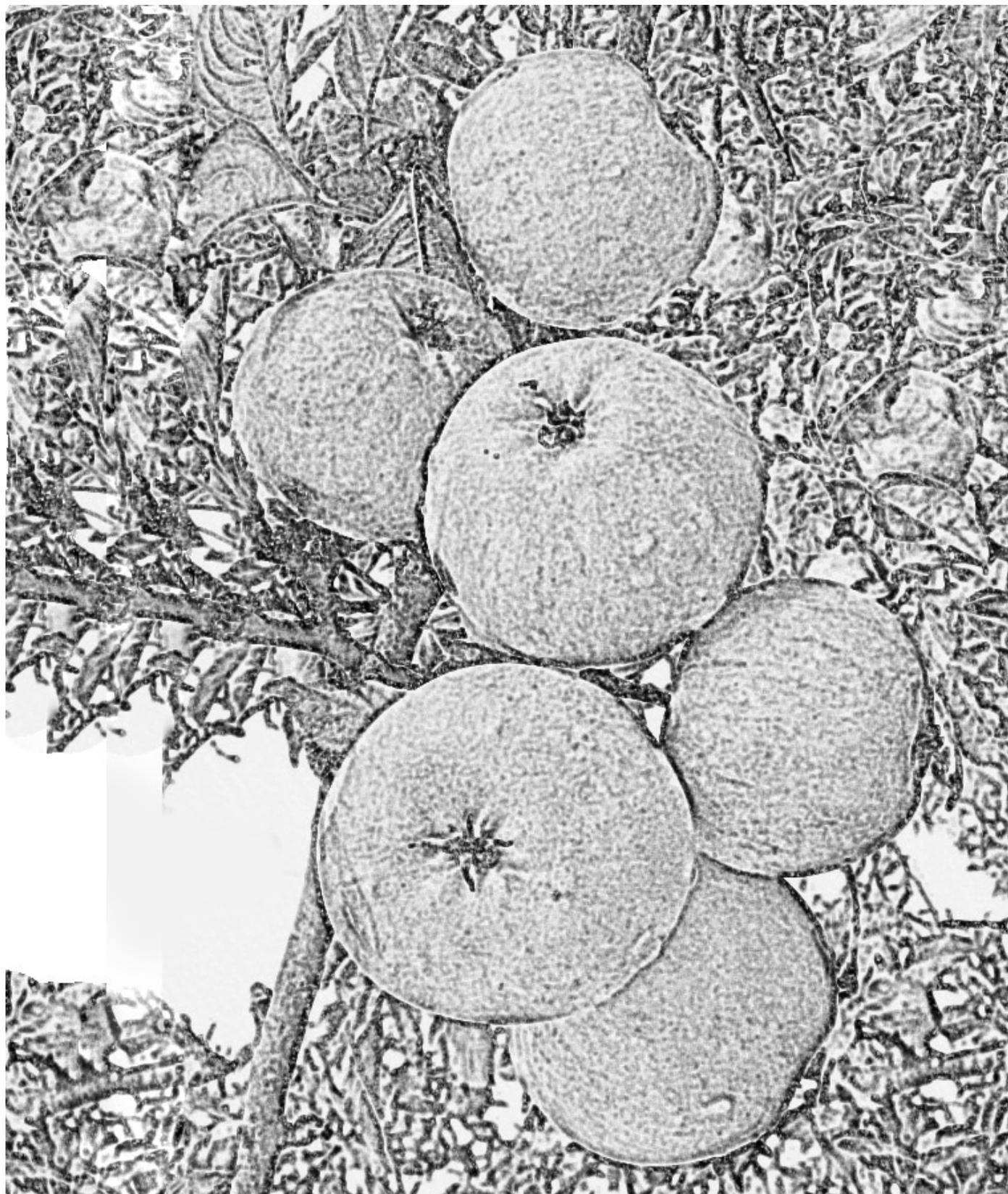


PARISH MAGAZINE

Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls

October 2015



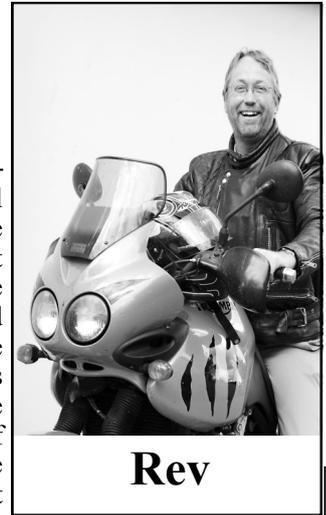
Rev'd Chris Norburn

Rector of Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls

The Rectory, Bury Road, Rickinghall, Diss. IP22 1HA Tel: 01379 898685

St Mary's Rickinghall Inferior has a web site

http://stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net/ or Google: St Mary's Rickinghall Inferior



We need to understand before we judge what we don't know. Maybe that is why Jesus says that the most radical way to love is without judgment. You see we can't judge until we understand, and we still don't understand it all yet! I believe that we will never understand it all until we are ready for the transition to the other side of time. It is then that we will see how everything makes sense, how we have been travelling with unseen wisdom and been offered mercy by the gallons from people who chose not to judge us.

What does this mean? That Jesus wants us to trust in His heavenly Father's supernatural divine forces because they are bigger than us. I don't always understand what is happening or what will unfold in my life, but a sign of a maturing in faith is how I have moved on from where I was twenty or thirty years ago. I still believe in the same God, in the same Jesus (His son, born of a virgin); the only difference is now I act more on my faith and less on my doubts.

This sort of love and faith leads us to freedom. It takes the pressure off us feeling that we have to know all the answers of how we are to respond to this and that situation in our life, or to the tragic and disturbing situations we find in the world today. (i.e. the untold number of wars, the magnitude of the current migration of people from many of those war torn countries.)

Understanding comes from learning about what is around us. Remember Jesus in the boat whilst it was being tossed about like a cork as the disciples battled with the storm? Remember how fearful the disciples were? In stark contrast Jesus was calm, he understood what was going on around him and he knew he had the power and the authority to overcome the storm and so bring calm. Freedom then becomes a means of finding understanding in our circumstances because Jesus' hand is over our life.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, written around AD 58, he says in 5:1, "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." We catch glimpses of this truth every now and again, yet still we give away our freedom faster than just about anything else in our lives. Paul speaks of freedom as an inheritance that is one of our most valuable gifts, if we are willing to surrender to God's will and purposes for our life. We need to quit thinking of surrender as waving a white flag and giving up all hope. Surrendering to God's freedom is the very opposite! When we don't surrender to love, we lose our freedom as we fight with our fears, anxieties, judgments, and death itself. Surrendering to love

is saying "I will let the internal fight cease and not let those things undo me. I will let everything go so I can be free." To be sure, grief and death are formidable opponents that give us reasons to not be free and so to be fearful. Yet, the truth is that if we are in Jesus you and I are free. We are free from all that locks us as if in a prison. In Jesus we are free to be as bold as we want.

Freedom is the way we are bound to one another without anxiety, without fear of death, without worrying about judgment. Galatians 5:13-14-tells us, "For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'" We are free to move into the deepest truths of God, free to go beyond all borders that would enslave you, whatever those might be. You are not male or female in that freedom. You are not black or white in that freedom. You are not old, or young in that freedom. You are the embodiment of love, and no one can take that away: not fear, not sickness, not failure, and not death. Jesus wants us to learn from the past and each other so that we are free to live, free to live in faith where faith is not a feeling but a way that surrounds us.

It is a good and right thing to be a bit sad every now and then, but then we are to pour it away like tipping a mouldy drink down the sink. The way of God's love is found through Jesus. Such love enables us to see all as a gift and then let the experience go. What we are left with is fortitude and clarity of how we can be headed in the right direction with Jesus guiding the way.

With every blessing

From the Registers : St Mary's Church Redgrave

30th July : Funeral service and burial of Kenneth William Humphries died 10th July 2015 aged 92

4th August : Funeral service and burial of Kevin William Banham died 14th July 2015 aged 56

18th August : Funeral service and burial of Tanya Ruth Scott Pillow Waring died 21st July 2015 aged 72

See also entries on page 19

PARISH MAGAZINE—MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

We hope you had all had a relaxing summer break, and are back in the swing of things as we gear up for Autumn. You may have noticed that the August/September magazine had a colour front cover. We were trialling a new printer for the magazine, and we were really pleased with the quality of the print, and we hope that you felt the same. We have decided to enter a long-term partnership with Gipping Press so that you can enjoy occasional colour front covers, and improved print quality going forward.

This issue has two nominal themes—harvest and hallowe'en. We hope you enjoy it and have a great October. As always, please find below our contact details. Don't hesitate to get in contact with any questions, comments or suggested content for our next issue.

For all editorial content:	editor@rbrparishmag.com
For all commercial adverts:	adverts@rbrparishmag.com
To advertise events:	events@rbrparishmag.com

If you are unable to use email, you can call (01359) 253 492 . NB: Please leave a message if there is no answer.

Please note that **the copy dates for the forthcoming issues are as follows:**

For the November issue: 12 Oct (Mon)

For the Dec/Jan issue: 16 Nov (Mon)

For the Feb issue: 11 Jan (Mon)

We accept items for submission in any of the following formats: MS Word, e-mail, .jpg, .bmp, .pub, Basildon Bond, Back of an envelope. Notices from voluntary organisations within the Benefice are printed free of charge. We try to help similar organisations from outside the Benefice wishing to place a notice in our magazine; this is subject to space being available and we also make a small charge.

Best wishes, The Parish Magazine Volunteers



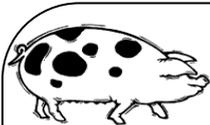
Thanks to Gipping Press for printing our Parish Magazine:

GIPPING PRESS AD

WELCOME

Welcome to new residents in our villages. If you have recently moved into one of our villages the churches wish you a warm welcome. If you would like someone from the church to visit you, or perhaps you would like your house blessed, then please do get in touch with the Rector on 01379 898685. May your life in these communities be peaceful, prosperous and a blessing to your neighbours.





