food.

Christmas Bingo. Saturday 19th November. 6.30 doors open for a 7 o'clock start. Lovely prizes to win and a fun evening.

To hire the hall, phone 01508 520184 and speak to Tibby or Jane.

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Notes from Sisland

When you read this Sisland church will have held an autumn coffee morning, on Saturday 29th October, and we would like to thank everyone who was able to support us, as we continue raising funds to maintain the church fabric. As autumn arrives, the weather definitely changeable, our attention turns to a period of reflection and remembrance.



Changing seasons always makes me reflect on previous months, this year the incredibly hot summer and a period of national mourning. Remembering - to hold in your mind or bring to mind and to recollect - is an important part of life. We will all be aware in the last months, of remembrances both collectively as well as individually. In Sisland church, the Book of Condolence for Queen Elizabeth II, was valued and completed by residents and visitors alike.

Remembrance Day has been observed every year since 1919. As well as standing together in Remembrance on 11 November, we also observe a two-minute silence at 11am on Remembrance Sunday. The former, originally called “Armistice Day”, to commemorate the agreement that ended World War I on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.—on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. For those who know Sisland church you will be aware that there is no war memorial in either the building or the churchyard but the act of remembrance is still important.

The changing season also brings the change of service times for Sisland. With the change of clocks on 30th October , evening Prayer moves to 4pm, during the summer it has been at 5pm. A traditional service using the Book of Common Prayer, an excellent way to reflect on the week past and look to the week ahead. The Church will remain open during the autumn, even if the door is closed it will be unlocked, so please take the opportunity to visit us if passing.

Rowena Bryce (Churchwarden, Sisland)

LODDON + CHEDGRAVE VICTORIAN EVENING

The annual Loddon and Chedgrave Victorian Evening will take place on Friday 9th December from 6:30-8:30pm.

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

“Many activities are planned for the evening, such as Punch & Judy, and most of the local shops will be open and hosting Christmas festivities, welcoming customers old and new”, said Heather Tew, Lead Organiser of the Victorian Evening.

Charity Stalls at the Victorian Evening



Friday 9 December 6-9pm approx

Each year there are stalls in our churches – Holy Trinity in the middle of Loddon and St John’s a little way along George Lane. They are open for people fundraising for a favourite charity and for local community groups to display what they do, with room for sales, games, information boards and more, space being limited to a long table for each stall. We try to be flexible where we can.. **For more details or to book a space contact Nina Owen on 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com Please note that we do ask for a small donation in the region of £5 per stall to cover costs, because the church is a charity too.**

Wanted—Helper at Loddon Rainbows



Could you give up one evening a week to help at Loddon Rainbows? For girls aged four to seven, Rainbows is exciting, messy, friendly and a lot of fun! Here’s what one Rainbow has to say: “We make lots of things and play games. We have a lot of fun and I like Rainbows.”

If you can help, Naomi Garner would like to hear from you:
Loddon_Rainbows@outlook.com or 07530 607307.

Loddon Bell Ringers



Following the sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, church bells played an important part during the formal mourning period and the proclamation of King Charles III. It is only for the death of a monarch that bells are rung fully muffled with the deepest sounding bell, or tenor, open at one stroke. Bells rang out nationwide with many churches in our region doing the same and here at Loddon, as the news broke, we tolled our Tenor bell in respect.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Queen was held at Holy Trinity on the Friday at which we rang again, and then on the Monday, following the state funeral held at Westminster Abbey, we rang a half muffled Quarter Peal of Ten Doubles methods to honour the Queen.

The ringers were 1. Michelle Clutten 2. Rona Sporle 3 Stephen Rabong 4 David Webb 5 Katie Wright (conductor) 6 Levi Lovelock.

Steve Rabong

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

I will be at home on Monday 7th November if you are able to bring your boxes to me on that day at 10 Garden Court, Loddon

Also I will be at Expressions Cafe on Sunday 6th of November at All Saints Church between 10-12 if that is easier for you.

Many thanks

Anne Baker 520533

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 2021.

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 Ann Lumley on 01508 528141 or email: annlumley150@btinternet.com. The Chedgrave fund can be accessed by contacting Rev Alison, Rev David or the church warden, Roger Outlaw—contact details on p3.

