

PARISH MAGAZINE

Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls

December 22—January 23



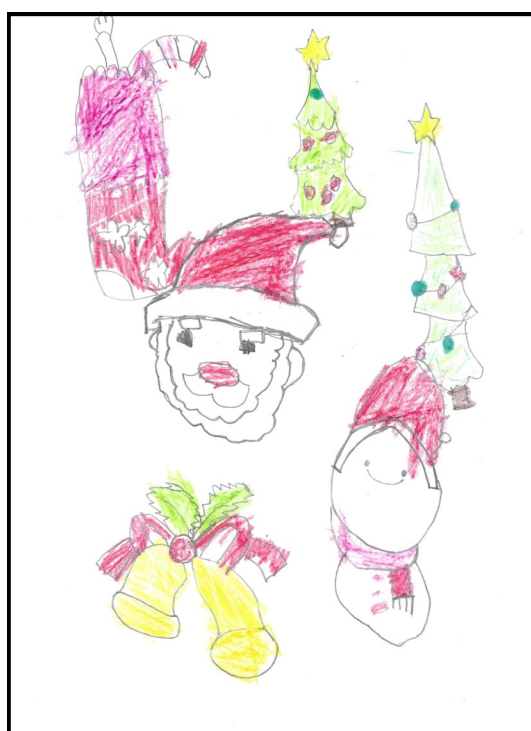
Ted Menzies



William Beaton



Jasmine Scales



Esme Oliver

Produced by the Parish of Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls, for the local community.

Also available at <http://stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net/parish-magazine/>



PARKVIEW CHAPEL
CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

PARKVIEW CHAPEL, The Street, Botesdale, Suffolk, IP22 1BX Tel: 01379 898924

E-mail: kevin@parkviewchapel.co.uk Website: www.parkviewchapel.co.uk

Charity Name: Parkview Chapel, Botesdale. Charity No: 1170915

@parkviewchapel



DO YOU LOVE CHRISTMAS?

If I asked you if you loved Christmas, I wonder what you would say? I know someone who loves Christmas so much they already have three fully decorated Christmas trees up in their house. But I also know of one person who would happily make the festive period start on Christmas Eve and finish on Boxing Day, (to quote Ebenezer Scrooge, "Bah humbug!")

In the Gladwell household I fall into the first of those categories. I love Christmas. So once we get to the October half-term school holidays the Christmas music goes on. My wife loves it all too, but for her it doesn't start until the beginning of December.

So in that marital argument you can guess who always wins. Meaning for about a five week period I have to sing along to, 'Can you stop the cavalry?' and, 'Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ,' when I am home alone or in the car!

But Christmas is not just about pop music and decorations. I believe there are plenty of things to love about the festive period. I could eat Turkey every day, (Bird Flu allowing,) followed of course by Christmas pudding. There's the giving and receiving of presents. Time spent with the family. The singing of carols. And not forgetting the same old films and programmes on the television.

The above list will be different for all of us. But I wonder if, like me, you could add God to that list? Because the reason we have this wonderful time of the year, and all of the great things that come with it, is because of God's love for us.

In the Bible, in the book of Isaiah, there are some words that get read out in every Church, at every Christmas. Isaiah was a prophet, which is someone who gave messages from God to the people. And around 750 years before Jesus was born Isaiah said this:

'The Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be pregnant.
She will have a son, and she will name him Immanuel.
A child has been born to us; God has given a son to us.
He will be responsible for leading the people.
His name will be Wonderful Counsellor, Powerful God, Father Who Lives Forever, Prince of Peace.
Power and peace will be in his kingdom and will continue to grow forever.
He will rule as king on David's throne and over David's kingdom.
He will make it strong by ruling with justice and goodness from now on and forever.
The Lord All-Powerful will do this because of his strong love for his people.'

At the time of these words Isaiah knew that trouble was brewing. Not everything was well in his country, war was on the horizon. So God gives Isaiah this encouraging message, telling people that one day he will send someone. And that someone he is describing is Jesus. If you want to know more about what some of Isaiah's words mean then do call me. But for now note the last line, 'The Lord All-Powerful will do this because of his strong love for his people.'