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October Events

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Thursday 15th October
7.30 pm
Parkview Chapel

Spend time doing your favourite hobbies.
Refreshments will be available.

For more information contact Kev : Email :
Kevin@parkviewchapel.co.uk or phone 01379 898924.



RICKINGHALL COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

Saturday 31st October
At Rickinghall
Village Hall



8pm til 11:30pm
With Steve Key

BAR — RAFFLE — ROLLS
Ticket price £6:00

Everyone is most welcome
Come and enjoy an evening with us
Keith and Kathy Double 01379 898758

PROGRESSIVE WHIST DRIVE

TUESDAY October 20th

Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Beginners Welcome Refreshments
Ring 898 619 for further details



WHIST DRIVE

Friday 9th October
at 7.30 pm at The Bowls Club

Refreshments

This is a friendly fun evening, open to everyone.
Further information from 01379 898566.



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October Events

REDGRAVE & LOPHAM FEN T: 01379 688333

for further information.

Guided fen walk

Saturday - 3rd October
10.30am-1pm. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill. £3
Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Apple Day & Autumn Plant Sale

Sunday 18 Oct, 10.30am-3pm
Fruit identification, plants and tools for sale, recipe swap, family games, plus refreshments.
£3 adults, £2 children
01379 688333

October half term

Children's activity: Autumn antics

Tuesday 27 Oct, 10am-2pm
For unaccompanied 6-10 year olds
£6 per child, please book
01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Family activity: All about owls

Wednesday 28 Oct, 6.30pm—8.30pm
Dissect a pellet & go on a night walk
£2.50 per person, please book
01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Young naturalists

Thursday 29 Oct, 10am-2pm
Wildlife detecting & practical conservation work
£6 each, please book.
For 11-15 year olds
01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/reserves-and-visitor-centres/redgrave-lopham-fen/

Wildlife Watch Group

Saturday – 10 Oct 10.30am-12.30pm

A club for 6 – 12yr olds, £2

Contact : marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com
or call 01379 688333



RICKINGHALL FARMERS' MARKET



HALLOWEEN

HUNT

SATURDAY 10 OCT 9–12.30



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www.onesuffolk.co.uk/HeritageCircle

RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY

At 7.30 pm

28th October 2015

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New Members and Guests Welcome

Refreshments

Raffle

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Friday 23rd October

Hinderclay Village Hall

7.00 for 7.30 pm



Quizmasters: Mike Webb & John Kilgannon

Admission £8 : by ticket only

Tables of 6

Finger Buffet, Draw and Bar

Tickets from Treasurer on 01379 897180

Presented by Rickinghall Area Hospice Fundraisers, in aid of St Nicholas Hospice Care, Bury St Edmunds

Redgrave Garden Club

Annual General Meeting
Members Qs & As : Seed swap

Thursday 29th October

7:00pm

Enquiries/information: call Chris Giddings on 01379 890548
www.redgrave.org.uk/redgrave-garden-club

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Thursdays @ 6pm Rickingham village hall
Fridays @ 10am Palgrave village hall

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(CRB checked. References
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October Events

the WI
RICKINGHALL

The Women's Institute

Thursday 8th October

7:30pm at Rickinghall Village Hall

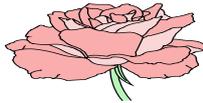
Joyce Kimber : Codes ,Cypher and Enigma

Trading Stall : Ornaments

New members and guests always welcome

Redgrave Ladies Club

**HELP! I NEED A
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An entertaining talk by Linda Scoles

TUESDAY 13th October

7:30pm at

Redgrave Activities Centre

Contact Kay 897324 or Jacqui 890946

Following upon the last most successful

SANKEY EVENING

another will be held on

SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

at 7pm at the

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I try to answer all messages within 48 hours; if I don't, contact me again. Sometimes messages don't get through, and we both need to be sure that the orders are entered onto the list.

David Sloan.

NOTICE of APPLICATION for ROAD CLOSURE

Acting for the RBR Parish Councils, I have made application to Suffolk County Council (SCC) to close The Street in Botesdale and Rickinghall during the Remembrance Sunday Parade and ceremony on **8th November 2015**.

If approved, the closure required by SCC will be from Hinderclay Road junction in Rickinghall to the Mill Road junction in Botesdale. The timings are from 1445 to 1515 and 1545 to 1630 approximately

John Canning 01379 898352

Note : The actual piece of road affected is only that from the Old Post office to Mill Road. Those manning the diversion signs are usually very sympathetic to the needs of residents outside this stretch. If the planned closure will cause any person a problem, would they please contact John Canning.



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magazine to
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Jokes #1

Q. Why do demons and ghouls hang out together?

A. Because demons are a ghouls best friend!



Q. Why didn't the skeleton dance at the party?

A. He had no body to dance with.

Q. Why did Dracula take cold medicine?

A. To stop his coffin.



Q. What is a witch's favorite subject in school?

A. Spelling

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Breakfast Club	£5.15 per session
After School Club	
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm	£3.50 per hour
3.30 pm - 5.30 pm	£7.00 for 2 hours
3.30 pm - 6.00 pm	£8.25 for the session

For further information please contact Paula or Bridget on
07952 961285 or 07758 102043

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A baby and toddler group for parents and pre-school children



Rickingham Village Hall
Every Thursday
9.30 to 11.30 am

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Botesdale Parish Council

Leeann-Jackson-Eve



September Report

Three councillors were present along with 1 member of the public, County Councillor Jessica Fleming, District Councillor Derek Osborne and Peter Beck, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. The PC accepted apologies from Mike Bishop, who is still in Djibouti, and Ernie Baxter. There are still four vacancies on the Council.

Public Forum: Jessica Fleming reported that the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill passed through the House of Lords in July and will come before the Commons in the autumn setting out the government's devolution proposals. The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders' Group (SPSLG), representing the combined local authorities has prepared a statement of interest. This process is at an early stage and will take a lot of refinement following input from other stakeholders, parishes, and the public. It is likely that parish council involvement will require having a Neighbourhood Plan. She also reported that "Grants for the Rural Economy" are now available. They reflect the priorities of each local area and may include: Business development, Business start-up, Renewable energy, Tourism Infrastructure, Food Processing. More information on the requirements can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/growth-programme-grants-for-the-rural-economy>

Derek Osborne reported that the head of Planning at MSDC had suggested a meeting to discuss Housing in Botesdale, Redgrave and Rickinghall. It was agreed that a joint meeting would be most helpful. Peter Beck reported that telephone scams are still a problem and that the bike marking event at the Farmers' Market had gone well.

Planning: There was one planning item for a Barn at Lodge Farm, The Common for Prior Approval of Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to Dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), and for associated operational development. This is a new type of application in which the change of use from an agricultural building and land in its curtilage to residential is permitted if the site has been used for agricultural purposes (on 20 March 2013) or if it's redundant/vacant, it has last been used as agriculture; the floor space of the unit does not exceed 450sqm; there are no more than 3 dwellings developed on the site by this Class; the change of use does not enlarge the building at any external dimension; the development does not result in the building(s) having a floor area greater than 450sqm (e.g. through the provision of first floor); and the site is not within a Conservation Area nor is the building Listed. The PC noted that the Barn at Lodge Farm met the criteria and there was no objection to the application.

Gambling and Licensing Local Policies: The PC noted that changes were being made to both policies and more details can be found online at the Mid Suffolk website. Please be aware that gambling laws apply to raffles and lotteries and you should check the requirements.

Bowls Club: The PC received a request from the Bowls Club for funding to improve the facilities. It was agreed to give the Club a grant of £50.

Walks Leaflets: It was agreed that it would be useful to form a working party to collect the information needed for the redesign of Botesdale and Rickinghall walks leaflets. There are currently two leaflets which you can see online at <http://botesdale.onesuffolk.net/our-village/village-walks/>.

These will be fleshed out with additional information about local sites of interest and photographs of the village/countryside. It is hoped to have everything ready for Suffolk County Council, who will be converting the leaflets to their standard design, by spring. However this does not leave a lot of time for taking photographs in good weather so we will be looking for attractive photographs taken along the walks. **If you would like to join the working party or can help with photographs, please contact the Clerk.**

Footpaths: There have been complaints about the state of our footpaths, particularly side growth, which is the responsibility of landowners. Although only the surface growth is the responsibility of the County Council, it has agreed to do a one-off clearance of side growth this autumn/winter.

Christmas Events: The PC has to order a tree well in advance so Christmas was already on the agenda! The Market Place Christmas tree Lights On Ceremony will take place on Saturday, 5 December at 6.15pm so please put it in your diaries! The tree will arrive in the Market Place on 27 November.

THE NEXT BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE ON

**MONDAY 12th OCTOBER at 7.30 pm
at Botesdale Village Hall**

**All residents welcome
www.botesdale.suffolk.gov.uk**

**Your Clerk is: Mrs Leeann Jackson-Eve,
Wayside Cottage, Cherry Tree Lane,
Botesdale, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 1DL.**

Tel : 01379 890 141

Email : botesdale_pc@btopenworld.com

Please contact her during OFFICE HOURS ONLY.

Joke #2

Q: How do you make a witch itch?
A: *Take away her w!*

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Redgrave Parish Council



Leeann Jackson-Eve

September Report

The September meeting was attended by six councillors, five members of the public, County Councillor Jessica Fleming and the Clerk. The PC received apologies from John Giddings.