Chet Valley Community Larder



*Helping each other out, reducing surplus food waste,
sharing with the whole community*

Monday—Friday 8:00am-7:00pm **Saturday** 8:00am-4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm

Based in the Loddon Library Entrance.

Just One Thing!

I wonder how many of you have visited the Chet Valley Community Larder. It's in the corridor next to the library in Loddon, on Church Plain. You walk past it if you are going to the Community Gym. It is being well-used—every time I have been to take goods from various harvest festivals, in church and infant and junior schools, the shelves have been emptied by the next day.

It made me think. Chet Contact is delivered to around **2500** houses in the Chet Valley area. I wondered how many of the households could afford to buy just one thing every week for the Chet Valley Community Larder and put it on the shelves. Just imagine how wonderful it would be if there were maybe **1000** tins and packets added each week to help those people out who cannot afford to feed themselves or their families adequately.

Bread, eggs and cereals go very quickly. There are often quite a few tins of tomatoes and baked beans still on the shelves, whereas other veg and tinned fruit don't stay there long. Tea and coffee also disappear fast.

What might you be able to donate?



The **co-operative** food
Central England Co-operative

Royal British Legion—Loddon & District Branch



The branch meets at the Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon on the third Monday of each month, 6:45pm for 7:00pm.

Future Meetings: 21st November (AGM). There will be no meeting in December. The Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Parade are the next items on our agenda.

For information or support, contact Colin or Christine on 01508 521136.

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. There are wheeled tables which 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.

Social Whist

We meet every 2nd and 4th Friday each month in the back room of The Hollies, 7.30 for 7.45pm start.. A chance to get together and play 12 hands of Whist with refreshments and a chat half-way. Partner not necessary, or knowledge, it's a fun social evening with a bit of thinking thrown in. Do join us. Lifts can be arranged.—call Jane on 528875. All funds to charity.



NB—possible date change next month to avoid a clash with Victorian Evening. See December Chet Contact.

Tuesday Market, Loddon

You will find our colourful plant and cut flower stall outside the Hollies, every Tuesday from 10:00-11:30am.

Inside will be a fine selection of baked goods, preserves, fresh eggs, raw milk and vegetables. Why not treat yourself to a coffee and cake, then browse our selection of local crafts including woodwork, jewellery, cards, paintings etc. We look forward to seeing you.

If you have any queries contact Sheila Ford 01508 520752



Church Services

6th November		
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	Holy Trinity, Loddon
13th November Remembrance Sunday		
9:30am	BCP Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:55am	Loddon War Memorial	Holy Trinity, Loddon
10:55am	Hardley War Memorial	St Margaret's Hardley
3:00pm	Hales War Memorial	Service at Memorial
20th November		
10:45am	Holy Communion	St John's, Loddon
11:00am	All Together Worship	All Saints, Chedgrave
4:00 pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St Mary, Sisland
27th November Advent Sunday		
9:30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Chedgrave
10:30am	Morning Worship	St Margaret, Hardley
10:45am	Morning Worship	St John's, Loddon
2.30-5pm	Afternoon of Prayer	All Saints, Chedgrave
6:00pm	Advent Evensong	All Saints, Chedgrave

Choir for Carols

The community choir is coming together once again this year to sing at the Carol Service in Chedgrave Church on Sunday 18th December at 5:00pm. Drawn from people of varying ages (~7-90+) we lead the traditional carols as usual and sing one or two items of our own.

"It is a lot of fun. We all enjoy the singing and getting to know others"

Rehearsal dates and details— See page 54



If you would like to take part contact Rev Alison: 01508 528126 or e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com

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>If you would you like to spend some time in prayer with a small group of people you are welcome to come along to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">‘Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection’</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3rd Tuesday Midweek Communion with Blessing</p>	
Thursdays during school term	<p style="text-align: center;">XTRA!</p> <p>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	Holy Trinity, Loddon *
	Tuesday	St Margaret, Hardley
	Wednesday	All Saints, Chedgrave
	Thursday	Holy Trinity, Loddon *
	Friday	St Mary, Sisland
	Saturday	All Saints, Chedgrave

*** NB. From Monday 21 Nov., Loddon Morning Prayers will be in St John’s for the Winter months.**

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

**Please contact Rev Jill (jillhaylock@aol.com) about current arrangements for Tuesday Prayer and Reflection, or if you would like to receive this electronically.