I asked you what you love about Christmas. Well we have Christmas in the first place because of love, the love that God has for his people.

I firmly believe that this baby boy arrived on this earth just as the Bible says he did. Born in Bethlehem, to a virgin called Mary. And that this baby boy was named Jesus. And this boy grew into a man who was so amazing that people still follow his teachings over two thousand years after he was born. This boy grew into a man so incredible we are still talking about him over two thousand years after he was born. This boy grew into a man so remarkable schools here and across the land do plays about his birth over two thousand years after he was born.

A boy, who is the Son of God, who grew into a man that died on a cross. And why? Because God loves you.

We all have different levels of love for Christmas. Mine is probably far more than most. We all have different things on our list of what we love about it. But whatever your level could I encourage you to add Jesus to your list this Christmastime.

Because Jesus came to earth as a baby because of God's great love for his people. Because of his great love for you. What is there to love more about Christmas than that?

Can I wish you a merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

God bless you, Kev Gladwell
Church & Community Pastor
Parkview Chapel



Please note the following changes to the **Local Services Directory**
The latest version of the directory is available online at
<http://stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net/local-information/>



Section	Changes
Community Services (local) / Parish Councils	Added 2 new Botesdale Parish Councillors : Sally Jarvis : 01379 898273 Richard Lock Tel: 07818 075812

Message from the team

Well Christmas is almost upon us, time moves so quickly.

It has not been an easy year and doesn't look like getting any better for some time yet but we still have lots of activities going on in the villages and would urge you to support and enjoy them. Many of these activities only happen due to the people who volunteer to organise them so please, if you can spare a bit of time, do see if you can help anywhere.

Many local businesses advertise in our magazine so please make it the first port of call when looking for services or suppliers and support our local businesses

We wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Charles Murray.

Contacts

For all editorial content: editoratrbparishmag@gmail.com

For all commercial adverts: advertsatrbparishmag@gmail.com

To advertise events: eventsatrbparishmag@gmail.com

Alternatively, please **write** to: *The Parish Magazine, The Rectory,
Bury Road, Rickinghall, Diss, Suffolk, IP22 1HA* or **call The Editor** 01379 890382

Please note that **the copy date for the forthcoming issues is as follows:**

STUFFING MEETINGS

- **Feb issue Mon 16 Jan** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave - 3.15pm on **Fri 27 Jan**
- **Mar issue Mon 13 Feb** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave - 3.15pm on **Fri 24 Feb**
- **April issue Mon 13 Mar** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave - 3.15pm on **Fri 24 March**

We accept items for submission in any of the following formats: MS Word, e-mail, .jpg, .bmp, .pub, .png 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

The views and opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team.



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.



Printed by:





Also available at <http://stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net/parish-magazine/>

Redgrave Community Shop

Groceries, newspapers, greeting cards
and more...

Open every day

Monday - Saturday 8:30am - 1:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 11:00am

Telephone: 01379 898848

Email: www.redgravecommunityshop@gmail.com

White Horse Thelnetham

LIVE
Music

Meetup
Mondays



FIRE
Place

Warm
space

Come and visit the Community Public House in Thelnetham, IP22 1JN. We are open Friday and Saturday from 5pm till close and Sunday from 12-6pm.

A selection of local Ales and Cider are available. Food Vans park up on Fridays. More information and updates at facebook.com/SaveTheWhiteHorseThelnetham

Telefon 01379 898800 / Email info@thfarm.land

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2023 & beyond



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The Old Saw Mill, Hall Farm,
Church Road, Redgrave IP22 1RJ
01379 890586



THE CROSS KEYS

A Community Owned Free House

	Opening	Food Served
MON - WED	Closed	
THURSDAY	6 - 10	Restaurant
FRIDAY	4 - 10	Currently
SATURDAY	4 - 10	Closed
SUNDAY	4 - 8	

Come and enjoy our foodie evenings...

Sat 3rd Dec	The Field Kitchen
Sat 10th Dec	Curry Leaf
Sat 17th Dec	Suffolk Wild Flour Pizza + LOOSE COVERS LIVE music
Fri 23rd Dec	Curry Leaf

Check social media for further events!