Public Forum: Jessica Fleming reported that the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill passed through the House of Lords in July and will come before the Commons in the autumn setting out the government's devolution proposals. In response to an open invitation from DCLG, the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders' Group (SPSLG), representing the 8 Councils, Governing Bodies and Police has prepared an expression of interest. This process is at an early stage and it will take time to develop the details and seek comments and input from other stakeholders, parishes, and the public. She also reported that "Grants for the Rural Economy" are now available. They reflect the priorities of each local area and may include: Business development, Business start-up, Renewable energy, Tourism Infrastructure, Food Processing. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/growth-programme-grants-for-the-rural-economy>

The Heritage Lottery Fund also has funding available for community projects to commemorate the Centenary of the First World War. Contact Robyn Llewellyn by email: robyng@hlf.org.uk or phone: 01223 224 876.

Planning: There was only one planning application at Hall Farm, Churchway for change of use of agricultural building to micro brewery, which was supported by the PC. It was noted that a percentage of the profits would be donated to the church to support its work with vulnerable people in the local community.

Speedwatch: The application to the County Council for a Vehicle Activated Sign is waiting for clarification on a number of small issues and the amount of funding to be received from the County Councillor's Locality and Highways budgets. It has been confirmed that additional insurance to cover the equipment would be £52.80 per annum and volunteers to

man the equipment will be covered under the PC's existing public liability insurance.

Daffodils: It was agreed that the Redgrave Garden Club will be given £160 for the purchase of enough bulbs for the Knoll and the village entrances, subject to confirming that the bulbs would be planted in clumps near the edges of the Knoll to allow for mowing. The PC thanked Councillor Neil Smith for clearing the area for planting at the village entrances.

PC Property: The PC agreed that the Clerk would have the town pit (Fen Street) and old school playing field (off Half Moon Lane) valued for rental purposes as they were currently unused. This will be advertised in this magazine in due course but if you are interested, please get in touch with the Clerk.

Bowls Club: The PC received a request from the Bowls Club for funding to improve the facilities. It was agreed that the Bowls Club was a valued asset to the local community and a grant of £50 was approved.

Affordable Housing: It was noted that new Government legislation in the works had brought plans for additional housing at Churchway to a halt while potential developers assess the impact on proposed schemes.

Gambling and Licensing Local Policies: The PC noted that changes were being made to both policies and more details can be found online at the Mid Suffolk website.

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Tel : 01379 890 141

Email : redgrave_pc@bopenworld.com

Please contact her during OFFICE HOURS ONLY.

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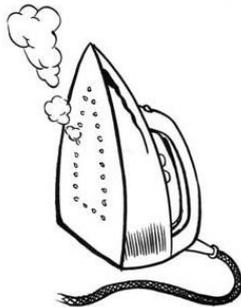
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Rickingham Parish Council



Cllr Rosemary Jones

Rickingham Parish Council, 3rd September, 2015

Four councillors attended this meeting and an apology had been received from Gillian Crossley Holland. Jessica Fleming, the County Councillor also attended, with three residents. One of these, Dominic Ebert, who had already attended some meetings, volunteered to join the Parish Council and was unanimously co-opted.

Cllr Lister declared an interest in the item about the Bowls Club and absented himself from the room when it was discussed.

The Public Forum

County Cllr Fleming reported that there were urgent discussions currently at County level regarding the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill, which would be the beginning of substantial changes for the future of local government. The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders Group had submitted outline proposals to restructure local government and the County Council would consider this in its Cabinet meeting on 15th September. Final proposals would go to Government by the end of September. This is part of Government's Localism policy.

There were also some new grants coming on stream from the Heritage Lottery Fund for community projects to commemorate the Centenary of the First World War. Contact Robyn Llewellyn by email: robyng@hlf.org.uk or phone: 01223 224 876.

Planning

There were no planning applications.

Report from the chairman: Cllr Short had been to a study day organised by Suffolk Association of Local Councils. From this there were a number of recommendations, notable ones being: that the website has to show Council accounts; that not only expenditure but also income should be recorded monthly on the agenda; that members of the public who attend Council meetings will be allowed to tweet, blog and film meetings and this will be declared at the beginning of each meeting; that Councils will be allowed to accept dispensations to participate when a councillor has an interest in a topic under discussion.

Report from the clerk: The current account had been moved to the Co-op Bank with no difficulty and four signatories would be allowed. The watercourse along Water Lane, under Bury Road and along past the church was still giving some cause for concern. Letters had gone out to all residents alongside it in Bury Road to remind them of

Your Clerk is :

Mrs Leeann Jackson-Eve
Wayside Cottage, Cherry Tree Lane
Botesdale, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 1DL

Tel : 01379 890 141

Email : rickinghall_pc@btopenworld.com

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their duty to keep the ditch clear, to prevent water from backing up.

Some notices regarding the Gambling Act and Licensing Act had been received and also the Affordable Housing Newsletter from Mid Suffolk DC and these were noted. A request for financial support from the Bowls Club elicited a grant of £50 and support for their receipt of Section 106 grant funds for projects to improve the facilities at the Club.

General items: The hedge in front of Jubilee House was discussed; it grows vigorously, narrowing the footway so much that a motorized scooter, or even pushchair, is forced off the path and into the road. The hedge belongs to the County Council but the frequency of cutting is not sufficient. A proposal will be made that it be cut by a local person, which would cost much less in both time and money.

It is proposed to revise the footpaths leaflet in a format similar to other village footpath leaflets. It is likely that people will be invited to work on this.

There had been complaints about the state of our footpaths, particularly side growth, which is the responsibility of landowners, rather than surface growth, which is the responsibility of the County Council. Most paths are mown twice a year by the County Council on schedules beginning in May and August but there is no schedule for clearing the side growth and in places this has become very overgrown. The CC has agreed to do a one-off clearance of side growth this winter and this will include Nan Hazle's Lane, which is completely blocked.

It was noted that the notice board at The Chestnuts needed new posts and the board in the churchyard was also showing wear and tear. A new notice board, to be located at Maypole Meadow, has been ordered and is due soon.

Accounts for Payment were agreed and the Audit Reports, having raised no problems, were noted.

The problem with the bottle bank is ongoing. Where it stands now, it attracts litter and is also less used than it was in the village hall car park. Unfortunately, no other suitable venue has been found for it. A person had been found to keep the small garden in front of Maypole Meadow tidy, pending the change of ownership.

The next meeting will be on 1st October 2015 at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m.

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING IS ON

THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER
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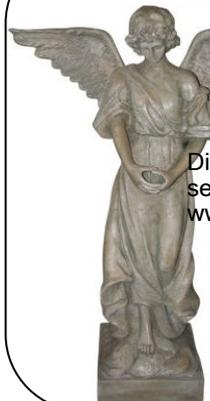
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Village News

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Public Safety Notice – Chinese Lanterns



During the evening of Saturday 22nd August 2015 a number of lit Chinese lanterns were seen floating through Redgrave village. If you lit and released these lanterns, or if you know who did, can you please read this notice.

Please be aware there are a number of thatched properties in Norfolk and Suffolk. If a lit Chinese lantern landed on a thatched roof, it would cause a devastating house fire, especially in the summer when the thatch is dry.

Chinese lanterns have been proven to have caused serious fires at recycling centres, to straw stacks and stubble fields as well as causing fatal injuries to cattle, horses and wildlife.

For further information on the dangers of lighting and releasing Chinese lanterns please go to the website of the Chief Fire Officers Association and the RSPCA:

<http://www.cfoa.org.uk/12050>

<http://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/litter/chineselanterns>

Many thanks. Mrs Brown, The Hollies, Redgrave.

Rickinghall Farmers Market



At the September Farmers Market held at Rickinghall Village Hall there was a free draw for a hamper full of Market goodies. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Crouch of Bury St Edmunds who were the lucky winners.

Our next Market is on Saturday 10 October when we will be having a Halloween Hunt so do come along and enjoy the fun. Many of our stall holders have even threatened to turn up in Halloween-themed outfits!..."

Thank you

THANK YOU

Syd and Jane Dorling send whole hearted thanks to the many people who helped to make our Diamond Wedding weekend celebrations such a memorable occasion. For the cards and flowers, for the love and laughter at the party in the village hall and Mrs Hubbard's excellent refreshments: for the beautiful flower arrangements at the service on Sunday morning when we renewed our vows and especially for the generous donations to the Friends of Botesdale Health Centre. These amounted to £355.00.

An Amazing Result!

I would like to thank the enthusiastic 'Jumblers' who supported my Jumble Sale held on Saturday 5 September at Rickinghall Village Hall. The sun shone and we had a wonderful turnout with the result that some £2,151 has been given to St Nicholas Hospice Care at Bury St Edmunds. I would also like to thank all the helpers on the day for their hard work, and those who gave items for sale, which resulted in such a magnificent sum being raised.

Carol Amps



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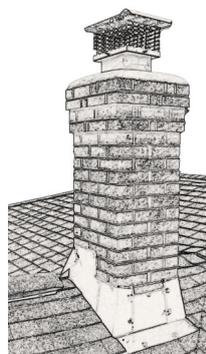
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Village News

Our man in Djibouti

Lt Col Mike Bishop, a Botesdale Parish Councillor, is currently serving a 9 month tour of duty with the Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. During his last deployment to Afghanistan in 2011, Mike shared some of his thoughts with family and friends. He has now kindly offered to share those reflections and his newer ones with us.

The Dark Continent

So... Africa. The Dark Continent. Mysterious. Oppressed. Enigmatic. Exploited. The name provokes mixed emotional reactions. For some the label is historically romantic; hinting at a vast, inscrutable and unexplored region (at least as far as Europeans were concerned!). For others, the phrase is viewed as offensive, with racial undertones demonstrating colonial prejudices and bias. So what's the truth?