The Poringland Singers present

A Box of Delights

A musical evening

on Saturday 12 November at 7.30pm

In St John's Chapel, Loddon



Tickets: £9 to include interval refreshments Age 16 and under: free ticket
Obtainable from Val Counter: 01508 520702, valancounter@btinternet.com

A Warm Space on Wednesday

9.30am to 12.30pm

Starting on Wednesday 2nd November, All Saints Church, Chedgrave will be offering a free, warm, church hall, open for anyone, to spend some time with friends and neighbours. There will be facilities in the kitchen to make tea/coffee/etc and there is also a WC in the hall.

This is the first of what are likely to be several initiatives in our villages to offer a comfortable warm space and, along with the others, hopefully create opportunities to have somewhere to spend time on most days, in a social setting, as the colder weather moves in.

We will update you next month as the scheme develops.



Community Groups, News and Events

News from Local Branches of the Women's Institute



Loddon and District Women's Institute

We were very pleased with the response to our Great Big Green Week event. Our speaker, Ed Gillespie, gave a very thought provoking talk on climate change and its devastating effect. He also reminded us of the decline in wildlife that has taken place during our lifetime. While acknowledging that this is all something that has to be tackled globally, he sent us away with some suggestions for small changes that we can make in our own way of living, and urged us to make our voices heard in demanding action from the powers that be.

We had a good meeting in September when Peter Lawrence talked to us about picture postcards – explaining not only the history of their development but also illustrating how they provide a record of a changing way of life.

In addition, some enjoyed our usual monthly Knit and Natter and Open House. We meet in November to begin preparing for our stall at the Victorian Evening, and we look forward to planning our decorated window in Holy Trinity Church.

Next Meeting: Wednesday November 16th. 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. St John's Chapel, George Lane.

Speaker: Juyna Lewis, who will be telling us how to 'Spice up our Christmas'!

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 meetings start at 2:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month and are held at the All Saints Church Centre, Chedgrave. If you would like further information, please contact Audrey 528393 or Angela 521120.

Loddon Community Cinema

Our next presentation is "**Operation Mincemeat**" rated **PG**. Directed by John Madden and stars **Colin Firth, Matthew Macfadyen**. Based on a true incident in WW2 a remarkable deception by British intelligence, creating a fictional officer, carrying secret documents of a planned invasion who became the victim of a plane crash. The "plans" ended up with the Germans but the real invasion was elsewhere.. Good reviews on release.



Thurs. 3rd November 7:30pm. Doors open 7pm.

St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon

Tickets: £4 adults; £2 under 16 in advance from Loddon DIY, or on the door.



FitzRoy are recruiting!

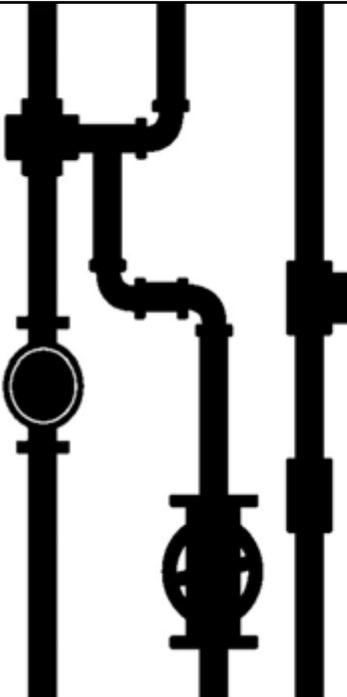
FitzRoy Registered Care and Nursing service in Hales provides care and support for twelve residents with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and complex health needs.

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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.

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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

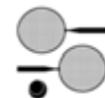
If you have never tried short mat bowls, now that the summer lawns bowls has finished, why not give this a go? We are a very friendly small group that needs some new members. We meet Tuesday afternoons 1:30-3:30pm in the Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon. Beginners are very welcome; just bring flat indoor 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



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!

For more information contact Terry on: tezzahayden99@gmail.com



Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

For any information, please contact

Paul Clemence—01508 218078.