Contact us:

Cross Keys, The Street, Redgrave, Diss IP22 1RW
gm@redgravecommunitysociety.com

01379 779822

Please check the website and social media for all the latest updates
www.crosskeysredgrave.co.uk / Facebook @crosskeyspubredgrave
Twitter @KeysRedgrave



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What's on : Late November/Early December

**CHRISTMAS AT
PARKVIEW CHAPEL**

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE
SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER – 4.00PM
(FOLLOWED BY A CHRISTMAS TEA)

CHRISTMAS 'COFFEE ON THE CORNER'
TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER – 9.00AM

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER – 10.30AM



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KEV GLADWELL ON 01379 898924
OR SEE WWW.PARKVIEWCHAPEL.CO.UK
OR ON

RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL'S

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Sunday 4th
December

10.00 am until 3.30 pm
at Rickinghall Village Hall

ADMISSION FREE

Over 20 stalls

Refreshments available

For information call Liz on 01359 251804



Calling all Wind in the Willow
Fans and Art Enthusiasts



The Arts Society Diss continues its current series of lectures on the third Tuesday of the month (except for December 6th, followed by Christmas refreshments). We meet 2pm at the Corn Hall, Diss - you can park at GAZES.

6 December: *The Wind in the Willows revisited through its illustrators*

17 January 2023: *Randolph Hearst Castles*

The Society draws its audience from Diss and nearby villages, including Redgrave, Botesdale and Rickinghall. Guests are asked to contribute a £7 donation. Membership for 10 lectures per year is £43. Come along & give us a try! More information at: <https://artsocdiss.org.uk>

**Christmas
Quiz**

**AT
PARKVIEW CHAPEL
BOTESDALE**

**SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER
7.00PM**

**INC. MULLED WINE &
MINCE PIES**

£15.00 PER TEAM (OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
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on 01379 898924 or check out
www.parkviewchapel.co.uk

Botesdale & Rickinghall



**Christmas Tree
Lights On!**

Saturday, 3rd December at 6.00pm
Botesdale Market Place
(Festivities begin at 5.45pm)

Carols with
Gislingham Brass Band

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Christmas art display

Botesdale

**SUFFOLK
Community
Foundation**

Registered Charity 1142955
OSPD Registration 61445021
Email address: botesdale@botesdale.org.uk

Family Advent

BINGO

Botesdale After School Club's Popular
Family Advent Bingo Night is being held
On

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2022
At
Botesdale Village Hall

Doors open 5.30 pm for eyes down at 6.00 pm
Light refreshments will be available on the night.

£1 per book or £5 for six books and they are available on the door.
We look forward to seeing you all.

All proceeds will go towards much needed resources for the
children to enjoy



Contact Numbers
Botesdale After School Club - 07952 961 285
Manager Paula Mills
Web Site - www.Botesdale-After-School-Club.org.uk
Email botesdale@botesdale.org.uk

ADVENT COFFEE MORNING
Sat 26th November 10am – noon
St Mary's Church, Rickinghall.
(The Church near Rickinghall Village Hall)

Come & meet new friends before we all get too busy!

Enjoy seasonal refreshments. All very welcome.

Usual stalls. Proceeds to Parish Church funds.

Walsham Arts Group Annual Exhibition
Priory Rooms, Walsham le Willows. IP31 3AB

Saturday 26th - Monday 28th Nov 10am-6pm

Payments at the show are by cash or cheque only.

For more information contact : Peter Rudderham
01359 259433 or Helen Dougall helen@hdbatik.co.uk

Rickinghall Farmers' Market

9 am to 12.30 pm IP22 1HD



Christmas Fare for your Table

Christmas Trees
Father Christmas
Gislingham Silver Band
Café & John's Bacon Buns

Sat 10 December

Free to every household thanks to the local businesses that advertise here. Please support local businesses.