Well. The one thing we can say with certainty is that it is not unexplored. Not anymore. Pretty much every last inch is available on a google image search. It's all very well for Dr Livingstone and Stanley to toddle off, but knowing what a continent looks like, sheds little light on our understanding of it. Literally. Google image search "World at night" and you will see what I mean. Africa is black – truly still a dark continent. Leaving the geographic perspective, but sticking with Google, the top 10 search terms for 2014 reveal what was occupying our minds: Robin Williams, World Cup, Ebola, Malaysia Airlines, ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, Flappy Bird, Conchita Wurst, ISIS, Frozen, Sochi Olympics. The list gives a depressing indicator of what our global technological society is interested in. The only Africa related search thread was the ebola disease. Staying with the font of all global knowledge that is Google, a final search of "news attention map" shows visually what countries are receiving media attention., with red being lots and blue being little. For those not at a computer, surprise! Africa is blue.

So. Africa is still the dark continent. Africa is dark infrastructurally. Africa is dark technologically. What's worse, is that, according to google at least, no-one cares. But it's not about performance, it's about potential. I see a different Africa. I see a continent three times the size of the United States undergoing a seismic shift in population (over one billion in 2013, up from 220 million in 1950). By the end of this century 40% of all humans and over 50% of all children will be African. 1.8 billion babies will be born in Africa in the next 35 years. I see a continent with erratic power provision yet infested with cell phones; I get a better signal in Kenya than I do in Suffolk. This population explosion of young Africans gaining access to technology and connecting to the world at a greater pace than ever before offers the possibility of a massive demographic dividend. The population boom could transform the continent, breaking centuries-old cycles of poverty and inequality. But the opposite is also possible, the sheer burden of population expansion has the potential to undermine attempts to eradicate poverty through economic growth, and worse, could result in rising poverty and marginalization of many more.

I see an Africa on the verge of an information revolution. A revolution that could, potentially sweep away years of internal corruption and external condescension. Yes I see horrific poverty. It's apparent in the face of the children who knock on our vehicle windows whenever we stop, desperate for food or water. But I also see real people who deserve to be recognized as more than just the hand-out junkies that their governments and politicians make them look like - or force them to be. I see an exponentially increasing population of young people who need a voice. I see the rapid expansion of technology that gives them that voice. The situation is careering forwards so quickly no one can get ahead of this curve, not the west and certainly not African governments. Add in a desperate, heart-rending need for change and you have a situation that has the potential to be either catastrophic or the exact opposite. That's the truth.

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JOB SPOT

Botesdale Village Hall Management Committee
Charity No 1033068



Applications are being sought for the post of cleaner at Botesdale Village Hall. The work includes two hours work on Thursday evenings and two hours at a flexible time at weekends. The applicant will need to be self employed and

would take a total of a month's holiday out of term time at his/her convenience.

The rate of pay is £9.50 per hour.

The closing date for applications is 11th October 2015.

Further information and written applications to Mr William Sargeant, Chairman, The Entry, Botesdale, IP22 1DD. Tel : 01379 890 138. Email : sargeantwill@aol.com

From the Registers :

St Mary's Church Rickingham Inferior

10th August : Interment of ashes of Brian Bailey Powell, died 4th May 2006 aged 74

21st August : Interment of ashes of Audrey Heather Gosling, died 13th June 2013 aged 71

28th August : Funeral service and burial of Richard Derek Haywood Harvey died 27th July 2015 aged 60

From the Registers : Weddings

25th July : Marriage of Christina Waters and Carl Whincop at St Mary's Church, Rickingham Inferior

12th September : Marriage of Sam Roubicek and Kayla Kluver at St Mary's Church, Redgrave

19th September : Marriage of Kara Bailey and Ryan Sykes at St Mary's Church, Rickingham Inferior

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Village Green



Club News



HERITAGE CIRCLE

Dave Steward, Master Mason Hawes of Occold

Dave Steward gave a meticulously researched talk about Master Mason Hawes of Occold to the July meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickinghall Village

Hall. Hawes is a shadowy figure as there is uncertainty about his first name, no images exist of him, and it is unclear whether he had any children or other family. However, he was a very skilled stone mason who had a considerable impact on a number of churches in Suffolk and South Norfolk.

Over his career which extended from about 1410 to 1440, Hawes developed characteristic features in the design of stonework on Suffolk churches. The possibly the summit of his work was at St Andrew's Church, Wingfield. The church was built in the 14th Century by Sir John de Wingfield. On his death, an endowment supported nine priests to pray for the souls of Sir John and his family. The church was extended in the early 15th Century and the accounts of the building work name Master Hawes as the stone mason. The church still has characteristic features of his work.

The nave was raised up and clerestory windows were added to let more light into the church. Similarly, the other larger windows in the church have common traits used by Hawes. There are ornate cross braces and mini arches unique to him. The columns in the church also bear the distinctive design employed by Hawes. There are carved shields which appear to have a ribbon which is pinned to the column. The same is true of the font in the church as there are carving of lions and angels with interlocking wings around the sides of the bowl. In addition, the front porch is typical of the style employed by Hawes. The arch around the entrance has been squared off and there is a decoration of flowers and crowns to embellish the doorway. All of the work demonstrates the skill and grace of Hawes as a stone mason. The accounts for this building work at St Andrew's Church state that stone had to be brought from Lincolnshire and Burwell as the flint rubble available locally could only be used for the walls. The total rebuilding, including the fees for Hawes, was £75.7s.4d!

It is possible to see the characteristic work of Hawes in a number of other churches in Suffolk, especially in the area around his home village of Occold which is near to Eye. St Mary's Church at Burgate has a tower dating from the 14th Century but further work has been undertaken on the building periodically but some areas show evidence of the work of Hawes. There are carvings inside the church of coats of arms which appear to be pinned from a ribbon, the font has been damaged but it is possible to discern angel designs from the workshop of Hawes, and there are three small cross braces in the main windows. At St Peter's Church, Palgrave, the doorway displays signs of the work of Hawes. It has elaborate decoration and the arch has been squared off. Within this space of the squaring, there is an image of St George to the left of the door and a dragon to the right.

Dave Steward gave his audience an authoritative account of the design of a number of churches and highlighted the continuing testament to the considerable skill of the work of Master Mason Hawes.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 28 October at The Village Hall, Rickinghall IP221HD

when Sue and Steve Williams will be speaking about Stowmarket's Gun Cotton Factory Explosion of 1871. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available on its website, www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net. There is also a report of the recent visit to STANTA.

Gerry Gurhy

Coffee On



The Corner

As I am writing this, we are in the promised week long Indian Summer which I think happened on Sunday last - today is grey and rather dismal, but not so our visitors this morning! As usual they came along chatted, munched and (I hope!) had a most enjoyable hour or so. There were less of them than usual and I know that some folks are struggling with health problems and we really wish all those people well. I do hope that you will all return fit and healthy next month! We did however have at least one new face - it was lovely to welcome Ann and I trust we will see her again next month!

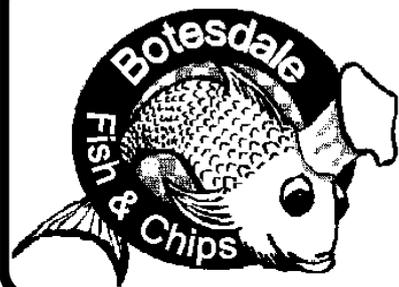
This morning we were supporting the charity Samaritan's Purse - or rather aiming to make a financial contribution towards the costs they incur in sending out the gifts as part of their Shoebox Appeal. Whilst Christmas is still a long way off (phew!), they have to be organised well ahead of that time in order to get the boxes supplied, packed and sent on their way, usually by mid November at the latest. We are really hoping that a couple of the ladies who help to pack the boxes at the distribution centre will come next month and tell us a few facts and figures about the organisation - so do come along to find out more. If you can contribute anything for inclusion in the boxes in the form of small toys (new please), small items of clothing - hats gloves etc, toiletries - toothbrushes, hair brushes and so, we can ensure that they find a lovely new owner in December. The kind donations made this morning totalled over £66.00, which will pay for at least 22 boxes and send them on their way to some really deserving children. As always an enormous THANK YOU!

Last month we supported the work of Suffolk Family Carers, as some of their recipients are struggling financially - more cuts that have affected those who can least afford it (that is the extent of my political comment here!). Once again, you made generous donations to the tune of £100 which will have been sent on to the charity by our lovely Treasurer at Parkview.

Who will we be helping out next month? Well, I have just received some information from a very good friend in New Zealand following a Facebook post she had made. This concerned the refugee crisis in Hungary where some personal friends of hers had been on the streets handing out food and supplies to many of the Syrians passing through their country. I shall follow this up and we will either support this charity or something similar. You may or may not agree with what David Cameron is proposing regarding these refugees and whether they are allowed to settle here, but whatever your feelings there is a huge need out there with all these people in transit. Do come along and find out how you and I can help. Looking forward to seeing you all next month on Tuesday 13th October - start time 9am (ish!) as usual.

If you feel you would like to know more about the coffee shop or any of the happenings at Parkview, please call me on 01379 890423.