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Loddon Community Gym

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

Tel: 07534 946143 www.loddoncommunitygym.com

Inside this month's Chet Contact you will find the Community Gym's latest flyer with all the information you need and pictures of the Gym in our new venue, the Library Annexe. Please have a read and pass it on to anyone you think might be interested in

joining. We are very grateful for the support for the Gym of both Chedgrave Parish Council and Loddon Parish Council in giving the Gym this opportunity to expand and develop at the heart of Loddon. We depend on grants, small and large, to keep running and our charges as low as possible. The Gym AGM is on Tuesday 1st November, 7.15pm in the Gym. If you are reading this before then you are welcome to come along and hear what we are planning and give your views about what would attract you to join. If the date is past please email the Gym (address above) with your ideas or simply drop in and chat with Louise (instructor). As I write this we look for a new treasurer and more committee members so contact me (Angela 07989043949) if you feel you could contribute to the Gym's future.



The Gym is currently open as follows:

Monday (afternoons) 1.45pm– 5.25pm; Tuesday (early evenings) 4.45pm-7.05pm;

Wednesday (mornings) 9.00am-11.20am; Thursday (evenings) 6.00pm-8.20pm;

Friday (mornings) 10.15am-12.35am.

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.

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.



Loddon Junior Badminton Club

The club is run by a qualified badminton coach, with over ten years experience of running Junior Club.

Open to all children aged 10-16 years regardless of ability.

Wednesday evenings from 6:45-7:45pm; Jubilee Hall.

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





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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. 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 Probus Club

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

Tues 8th Nov "Chet Valley B-Line" Speaker Rodney Aldis.

Tues 22nd Nov Big Blue Sky" A celebration of Norfolk. Speaker Barrie Lawrence.

13 December Christmas Lunch

27 December No Meeting.

For more details, contact: Hon. Secretary John McCormack 01508 521899



Chet Valley Photography Club (CVPC)

Our meeting in November is on Monday 14th in St John's Methodist Chapel, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open 6.45pm for 7pm start. We are working on a programme for 2022/23 and details for our November meeting will be posted on our website when they are available. Our September meeting saw a club friend come and talk about his start-up experience with drone photography which has led to further interest by a couple of club members. Expensive equipment is not needed at all - images can be taken using a mobile (phone, tablet) or point and shoot camera. Much is now taken on a smartphone as that is usually with us at the time.



Please contact Jackie Franklin,

email secretary@chetvalleyphotography.org.uk or have a look at our website www.chetvalleyphotography.org.uk for more information 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 3 exciting lectures in November **Monday 14th November, 2-4pm**

Thinking Like a Philosopher by Jack Manzi

Exploring some ideas that philosophers consider and will introduce you to ways in which you, too, can begin to think philosophically.

Monday 21st November, 2-4pm

Science, Religion and Truth in the 19th C by Graham Platts

The nineteenth-century church in England was greatly challenged by the new scientific ideas of the time and two apparently opposed belief systems engaged—could one have faith in both?

Monday 28th November, 2-4pm

Running a Household in Medieval East Anglia by Kate Jewell

Using wills and accounts from medieval times we think about running a prosperous household and what was really important at the time.

Each session is £9.00. If you are interested in attending one or more, please call Alison on 01508 521976. or Sharon 01508 520386. Meetings are held in the Jubilee Hall, George Lane, Loddon.

Our speaker for the Spring Term is Nigel Herwin, who will give a 7 week course starting on 16th January on Eerie East Anglia – local tales of Weirdness! The course will explore and try to explain some of the region's most bizarre mysteries. Details on how to book a place on this course will follow nearer the time.

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. For more information contact:

secretary June at june@btinternet.com Tel: 01508 528853

or 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 & 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.



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

To join our Society it is £10 for the year and if you would like any more information please contact Chairman Jean Cope on 01502 710024 or email jeancope52@gmail.com or Secretary Hazel Copland on 01508 520890 or email happyhaze50@gmail.com. Follow us on our Facebook page.



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Loddon Flower Club

Our next flower arranging demonstration is;

Tuesday 1st November - A slide show of photos from our Flower Festival followed by a demonstration by our President, Diane Blyth, entitled 'Remember, Remember'.