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- Dining area now open
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Order in advance for collection at
www.botesdaleonline.co.uk

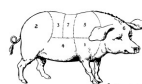
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FRIDAY 10:30AM - 4:30PM FRESH & 10:30AM TO 6PM FOR
ORDER COLLECTIONS
SATURDAY 10AM-4.30PM

WYKEN VINYARD FARMERS MARKET EVERY SATURDAY

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highwaysgos@aol.com
Megan: 07771 752228 Philip: 07887 668445
www.highwaysgos.wixsite.com/theultimatejointltd

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07792 613783
yogadhanauk@gmail.com



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Term time only

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Julie on 01359 221655 or e-mail
juliedyoga@msn.com

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Botesdale Common
Botesdale
IP22 1LH

07803 887817

gffbotesdale@btinternet.com

What's On : December & January



RhineStone
REBEL MUSIC CLUB

PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC & DANCE

**JULIE
DAWN**

**Saturday 17th
December 2022**

DOORS 6.45PM • COMMENCES 7.30PM
FOR BOOKINGS & MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
Tel 01473 912626 or 07591 099519

RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL
Hinderclay Road, Rickinghall, Diss IP22 1HD
You are welcome to bring your own food & drink.

TICKETS £6

The promoter reserves the right to alter the programme/artists performing due to unforeseen circumstances without notice.

For the first time since Lockdown,

A CHRISTMAS EVENING

Friday, 9th December
All Saints Church, Redgrave

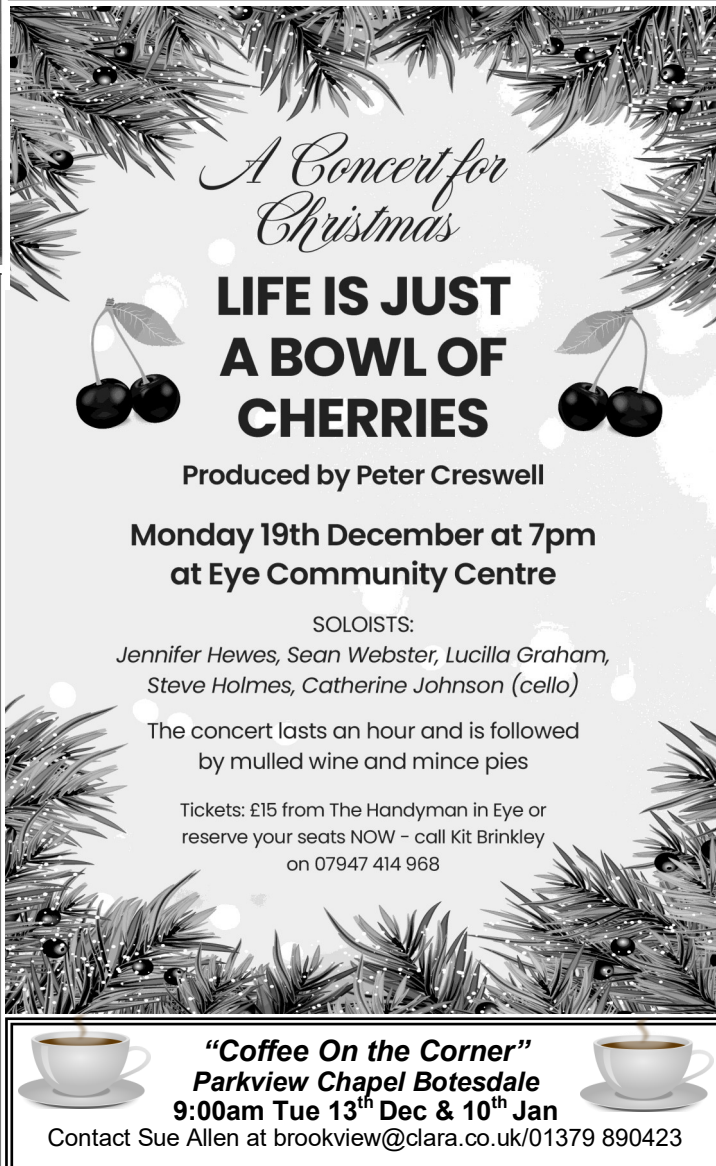
7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Tickets £9 per person include
non-alcoholic punch & mince pies

A relaxed evening of community
carols, seasonal cheer and melodies, with
delicious punch, nibbles & nostalgia