Sue Allen



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THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY 11.30 am - 1.30 pm 4.15 - 10.00 pm
SUNDAY 4.15 - 8.00 pm

Thursday	1 st	9:00am 9:30am 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Church cleaning Rabbats Fitsteps Kuk Sool Won (Juniors 6:00pm) (Adults 7:00pm) Rickinghall Parish Council	Redgrave St Mary's Rickinghall Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall St Botolph's school Rickinghall Village Hall
Friday	2 nd	10:00am 1-2 pm 8:00pm	Positive Steps Beginners Tai Chi Dance Classes	Rickinghall Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall
Saturday	3 rd	10:00am 10:00am	Guided walk Churches Open St Mary's : Redgrave & Rickinghall	Redgrave Lopham Fen Redgrave / Rickinghall Inferior
Monday	5 th	10:00am 2:00pm 7:30pm	Zumba Needle craft Slimming World	Rickinghall Village Hall Activities Centre Rickinghall Village Hall
Tuesday	6 th	10:00am 6:00pm 7:15pm 7:30pm	Open House Zumba Yoga and relaxation Julie's Aerobics	All Saint's Redgrave Rickinghall Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall
Wednesday	7 th	9:30am 10:00am	Redgrave Art Club Day Centre	Activities Centre Rickinghall Village Hall
Thursday	8 th	9:30am 12:30pm 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Rabbats Phoenix Luncheon club Fitsteps Kuk Sool Won (Juniors 6:00pm) (Adults 7:00pm) Women's Institute	Rickinghall Village Hall Activities Centre Rickinghall Village Hall St Botolph's school Rickinghall Village Hall
Friday	9 th	10:00am 1-2pm 7:30pm 8:00pm	Positive Steps Beginners Tai Chi Whist Drive Dance Classes	Rickinghall Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall Bowls club Botesdale Village Hall
Saturday	10 th	9:00am 10:00am 7:00pm	Farmers' market Art Exhibition Sankey Evening	Rickinghall Village Hall Hepworth Pavilion Methodist Church, Botesdale
Sunday	11 th	10:00am 7:30pm	Art Exhibition DAVID : Gala film show	Hepworth Pavilion Palgrave Community Centre
Monday	12 th	9:15am 10:00am 2:00pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	Rickinghall Ramblers Zumba Needle craft Slimming World Botesdale Parish Council	Rickinghall Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall Activities Centre Rickinghall Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall
Tuesday	13 th	9:00am 6:00pm 7:15pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	Coffee on the corner Zumba Yoga and relaxation Julie's Aerobics Redgrave & District Ladies club	Park View Chapel Rickinghall Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall Activities Centre
Wednesday	14 th	9:30am 10:00am 7:30pm	Redgrave Art Club Day Centre Redgrave Parish Council	Activities Centre Rickinghall Village Hall Activities Centre
Thursday	15 th	9:30am 6:00pm	Rabbats Fitsteps	Rickinghall Village Hall Rickinghall Village Hall

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Thursday	15 th	6:00pm 7:30pm	Kuk Sool Won (Juniors 6:00pm) (Adults 7:00pm) Crafty Corner	St Botolph's school Parkview chapel
Friday	16 th	10:00am 1-2pm 8:00pm	Positive Steps Beginners Tai Chi Dance Classes	Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall
Saturday	17 th	10:00am	Church open	Rickingham Inferior
Sunday	18 th	10:30am	Apple day and plant sale	Redgrave and Lopham Fen
Monday	19 th	10:00am 2:00pm 7:30pm	Zumba Needle craft Slimming World	Rickingham Village Hall Activities Centre Rickingham Village Hall
Tuesday	20 th	6:00pm 7:15pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	Zumba Yoga and relaxation Julie's Aerobics Progressive Whist Drive	Rickingham Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall Activities Centre
Wednesday	21 st	9:30am 10:00am 7:30pm	Mobile Library Redgrave Art Club Day Centre Methodist Wives club	Activities Centre Rickingham Village Hall Methodist Church
Thursday	22 nd	9:30am 6:00pm 6:00pm	Rabbats Fitsteps Kuk Sool Won (Juniors 6:00pm) (Adults 7:00pm)	Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall St Botolph's school
Friday	23 rd	9:15am 10:00am 1-2pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Rickingham Ramblers Positive Steps Beginners Tai Chi RAHOF annual Quiz night Dance Classes	Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall Hinderclay Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall
Monday	26 th	10:00am 2:00pm 2:00pm 7:30pm	SCHOOL HALF TERM BEGINS Zumba Needle craft RBL Women's section Slimming World	Rickingham Village Hall Activities Centre Farnish House Rickingham Village Hall
Tuesday	27 th	10:00am 12 noon 6:00pm 7:30pm	Children's Activity Luncheon Club 898615/619 Zumba Julie's Aerobics	Redgrave and Lopham Fen Activities Centre Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall
Wednesday	28 th	9:30am 10:00am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Redgrave Art Club Day Centre Family Activity: All about Owls Heritage Circle	Activities Centre Rickingham Village Hall Redgrave and Lopham Fen Rickingham Village Hall
Thursday	29 th	9:30am 10:30am 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Rabbats Young Naturalists Fitsteps Kuk Sool Won (Juniors 6:00pm) (Adults 7:00pm) Redgrave Garden club AGM	Rickingham Village Hall Redgrave and Lopham Fen Rickingham Village Hall St Botolph's school Activities Centre
Friday	30 th	10:00am 1-2pm 8:00pm	Positive Steps Beginners Tai Chi Dance Classes	Rickingham Village Hall Rickingham Village Hall Botesdale Village Hall
Saturday	31 st	8:00pm	Rickingham Country music club	Rickingham Village Hall

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Club News

BARWOODS

This has been a year of late seasons. The mowing of Low Meadow was postponed until September. There are a lot of wildflowers there, which is good, but also bindweed is threatening to pull down the smaller hedging plants.



Wildflowers are flourishing in Northfield Wood. The trees are growing well and we have been taking the guards off some of them, as ants like to use them for nest making, which does nothing for the tree trunks! The problem is how to guard them from muntjac and other animals.

There is always work to be done and volunteers are welcome to join us. The work parties are on the first Sunday of the month, from 10.00 till 12.00. Our meetings are normally at The Bell on the third Monday of the month.

Rosemary Jones
01379 890238

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Botesdale and District Royal British Legion Women's Section

Eleven members attended the 2 August meeting of the RBLWS which included an afternoon tea. Necessary business matters were discussed and dealt with.



Dates to note include:-
Group Meeting at Eye on 2nd October
Branch AGM on Monday 26th October at 2.00 at Farnish House.

Margaret Brown.

Joke #3

Two police officers responding to a domestic disturbance with shots fired arrive on scene.

After discovering the wife had shot her husband for walking across her freshly mopped floor, they call their sergeant on his mobile phone.

"Hello Sarge."

"Yes?"

"It looks like we have a homicide here."

"What happened?"

"A woman has shot her husband for stepping on the floor she had just mopped."

"Have you placed her under arrest?"

"No sir. The floor is still wet."

Submitted by RH

Sudoku

	1	3		9				4
	7		3		4			1
2						9		
	6			4				7
7				5				2
5				1			6	
	5							9
1			9		5		4	
6				8		7	5	

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1-9, without repeating any.

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Exploring the Past

Jean Sheehan, 01379 890237

Parish Magazine – October 2015

WI Centenary

In September the National Federation of Womens' Institutes celebrated its centenary. The very first WI was formed in Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada in 1897. The first one in Great Britain was started in Llanfairpwll, Anglesey, North Wales on 16th September 1915. West Suffolk had 17 branches by 1918 but 25 were needed to form a federation. The target was reached by 1920 when it had twenty seven branches and West Suffolk Federation was formed. At this time the subscription for each member was two shillings, and Jerusalem was sung at the end of the meeting, not the beginning. The WI was established initially to educate rural women and to encourage countrywomen to get involved in growing and preserving food to help to increase the supply of food during the war. Our villages were slow to join the movement and in 1927 a branch for Rickinghall, Botesdale and Redgrave was formed.



In celebration of the Institute's Golden Jubilee, Redgrave W.I have presented two flowering trees to the village. One they planted outside the Methodist Chapel, with the consent of the Methodist Church, and the other one (as shown in this photograph) was placed outside the Mission Room with the consent of the P.C.C. Mrs J. Flatman, the president, is seen shovelling in the earth while Mrs Young makes certain the tree is straight and secure.

Rickinghall formed its own branch in 1944, which was probably when Redgrave and Botesdale did the same. The original principals applied in WWII, by which time the subscription had been increased to two shillings and six pence. The Ministry of Food gave sugar to WIs to make jam and they were also given equipment to can fruit. Audrey Simonds recalls in 'Villages in Wartime' taking fruit to be canned to Mrs Flowerdew in Rickinghall. The headmaster of Redgrave School mentioned in the log book in July 1940 that he was absent for half an hour to give a talk to the WI on incendiary bombs and the use of the stirrup pump. In May 1941 he mentioned that the school had received from Mrs Pettit (WI), packets of bean, carrot and onion seeds from New York, U.S.A. under the seeds for Britain scheme. Mrs Pettit was the wife of John Pettit who was second in command of the local Home Guard and owned the mill in Redgrave. Redgrave school had its own school garden and Rickinghall School had allotments where a house called Little Patches now stands in The Street.

When I first moved to Waveney Stores in 1966 I was invited to join Redgrave WI whose meetings were held in the Mission Room (now All Saints Church). One of my clearest memories of that time was a members meeting which we organised in 1970. These meetings were organised once a year by the ordinary members as a thank you to the committee for their work during the year. We invited Elizabeth Craig

as our speaker. Elizabeth was a well-known cookery author who lived at St. Catherine's in Botesdale. She was a flamboyant character, who started working for the Daily Express at the end of WWI. She was in her late 80s when she came to our meeting and by the time she was 90 she had written 30 cookery books. She was cookery editor of Woman's Journal for 30 years. After the meeting she sent a letter stating it was the most charming W.I. party she had ever been to. She said she ate seven sandwiches, a sausage roll, a wedge of sponge flan, and a great chunk of chocolate gateau. At this time the mission room kitchen consisted of a sink behind a curtain. Elizabeth edited 'Cookery Illustrated and Household Management' which my mother had when she married in 1938, and I still have. Another amusing memory I have is of the president saying at the end of a meeting that the next one would be about glove making. The elderly lady sitting next to me thought she said 'love making'! Each new member of the WI wrote their signature on a tablecloth which was then embroidered and this cloth was used on the table for meetings. Redgrave and Rickinghall's cloths have both disappeared over time.

The name West Suffolk Federation was changed to Suffolk West in 1974. In Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee year, 1977, WIs made maps depicting their villages and the Rickinghall Map is in the vestry of Rickinghall Inferior church.