ADVANCED NOTICE.- Christmas Open meeting on Tuesday 6th December - David Wright with his title of 'Magical Musical Christmas'. At this meeting there will be a tombola, raffles for a hamper and the arrangements, sales tables and other stalls and seasonal refreshments. The admission to this meeting is members £6 and visitors £12. Please come along and get in the mood for Christmas!



Christmas workshop - Saturday 10th December in the Lecture Hall. 1pm to 4pm and a list of items to bring for making a swag will be available from our Chairman. Cost £10. Meetings are held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start and visitors are £7.50.

We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions.

For more information contact Tricia Godfrey on 01508 480522 or tricia646@aol.com or Alex Pinder on 01508 493869 or nark@aol.com. Our website is www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk.

Loddon & Chedgrave Ladies 8 O'clock Club

We are a friendly group of ladies who meet on the last **Wednesday** of each month. A yearly fee is charged and £3.00 for each meeting attended to cover refreshments and outlays.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th November this will be a craft evening when Mary & Sylvia will instruct us on making a Christmas decoration. NB—no meeting in December.

Happy Christmas see you all again on Wednesday 25th January.

We meet in the back room of The Hollies, Loddon High Street. New members always welcome. 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.



Wed. 2nd November: The Dowager Empress Cixi by David Rosier.

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>.

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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

Our speaker for the September meeting was Steve Silk who introduced us to three books he had written recently, two of them about this area. Steve started by outlining his background in journalism which had started when he worked on a local newspaper in the North East before travelling abroad and writing various articles including one for the India Times. He came to Norwich to work on the Evening News before becoming a T.V. reporter and editor on B.B.C Look East.

'The Wherryman's Way' (published in 2010) emerged as an idea in 2006. The footpath now known as the Wherryman's Way had been 'rebranded' when several existing footpaths had been linked with leaflets outlining different walks becoming available and information boards being placed on the river. A few statues of local 'celebrities' from the past were erected but have not been maintained well. Steve decided to research this river area and found the two sides of the Yare were much better connected than now. There were 15 ferries operating across the river between Norwich and Yarmouth in the early twentieth century. Some ferries were rowing boats while Langley had two to transport staff to Cantley Sugar Works. Yarmouth had two as well. His book sold very well. Steve's second book was entitled 'Hidden Riverside Norwich' (published in 2016). Norwich has 4 rivers - the Yare, Wensum, Tud and Tas. This book outlines a journey Steve made down the Wensum by canoe, mentioning a few of the bridges - Coslany Bridge, St George's Bridge and Bishop's Bridge. The latter involved some research on Kett's Rebellion as rebels had stormed this bridge to win their first battle. Steve hopes this book helps people to realise what they have on their doorstep. He also took the photographs illustrating different aspects of the river.

The third book is very different, 'The Great North Road' (published in 2021) based on a cycle ride he undertook. He came across a book by Charles G. Harper who had made this trip in the late nineteenth century. Harper's thoughts about what he saw were close to his own despite the time difference and he loved the book's illustrations. The Great North Road has a stagecoach history, impacted by the advent of the trains and he mentioned some of the great coaching inns like the George at Stamford. Steve's cycle ride covered about 50 miles a day on average and he found that only 50% of the route was on the old Great North Road while the other 50% was spent trying to get as close as possible to it. He started in London and finished in Edinburgh. Getting published was not easy and he had several rewrites before a publisher accepted it in 2020. This was a fascinating talk.

November 16th: David Hamblin will be talking about the Pharmacy in Loddon.

Meetings are open to all and are held in the Lecture Hall at St John's Methodist Church, George Lane, Loddon starting at 1:30pm. £3 admission includes tea and biscuits.

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Read Any Good Books Lately?

Grimwood by Nadia Shireen

A perfect children's book for readers who have just started to enjoy reading on their own. The story itself is brilliantly funny. It's about two foxes who are run out of their urban environment after a battle with a mean cat. They come to a magical place called Grimwood and discover a whole new community, with their own traditions and unique characters.