HAMPER DRAW & TURKEY DRAW

Tickets from Paddy on 01379 788010,
June on 01379 898827 or any RAHOF Committee

A Concert for Christmas

LIFE IS JUST A BOWL OF CHERRIES

Produced by Peter Creswell

Monday 19th December at 7pm
at Eye Community Centre

SOLOISTS:
*Jennifer Hewes, Sean Webster, Lucilla Graham,
Steve Holmes, Catherine Johnson (cello)*

The concert lasts an hour and is followed
by mulled wine and mince pies

Tickets: £15 from The Handyman in Eye or
reserve your seats NOW – call Kit Brinkley
on 07947 414 968



“Coffee On the Corner”
Parkview Chapel Botesdale
9:00am Tue 13th Dec & 10th Jan
Contact Sue Allen at brookview@clara.co.uk/01379 890423



Redgrave & Lopham Fen

Wild Tots Fridays, 10.30am-12noon, £5.50

Twilight walk A sociable stroll for adults looking at
seasonal wildlife Tuesday 6 Dec, 2.30pm-4.30pm, £5

Weekend Wildlife Club Wildlife-themed activities for
6-11 year olds. Sat 10 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm, £5

Young Naturalists For 11-16 year olds to explore,
investigate and learn about the wildlife and habitats
of the Fen. Sat 10 Dec, 2.15pm-4.15pm, £5

Holiday Club Tues 20 Dec, 9am-3.30pm. Unaccompa-
nied 6-11s. Wild play, games and activities £25 each,
including a healthy, vegetarian lunch

Weekend Wildlife Club Wildlife-themed activities for
6-11s. Sat 14 Jan, 10.30am-12.30pm, £5

Young Naturalists Monthly session for 11-16s to ex-
plore, investigate and learn about the wildlife and
habitats of the Fen. Sat 14 Jan, 1.30pm-3.30pm, £5

Monthly walk A sociable stroll for adults looking at
seasonal wildlife. Mon 23 Jan, 10am-12noon, £5

Needle felted owl hanger workshop Sat 28 Jan,
10am-1pm. Visit our website for more details

**Booking essential for all activities unless other-
wise stated. For further details and to book, visit**
www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org or call 01473
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Children are collected daily from St Botolph's Primary School.

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Worham Primary School, Gislingham Primary School and Palgrave Primary School. Transport costs apply for this service.

Our fees are as follows;

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From 7.45am £5.50

After School Club Mon-Fri

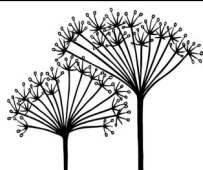
3.25pm – 6pm £7.50 for the hour (£6.50 for siblings)

3.30pm – 5.30pm £12.50 for 2 hours (£11.50 for siblings)

3.30pm – 6.00pm £15.00 per session (£14.00 for siblings)

Subscription 2021/2022 £20.00

Please contact Paula 07952 961285
botesdaleoutofhours@gmail.com



Mo's Companion Services

Our services are tailored
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We can provide and assist with:

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- wellness visits • medication supervision
- appointments • shopping • meal preparation
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or email moscompanionservices@gmail.com

www.moscompanionservices.co.uk



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Is Your Child Starting School in September 2023?

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01379 783376

or Email

office@mellisprimaryschool.org

Find out more about us by visiting our Blog on the

Homepage of our website.

www.mellis.suffolk.sch.uk

Instagram: search for 'mellisprimaryschool'

What's On : December & January

RICKINGHALL FURTHER EDUCATION GROUP



A treat is in store for us in January when Charles Lewis will return to introduce us to

Mosque & Minaret : *The Architecture of Islam*

In less than a century the Arabs created an empire stretching from Spain and Morocco in the west to Central Asia and India in the east. Although this empire was soon to fragment, Islam provided a common culture which allowed for the continued interchange of ideas, and allowed the Muslim world to withstand and absorb invasion from the east.

The cross-fertilization of Arab, eastern and western cultures created an architecture which is recognisably Islamic everywhere whilst always expressing local traditions.

This course will consider what comprised Islamic architecture and the influences which have contributed to its development by looking at examples, famous and not so well known, from across the Muslim world.