In 1982 Churchyard Surveys were carried out by many WIs. Fortunately Rickinghall surveyed Rickinghall Inferior Churchyard which was very useful when a survey was carried out again in 2009 as many of the original transcriptions were illegible by this time and fortunately the WI had kept their notes.

Rickinghall village sign was presented by Rickinghall WI in August 1985 and erected in Rickinghall Inferior Churchyard the same weekend as the car rally and flower festival in the church. The sign took two years of planning mainly instigated by Elsie Saunders and Mary Hall. Amongst other things buried in a time capsule beneath the sign were WI records.

Gwen Smith, a member of Rickinghall WI, became chairman of West Suffolk Federation of WIs in 1995 and was on the executive committee for many years. Each chairman stands for three years. Before this Gwen had been involved in West Suffolk's drama group and when they presented Agatha Christie's 'Murder at the Vicarage' at the Theatre Royal in Bury St. Edmunds my husband played the part of the vicar.

Redgrave WI disbanded in 1990 and after this Redgrave and District Ladies Club was formed and is still going strong. Botesdale WI disbanded in 1994 and was replaced by Botesdale Ladies Wednesday Club, which is no longer in existence. Botesdale WI held their meetings at Osmond House, the home of Margaret Gowen. The Wives Club has also been in existence for over fifty years and holds meetings in Botesdale Methodist Chapel. Rickinghall WI is still in existence and has a healthy membership.

Every year a national conference is held and members of local WIs vote for resolutions to be passed and many important changes have been made on various issues to benefit the country as a whole. The WI is no longer just 'Jam and Jerusalem' but has embraced the modern age. Suffolk West Federation celebrated their 95 years in Bury Cathedral on September 12th 2015 with a very inspiring service although the WI is not a religious organisation.

Acknowledgements to Gwen Smith and Lesley Greenhough for some of this information.

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Reading Rooms and The Botesdale Book Club

In the mid-19th century reading rooms began to appear in villages and towns throughout the country, for people to attend as a quiet place to read newspapers, books and play games, such as bagatelle and draughts. It has been suggested that reading rooms were imposed upon the working classes by the upper classes, mainly the church and local landowners, so they could provide a place for working men to socialise without the temptations of the local inn.

There were reading rooms set up in all three of our villages possibly as early as the 1860s. In Redgrave the room was situated at Glebe Cottage and in Rickinghall it was 'next to Golden Lion', so was probably in Jessamine House. After 1889 the Botesdale Reading Room was reported to be in the Chapel House. There was even one in the Parish Room at Alwood Green which in 1892 was 'improved by the addition of a bookcase and several books'.



Glebe Cottage, where the reading room was situated.

The minutes of the meetings of the Botesdale Reading Room committee from 1884 to 1892 have survived. In 1884 the rules were listed, some of which were -

'That this Room be called The Botesdale Reading Room, but that it be not confined to Residents in Botesdale.

That the room be open from 9a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Winter, and from 8a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Summer on weekdays, and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. but that it shall be closed from 2.30 to 3.30 and from 6.30 to 7.30 the hours of Divine Service.

That smoking be allowed after 6 o'clock.

That no games be played for money.

That no intoxicating liquor be brought into the Room, that no profane or obscene language be allowed, & that no person be admitted in a state of intoxication.

That the subscription for Members be 2s 6d & 1s a quarter, the shilling Members not having the use of the Room till 4 o'clock. That the subscription be paid in advance.

That no paper be retained for more than 10 minutes after it has been bespoken.

That no person be admitted as a Member under 16 years.'

No member was allowed more than one book at a time. If a book was kept for more than one week a 1d fine was charged.

Books, games and newspapers were provided in all these reading rooms. Coal was bought for the fires and gas to light the rooms. The newspapers

that were available in Botesdale were; The Times, East Anglian, The Penny Illustrated and Diss Express. Several people gave or lent newspapers such as The Bury Post, The Ipswich Journal, Exchange and Mart, Sportsman, Punch and The Illustrated. However Punch, The Penny Illustrated, Exchange & Mart and The Sportsman were removed on a Saturday night as they were not considered appropriate reading for a Sunday. (1)

Concerts were often held to help to raise money for these rooms, which at times were very low in funds. In January 1889 the Hartismere Deanery Magazine reported that the Botesdale Committee was 'hampered with a rather large debt of £6' so it had been decided to hold a concert at the Bell Hotel to try to pay this off. In January 1892 it was reported that at an entertainment held at the Bell the Redgrave committee raised enough money to pay for a new Bagatelle Board.

Contests were held in such things as composition and letter writing, as well as in games such as bagatelle and draughts, with prizes for the winners. Bagatelle matches were frequently held between the three reading rooms.

In 1882 it was proposed that the Redgrave room should be opened for women between 1p.m and 4 p.m. and in 1884 the Botesdale committee proposed 'that ladies be admitted, having the use of the Room from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on week-days, and from 1p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. (1)

At the other end of the social scale, a book club, called The Botesdale Book Society, was formed in Botesdale in 1748. It met at the Crown Inn every month on the Tuesday after the full moon. The subscription was 5/-. The members were made up of the gentry of the area. It appears to have been rather elitist and only for men as no one was to be admitted a member 'who had not been a member of one of the Universities'.

Many kinds of books were available to borrow. In the 1790s the society received a protest from the head-quarters of the Association to which it belonged for including among its list of books 'The Rights of Man' because it was 'a notorious production of Tom Paine, the son of a Quaker staymaker of Thetford.'

It appears to have been as much a drinking or dining club as a book club. A poem from this time described it -

'Now all you who fond of reading
Tales of wonder, tales of woe,
And your precious time unheeding,
To the Botesdale Book Club go.
Once a month confined to drinking
Mister Cobbold's wine and beer,
Which to sober people's thinking
With your health may interfere.'

Members of the Palgrave club reported that they 'caroused over our bowls till nights candles were burnt out' it sounds very much as if the Botesdale club did the same. The Botesdale club finally ceased to operate in 1813. (2)

(1) *Minutes of Botesdale Reading Room 1884 to 1892 scanned & transcribed by Charles Greenhough* (2) *The Betts of Wortham in Suffolk 1480-1905 by Katherine Frances Doughty 1912.*

Also see 'A Rural Education The History of Schooling in Botesdale, Redgrave and Rickinghall' by Sarah Doig Quatrefoil Number 11

Correction from the May Article in which I wrote that the Misses Warrens' school finished in the 1960s. In fact it closed in the 1950s. Many thanks to Margaret Brown for this information.

Send us your Jokes:

We're always on the look out for funny jokes, especially those that readers have found funny. Please send your funniest jokes to editor@rbrparishmag.com by 12 October. We'll publish as many as we can, with credit given to named contributors (or not if you prefer!). Many thanks!



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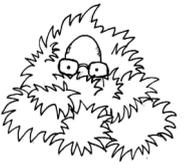


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As some of you know I designed radar systems in a previous life and still play about with electronics and radio. You won't believe this but I was doing some tests on a transmitter/receiver operating on the 24 GHz amateur band while pointing the aerial somewhat up into the sky to avoid any noise from the earth when I heard a voice saying, "Can you hear me?" It was clearly synthesized, sounding like a female version of Stephen Hawking.

I replied, "Receiving you weak but clearly."

The voice came back after a two or three second delay, "We want to know if we would be welcome on earth. We have questions."

Puzzled I asked, "Where are you?"

"On the other side of your moon. We do not want to reveal our presence until we know that we would be welcome. You answer questions? Yes."

This had to be a hoax but at 24GHz and pointing up in the air, it seemed about as unlikely as me speaking to a man on the moon besides which the signal strength and delay were about right. It had to be a very elaborate hoax besides which there are few people operating on this frequency. I decided to play along and see what came of it. "I'll try and answer your questions," I replied.

"We see fighting everywhere. Why do people kill each other?"

How would you have answered? I said, "Because they are greedy and selfish and want what others have such as their land or they want to force their way of thinking on others."

"It seems strange to us. What is this word you have 'bortion'? What is a bortion?"

"The word is abortion. The 'a' is part of the word not the indefinite article. An abortion is when we kill a baby before it is born."

"Why do you kill babies especially before they are born?"

"Mainly because their mother's don't want them."

"Why would someone have a baby they don't want?"

"Because sex is very compulsive and they don't think of the consequences."

"What is sex?"

It was getting even trickier. "Sex is when the male of the species plants his seed in the female and it fertilises her egg. That produces a baby."

"Do people do this a lot?"

"Yes, they do it all the time. Nature has made this process very pleasant and extremely compulsive such that people need to do it all the time."

"In our observations of your society we have come across the word euthanasia. What is that?"

"It's putting someone to death painlessly in order to alleviate suffering."

"When would you do that?"

"It may be when someone is going to die anyway. Some people might ask for it because they can't see any use for going on living."

"Have we got this right? You have a sex crazed world where people kill babies before they are born because they don't want them and where they are old or very ill may be killed off and where there is always fighting with many people killing each other."

I shuddered. Was I really going to tell our first contact with another world that that was what this world was like? I replied, "Reluctantly I have to agree that these things do go on in this world."

"When God sent his son to your world what happened? Didn't you listen to him?"

"No, we crucified him."

There was a long pause before the voice came back saying, "We do not think we should come to your world. We will look for another."

As predicted our Swifts left in the first week of August. One night they were 'screaming' their figure-of-eight races, the next day they had gone, though the day I thought they had gone I saw one creep under the eaves of our old surgery opposite. A late brood—you could almost hear the parent birds saying, "Come on, the others have gone already, eat up". We read about the British Trust for

Ornithology Cuckoos and their amazing flight to south of the Sahara, but the smaller Swifts are even more fantastic. They have been tracked with minute geo-locators attached, all the way to south of the Equator and as far as Mozambique. They then seem to congregate well above 'the Cape' and make a rapid return. One was tracked leaving Liberia on 5th May and being back at its breeding site in



Cambridge on 12th May. We know that Swifts travel great distances to feed their young (carrying their food in bulging cheek pouches), but this distance in a week is quite extraordinary. Incidentally, in South Africa they meet their colleagues who go to and fro from Beijing.