A Lady's Guide to Fortune-Hunting by Sophie Irwin

I felt like something light and frothy and this is definitely both those things! It's set in Regency England and is perfect for any fans of Georgette Heyer or Bridgerton. It's witty, fast-paced and the ending is very satisfying. The heroine, Kitty, needs to marry money in order to save her sisters, and herself, from destitution. The story tells how she sets about this and although set in Regency England it's a sharp modern take on the whole setting – much like Bridgerton, but far less smutty!

The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell

A new novel by one of my favourite authors and a wonderful read. I'm so pleased Maggie O'Farrell has written more historical fiction. I loved Hamnet, set in Shakespearean England, which won the Waterstone's book of the year and Woman's Prize for Fiction in 2020. She breathes life into historical characters by weaving story around them and her writing is rich but so accessible. This is the story of the third daughter of Cosimo de' Medici and her grand marriage set in Renaissance Italy. What Maggie O'Farrell does so well is to convey the menace and danger that lurks around every corner and how young noblewoman, until they have provided an heir, are prisoners to their own fortunes.

Holding by Graham Norton

This is the first novel from the well-known TV personality and he's since written two more. They've been well received and reviewed so I thought I'd give this one a try. It's a great crime story, set in a remote Irish village. Its themes include loss, dark secrets, love, troubled relationships and alcoholism and it's told with Norton's trademark tongue-in-cheek comic timing. It's very well written and an enjoyable read. I will be reading his other two books when I get time.

Special mention to Hilary Mantel who died last month, what a loss but also what a legacy she leaves behind. I plan to reread Wolf Hall and the subsequent novels at some point. If you haven't tried any of her books then I would highly recommend them, her writing is wonderful.

Ruth Redford

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Nature Notes

To begin with I confess that my 2022 bird list was not nearing 200, as I thought but was only 189. Also, although there have been plenty of passage migrants, especially on the Norfolk and Suffolk coast, I've not been out to try and see any of them.

It was the start of the last week of September that I heard the familiar “wink, wink” call of returning Pink Footed Geese. Initially only small skeins, by the end of the week they were around in their hundreds. I have not seen winter thrushes yet, such as Fieldfare and Redwing. Hopefully, this will be rectified by the end of October.

One bird that I should have mentioned last month was that there are a pair of Barn owls around at Hardley Staithe. Having been absent for most of the year, it was great to see a pair of these beautifully graceful birds quartering over the fields.

Walking up the track from Chedgrave Common with our dogs, I kept hearing something bouncing down through the branches of oak trees. I realised it was ripe acorns falling to the ground. Jays, normally a secretive woodland bird, can be seen flying openly from oak tree to oak tree collecting acorns, which they bury to eat during the winter. This can be in the region of three thousand plus acorns buried in small clusters and amazingly remember where they have hidden them.

I managed to see one new bird during September, walking the dogs along the Yare towards the sugar beet factory from Langley Dyke. I noticed several small birds flitting about and picked out Goldfinches and Linnets. Then a female Stonechat revealed itself, perching on top of a reed. It was followed by a second bird, I initially assumed another Stonechat, but closer scrutiny saw it to be a Whinchat passing through on migration to sunnier climes. Over the next two weeks walking along the same riverbank, the Whinchat was still there. So, my year total crept up to 190.

On the last day of September, whilst getting out the car at Hardley Staithe, I noticed a small flock of, what I assumed were Collared Doves fly over the farm buildings and on into the recently ploughed field. Following them was a second small flock, scanning the field I was delighted to discover that they were in fact Golden Plover rather than the aforementioned doves. Golden Plover migrate from their northern breeding grounds to southern climes. Some overwinter in East Anglia. I stopped on Church Road to see if I could find them again. Sure enough, I found them. However, on closer inspection via binoculars, I realised that although twelve of them were Golden Plovers, there were also three Ruff, another species of wading bird. What delights will November bring, it will be good to escape into the natural world and enjoy what is there

Richard and Rachel Hull

Chet Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Chedgrave and Loddon are developing the Chet Neighbourhood Plan, an official document that aims to maintain, promote, and improve their quality as places to live, work, obtain services, and undertake leisure activities. We are paying particular attention to the environment and sustainability. Working towards net zero carbon emissions and protecting biodiversity are both key requirements of the plan.



As part of our evidence-gathering activities, the Environment Focus Group has embarked on a series of parish walks, looking at the green spaces, verges, parks, gardens, and sports fields, together with views, so that they can be an important focus of the policies we write. The walks are being led by Andrew Milner and Carol Webb.

The remaining walk, starting at 2pm, is as follows:

13 November – Sports fields, etc., from Church Plain (3.2 miles)

We welcome input from those who live, work or undertake leisure here. Do visit our website ([Chet Neighbourhood Plan | Welcome \(chetnp.info\)](http://Chet Neighbourhood Plan | Welcome (chetnp.info))) to keep informed of progress and activities and to see what you can do to help. If you would like to give us your views about relevant matters, please use the Contact us page on the website or send an email to Neighbourhoodplan@loddonpc.org.uk.

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you remember the Millennium celebrations? Did you live in Loddon at the time?

To celebrate this milestone event, a time capsule was buried next to the porch in Loddon Churchyard. This contains various photographs of shops and shopkeepers at the time.

The local history group have copies of these pictures in their archive but now need to identify some of the people for their records. If you can help or would like to see the collection please come along to:



LODDON LIBRARY Tuesday 18th November 10.30-12.00

A very informal gathering where we can all join in.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THEN.

Gardening Notes

From the Allotment—Andrew Milner-Well, time to stop worrying about the damage of the hot dry summer. November is the time to look ahead: clear away the past, plan crops, prepare ground for next year and begin planting crops that go in now. Plan your crops first as once you are sure where everything is going you can prepare the ground accordingly so soil for potatoes needs a boost with manure or compost, but brassicas don't: peas and beans do well over a trench filled with raw or semi composted material. In sandy soil you can also line the bottoms and sides with newspaper to hold in moisture. Compost and newspaper all break down and disappear over the year.

November planting includes garlic and broad beans, but you can also plant peas (beware mice eating these!), winter onions, spring onion seed and varieties of lettuce you can keep growing under a cloche like Fourseason or Winter Density.

My aim with garlic is to grow enough to store until the next harvest which I will not achieve this year as the bulbs were small due to lack of rain over winter and spring.

Hardneck and softneck garlic do well in my sandy soil, but Elephant Garlic does not, and I have stopped trying to grow it. With broad beans my aim is to extend the cropping season and I will plant a second batch in February.

From the Garden—Shirley Cross-This month it is good to spend time looking back at how well the garden performed in the summer drought so that plans can be made for new plantings as predictions are for warmer and drier years to come. I watered the flower beds this year as they were newly planted and the plants weren't established. Two plants I'd not used before flowered all summer, Cosmos and Gaillardia, deadheading every two days encourages new flowers. The Bessera Elgans bulbs eventually flowered but were shorter than expected. The list of plants the deer are partial to is growing, currently Hydranga, Sambucus Niger, Campanula Glomerta, Viburnum Opulus Roseum, Deutzia and Pinks. The pinks were a surprise as most websites say deer don't eat them, but they have eaten the flowers, so I will move them to the front. The pond is full at last and is planted up, the bank is planted with Foxgloves, primulas, daffodils, alliums, chionodoxa, Iris, crocus and snowdrops. We also scattered wildflower seeds over the area so it will be interesting to see what comes up. Chrysanthemums are looking good this year with lots of flowers so I will look to add more colours next year. Sweet peas can be sown this month, start them indoors and then move them into a cold greenhouse before planting out next spring. Enjoy planning your garden.



End Piece

Choir for Carols

Hooray! The community choir is coming together once again this year to sing at the...

Carol Service in Chedgrave Church



Drawn from people of varying ages (~7-90+) we lead the traditional carols as usual and sing one or two items of our own.

“It is a lot of fun. We all enjoy the singing and getting to know others in the community.”

The carol service is on Sunday 18th December at 5:00pm

There will be four rehearsals and it is best if you can make **at least** three of them:

Saturday 26th November 3 – 4pm

Saturday 10th December 2 – 4pm

Saturday 17th December 10am – 12noon

Sunday 18th December 3 – 4pm

(refreshment break before the service)

If you would like to take part please contact Alison Ball

e-mail: ball880am@btinternet.com or 01508 528126

Many thanks and hope to see you there.

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.

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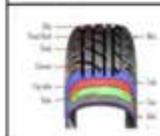
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