The BTO has been very helpful with their cuckoos sub-Equatorial winter quarters. We now know that the males may leave England at the end of June and have a couple of weeks in Belgium and France! Perhaps they have run out of females here and carry on mating across the channel on their journey south!

I have had two instances of high-pitched calls from young Sparrowhawks in their nests at the end of July. In one case an adult was seen chasing a Buzzard across the local resident's lawn. Like Peregrines the Sparrowhawks are brave raptors who will tackle any intruder showing interest in their young.

At home, our garden Robin is making its appearance and on 1st August, I heard a few hesitant notes of its winter song, already claiming its territory. You may well hear Blackbirds and Thrushes 'tuning up' now. Warblers may give occasional calls on their way south but perhaps they are Chiff Chaffs or Blackcaps who have found they can winter with us (from Northern Europe) and don't need to go further south for winter food (perhaps because of so many garden feeders).

On a field edge near the footpath leading to Broomhills, I surprised a covey of about one dozen young Partridges. A wonderful sight as they appeared and disappeared into the long grass and hedges. There was the mother looking up at me with wings ruffled up trying to distract my attention from her young. No colourful markings on head and neck. This must have been a covey of the rarer Grey Partridge.

Many of you may know the picnic field in Iken overlooking the Alde estuary and Iken church. There is a pleasant pathway from the field to the church. Along this path there is a copse of fir trees and from it came the call of a Stock Dove, unlike our Wood Pigeon. Then, suddenly, the cry of a Little Owl. What a treat, and, as an encore, there was a young grey bird on the pathway which made small feeding flights for insects—a Spotted Flycatcher. Even a short walk has its unexpected ornithological interest.

Finally, I made my annual visit to Rutland Water Bird Fair. Very crowded this year, even queuing to get into the overflow car park at 11 am on the first day. The latest binoculars, telescopes, bird holidays, magazines, digiscopes, artists—everything about birds.

What interested me most was the section entitled "Action for Swifts". All the information on Swift nesting boxes—old buildings are now being updated with no room for their nests. But, most exciting were the results of geo-locator readings from Africa. There is always something new at the fair.

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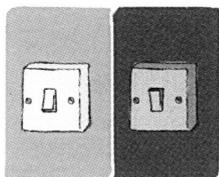
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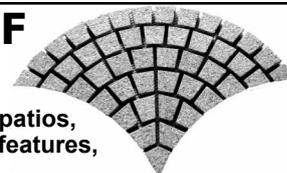


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Fruit – keep checking on ‘top fruit’, e.g. apples Dahlias, Geraniums and semi-hardy Fuchsias – bring these in for winter protection at the end of the month. Dahlias can be wrapped in dry newspaper, or dry sand. Pot up Geraniums and Fuchsias and prune them back. Keep them on the dry side during winter and protect from frost. Label them up so that you know what colours they are, for when you bring them out next year.

Fruit – Once leaves have dropped, hardwood cuttings can be taken for soft fruit such as Gooseberries, Redcurrants and Blackcurrants. This is one of the easiest methods of propagation and is a good way of replacing tired old fruit bushes for free. Also, it’s a good planting time for Strawberries, and ‘runners’ can be severed from the parent plant, carefully lifted and re-planted.

Lawns – Apply an autumn feed in slow releasing granular form, which will give your lawn good colour and will toughen it up to last through the winter. To avoid water logging, consider spiking and aerating the lawn in order to keep it in good condition. It is also a good time to scarify, i.e. raking off the build up of dead grass and moss from the surface of the lawn, either by hand or mechanically.

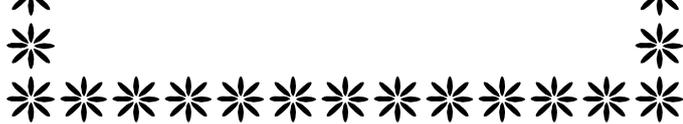
Vegetables – buy young plants now, of peas, Brassicas and broad beans for harvesting next spring but be sure to protect from hungry pigeons and other visitors in the winter.

Tomatoes – outdoor bushes will be vulnerable to frosts, so get as much from them as possible by carefully lifting them and hang these upside down in the greenhouse or shed, for the green fruit to ripen. Those that don’t can be used to make a chutney.

Finally, autumn is tidy-up time in the garden, and we have our annual machinery demonstration day at Tripp Batt on Saturday October 17th, where there’ll be the opportunity to see and try a range of machines such as log splitters, leaf blowers, vacuums, hedge-trimmers and chainsaws.

Happy Gardening!

*Ian Shilling,
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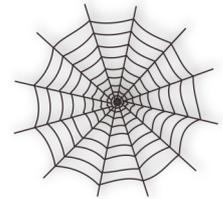
To include a recipe in the column below, please send it to editor@rbrparishmag.com

Please don’t copy straight out of cookbooks—we want to avoid problems with copyright! ☺



Spider web chocolate fudge muffins

- 50g dark chocolate (55% cocoa solids is fine)
- 85g butter
- 1 tbsp milk, water or coffee
- 200g self-raising flour
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 85g light muscovado sugar
- 50g golden caster sugar
- 1 egg
- 142ml carton soured cream



For the topping

- 100g dark chocolate (as above)
- 100g white chocolate

Method

1. Preheat the oven to fan 170C/ conventional 190C/gas 5 and line a muffin tin with 10 paper muffin cases. Break the chocolate into a heatproof bowl, add the butter and liquid. Melt in the microwave on Medium for 30-45 seconds (or set the bowl over a pan of gently simmering water). Stir and leave the mixture to cool.
2. Mix the flour, bicarbonate of soda and both sugars in a bowl. Beat the egg in another bowl and stir in the soured cream, then pour this on the flour mixture and add the cooled chocolate. Stir just to combine – don’t overmix or it will get tough.
3. Spoon the mixture into the cases to about three quarters full. Bake for 20 minutes until well risen. Loosen the edges with a round-bladed knife, let them sit in the tins for a few minutes, then lift out and cool on a wire rack.
4. For the topping, make two piping bags out of greaseproof paper (or cut the ends off two clean plastic bags). Break the dark and white chocolate into separate bowls and melt in the microwave on Medium for 2 minutes (or over a pan as in step 1). Put 2 spoonfuls of dark chocolate in one bag and the same of white chocolate in the other.
5. Working with one muffin at a time, spread with dark chocolate from the bowl, letting it run down a bit, then pipe four concentric circles of white chocolate on top. Using a small skewer, drag through the circles at regular intervals, from the centre to the edge, to create a cobweb effect. Repeat with four more muffins. On the remaining five, spread over the white chocolate and decorate with the dark. Best eaten the day they’re made – even better while the chocolate’s soft.

Good Food magazine, Oct 2003

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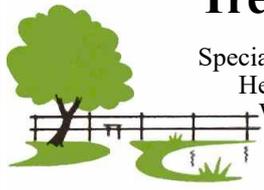
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School news

The Autumn term is well underway and the children have settled back into school life. Our new reception children have impressed us all with the way that they have settled into school.

This term we have welcomed three new members of teaching staff to our team. Miss Fidgett is working in Year 5 with the Panthers, Mrs Heath is working in Year 4 with the Tigers and Mrs Dawson is working in Year 2 with the Foxes. We have also been joined by a new teaching assistant, Ms Meldrum who will be supporting children in Year 3 and 4.

Over the summer our Senco, Miss Phillips, got married so she returned to us as Mrs Fitch after a wonderful wedding day.

Last academic year was a fruitful one for the school. We made good progress and had some very pleasing results for our children. As a school we will continue to focus on improving our writing skills and how we assess the children so that we can support and Challenge them and keep parents informed with their progress.

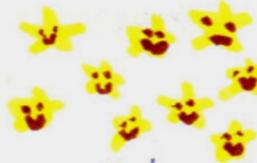
Our new website is now up and running and holds much information about our school. Please feel free to visit the website at <http://stbotolphs.suffolk.dbprimary.com>.

We are all looking forward to the months ahead and the Challenges that we will all face. During this term our school governors will be spending a day in school to work alongside the children and look at how the school works. It is wonderful that we have such dedicated governors who help us through support and Challenge.

Mr M. Cobbold, Headteacher.



The Stars



The stars are like Starfish
that float out
from behind the darkness
Chasing, each other across the moonlit
sky,
gliding and glittering
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to soothe and Sympathize with

By Isabella Sheard





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Pre-school news

To find out more about our pre-school or to arrange a visit please contact Karen Hails on 07796 014304.

All about us: We are a registered charity operating on a not for profit basis. We provide care for local children from the age of 2 years and are based at Botesdale Village Hall.

School transition: We work closely with St Botolph's Primary School to assist in a smooth transition for our children to primary school. In the academic year before they start school pre-school children graduate from "caterpillars" to "butterflies" and our butterflies benefit from specific activities to help them prepare for reception class including focused work on phonics and numeracy as well as regular visits to St Botolph's to join in school activities such as assemblies, PE lesson and lunches.

OFSTED: We were thrilled to receive a fantastic OFSTED report in December 2014 and were very proud to receive particular praise for providing an "extremely calm, relaxed and friendly atmosphere". Please let us know if you'd like a copy of the full report.

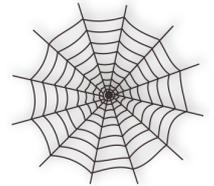
This term: We are delighted to welcome back staff and children after what we hope was a fun-filled summer holiday. This term we are focussing our learning on farms and looking at the life cycle of crops. We will be baking lots of bread and hopefully riding on some tractors!

Committee – An urgent plea! A number of committee members will be standing down at our AGM in November as their children have now moved on to school. We therefore desperately need new members. As a charity, our pre-school is required to have a committee in place comprising parents/guardians and without the requisite number of members the preschool could be forced to close. Please let Karen know if you think you can help.



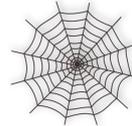
Parent and Staff Social Event!
Book a babysitter and join us for drinks and nibbles
at 7.30pm on Friday 16th October
at The Bell Inn, Rickinghall
First drink free!

Notice of AGM: Our Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 11 November 2015 at The Bell Inn, Rickinghall. All welcome.



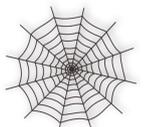
Rainy day fun

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C	T	Y	J	S	X	W	O	N	Q	K	N	F	B	T



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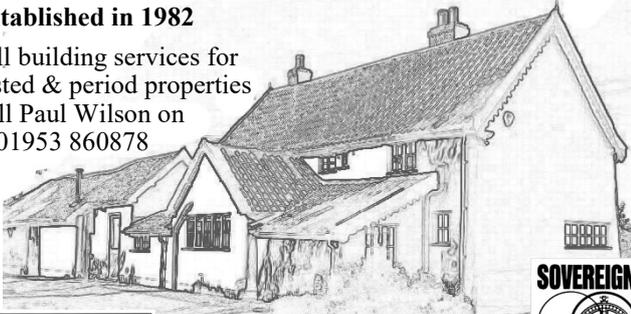
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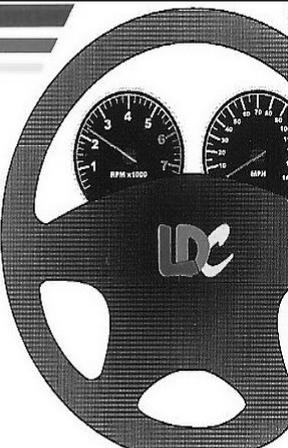
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The Parade will form up behind the Gislingham Silver Band outside the Old Post Office at 2.45pm. We will march to the Chapel of Ease for the Remembrance Service, followed by the ceremony at the war memorial.

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11th October	Amos 5 : 6 to 7 and 10 to 15	Mark 10 : 17 to 31
18th October	2 Timothy 4 : 5 to 17	Luke 10 : 1 to 9
25th October	2 Timothy 3 : 14 to 4 : 5	John 5: 36b to end

Rotas	Chapel of Ease		Redgrave		Rickinghall	
	Sidesman	Lector	Sidesman	Lector	Sidesman	Lector
4th October	Miss A Shorten	Mrs S McGrath	Harvest at Rickinghall		Mr R Rixon	Mrs P Rixon
11th October	Mrs E Moss	Mrs J Shepherd			Mr & Mrs Miles	Mrs C Davidson
18th October			Mr J Robinson	Mr L McGrath	Mrs M Self	Mrs J Dickman
25th October			Mrs B Davies	Mr C Davies	Mrs J Sheehan	Rector

October flower rota			
	Chapel of Ease	Redgrave	Rickinghall
4th October	Mrs Whiteside	Mrs R Stimson	HARVEST FESTIVAL
11th October	Mrs Whiteside		
18th October	Mrs Canning	Mrs R Powell	Mrs Draper
25th October	Mrs Canning	Mrs R Walker	

Thank you Neighbourhood Watch



Thanks to Mrs Kelly for delivering the parish magazine to Wheatfields residents in recent years. It is only through the efforts of volunteer distributors that the magazine makes it through 1225 doors each month. So, thanks again to Mrs Kelly and all other distributors for the vital roles that you play.

After such a long commitment Mrs Kelly has decided to step down, but we are pleased to report that two people have volunteered to take over. We wish Mrs Kelly all the best in future, and welcome our new Wheatfields volunteers to the distribution team.

Local Contact Details

For Neighbourhood Watch contact your local Co-ordinator, or else in Botesdale and Rickinghall Peter Beck on 01379 890495, (email : peter@pbeck.plus.com), and in Redgrave John Campbell on 01379 890946 or email him on redgrave.nwatch@outlook.com



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The Chairman and Committee of RAHOF (Rickinghall Area Hospice Fundraisers) would like to thank all who supported the Annual Cream Tea with Music at Red House, Redgrave on 23rd July this year.

This popular event raised £1022.70 for the Hospice. Special thanks go to Margaret and Bob Hayward, who hosted the event, to our many terrific supporters and helpers, and all who came to enjoy the delicious tea and listen to the music on a happy English summer afternoon.

June Shepherd



Many thanks to all those who signed my petition for a speed restriction on A143 at the junction of Calkewood Lane and Townhouse Lane. It has taken 2 years to achieve our aim, but the signs went up today.

Special thanks to Chris Holland and Jessica Fleming for their help at the various meetings and to Rickinghall and Wattisfield Parish Councils for their support.

Jo Scott

Jean and Samantha Bennett and Audrey Simonds wish to thank - most sincerely - everyone who sent cards, wrote letters, phoned and called to offer their deep condolences on the death of their beloved Son, Dad and Nephew Simon, who lost his battle with cancer in August.

More Thank You messages on p17



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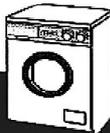
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Parkview Chapel - October

Sundays 10.00 am Communion
11.00 am All Age Worship

Between these 2 services, from 10.30am – 11am, tea and coffee will be served.

Tuesday 13th: 9 am – 12 noon 'Coffee on the Corner'

Thursdays 2.00 pm Ladies meeting (Praise Hour) on 1st and 15th.

Thursday 15th: 7.30pm Crafty Corner – time for those pastimes that you don't ever have time for.
Bring your craft projects and spend an evening working at it in company.

Saturday 17th: 8.30am Men's breakfast – come and enjoy a hearty breakfast

Also regular activities for children and young people.

Phone 01379 898924 or 783216 for more details.

<http://www.parkviewchapel.co.uk>



PARKVIEW YOUTH

some of these activities do not take place during school holidays.

JUNIOR CHURCH

School Years Reception - 11
Sundays 10.30 am - 11.30 am

PYP

School Years 9 - 13
Sundays 7.00 pm - 8.30 pm

CROSSTRAX

School Years 6 - 8
Mondays 7.00 pm - 8.15 pm

JUNIOR FRIDAY CLUB

School Years Reception - 6
Fridays 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

SENIOR FRIDAY CLUB

School Years 7 - 11
Fridays 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

For further information check out
the website
www.parkviewchapel.co.uk
or call Kev Gladwell on 01379
898924

BOTESDALE METHODIST CHURCH

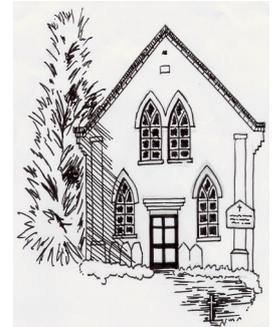
Services are held every Sunday at 10.30 am unless otherwise indicated.
A friendly welcome to everyone.

4th October Jane Drury
11th October David Freeman
18th October David Ely Holy Communion
25th October Jane Drury

All are very welcome to any of these meetings.

Bible Study Alternate Mondays at 10:30am
Christian Forum Tuesday 6th October 7:30pm **Harvest meal**
SANKEY EVENING Saturday 10th October 7:00pm SANKEY EVENING
Wives Group Wednesday 21st October 7:30pm : Neighbourhood Watch : Peter Beck

BRING AND BUY STALL



Cafe Church - helping your relationship with God

Operating on Sundays at 10.30 Cafe church is unlike any other form of church. It enables you to ask questions and we regard no question as too awkward to tackle. We sit around small tables, start and finish with coffee. In between we explore issues of faith and seek to enable you to get to know Jesus Christ better, find forgiveness and freedom.

Sundays at 10.30 am at Redgrave amenities centre.

You can contact me on 01379 897067 - Nyal Davies





All Saints
Redgrave



St. Botolph's
Botesdale



St. Mary's
Rickinghall

4th Oct. 18th Sunday after Trinity
8:15 St. Botolph's, Botesdale, BCP Communion



3.00pm St Mary's, Rickinghall
Parish Harvest
This year we welcome non-perishable produce to be given to the Waveney Food Bank.



11th Oct. 19th Sunday after Trinity
8:15 St. Botolph's, Botesdale BCP Communion

10:30 St. Mary's, Rickinghall CW Communion with the children and young people starting at Rickinghall Village Hall for "Footprints"



18th Oct. St Luke the Evangelist
8:15 All Saints, Redgrave BCP Communion



10:30 Worship Together at St. Mary's, Rickinghall
Informal and interactive worship for people of all ages.

25th Oct. Bible Sunday
8:15 St. Mary's, Rickinghall BCP Communion



10.30 Messy Church in Botesdale Village Hall for crafts, songs, stories and family fun.

10:30 All Saints, Redgrave CW Communion

Sunday 1st Nov. All Saints'/All Souls' Day
8.15 St. Botolph's, Botesdale, BCP Communion
10.30 All Saints, Redgrave, All Saints All Together
3.00pm St Mary's, Rickinghall, All Souls Service of Remembrance



Also this month

A time of worship and prayer for revival here in this area

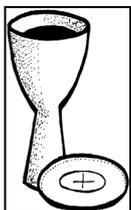


Tue. 6th Oct from 10.00am
"Open House"
All Saints, Redgrave
For coffee, cakes and chat



Thurs 1st October, 7.15pm
St. Mary's, Rickinghall
Tues 20th Oct, 7.15pm
All Saints, Redgrave
A time of prayer for the work and ministry of the church here.

Midweek Communion
Wed. 7th Oct 10.00am



Albert Close, Rickinghall
Thur. 15th Oct, 9.45am
Farnish House, Botesdale
These services are open to everyone



Thurs. 8th October, 7.15pm
"Spearhead"
All Saints, Redgrave

"Together in these villages we offer Christ's healing grace through our worship and service."