There will be 10 weekly sessions starting on Thursday 5 January and ending on Thursday 16 March at Rickinghall Village Hall, IP22 1HD

The course will run each Thursday from 2 - 4 pm with a break for refreshments. No talk on Thursday 19 January and there will be no break for the school half-term.

And still only £40 for the entire course!

Charles' background is as an historian and he worked as a museum curator with the Norfolk Museums Service for over 20 years. Now he is a part-time tutor for the WEA in East

Anglia and the East Midlands. His interest in Islamic architecture was fostered by visits to cities and sites in Spain, Turkey and Iran and has widened into an interest in Islam itself and other aspects of Islamic culture, especially the decorative arts.

If you haven't been along to one of our courses before, we do encourage you to come along and sample the first lecture to see whether it is for you, before signing up and parting with money. To register your attendance, (so that we know how many chairs to put out and biscuits to buy), or if you have any questions, please contact either **Janet Swann** (01379 650615) or **Lesley Greenhough** (01379 890109, generaldogsbodycg@gmail.com)

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JEFF GALLANT

**SATURDAY 31st
DECEMBER 22**

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SALE NOW**
BOOK FAST - LIMITED
NUMBERS AVAILABLE

DOORS 6:45PM
STARTS 7:30PM
ENDS 12:30AM

**TICKETS
£14**

RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL
Hinderclay Road, Rickinghall, Diss IP22 1HD
FOR BOOKINGS & MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
Tel 01473 912626 or 07591 099519
A food van will be on site, you are also welcome to bring your own food & drink.

theW Rickinghall

INSPIRING WOMEN

All meetings at Rickinghall Village Hall
Thursday 8th December 7.30pm

Members' Christmas Party -
a time for fun, food,
Secret Santa and Christmas songs

Fun Competition : A Christmas Limerick or Poem

Thursday 12th January 7.30pm

Sally Mittuch talking on

A Day in the Life of an Eco Business

Fun Competition : Something Eco in Your Home

Friday 20th 12.30pm

Winter Soup and Natters

£5 per person

Friends, family and new members welcome

*A warm welcome to new ladies who would like to come
along and find out about us*

Rosemary Setterfield - President



**7:30pm Rickinghall Village Hall,
The Heritage Circle
presents:**

December 14th : **Stuart Howell -**
The History of Advertising

January 25th : **Sara Doig -**
The Real Basil Brown

New members & guests welcome
Visit www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net

Free to every household thanks to the local businesses that advertise here. Please support local businesses.

CUT ABOVE

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Reflections

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For more information or to book
your treatment please contact
Louise

www.loualexanderbeauty.co.uk
loualexanderbeauty@gmail.com

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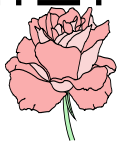
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BOTESDALE HEALTH CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)
HEALTH CENTRE HOURS

The PPG has been asked to pass the information below to as many Patients as possible, and perhaps, kind reader, you can assist by passing this information on to your neighbours, friends, and family who attend the Health Centre.

ADDENDUM to Botesdale Health Centre Information re opening times - the Health Centre appointments only, and Dispensary start time for Saturday's will be 9.15 am for both.

From 22 October 2022 the updated times are:

	Surgery	Dispensary
Monday	08:00 – 20:00	08:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 18:30
Tuesday	08:00 – 18:30	08:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 18:30
Wednesday	08:00 – 18:30	08:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 18:30
Thursday	08:00 – 18:30	08:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 18:30
Friday	08:00 – 18:30	08:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 18:30
Saturday	09:15 – 12:00 **	09:15 – 12:00

**** Two GP's working**

For clarity -Out of Hours - Patients are advised to call 111 for emergency cover and this will be followed through with telephone triage and then a face-to-face appointment at Drovers House Bury St Edmunds if required

HEALTH CENTRE CHECK IN

As all Patients will be aware the Health Centre Check-In Screen has not been functioning well of late. Previously it was a software problem.

As of 17 November the appropriate engineer will fix the Check -in screen at a more suitable angle to ensure Patient privacy when checking in, and Patients will no longer have to queue at Reception to book- in, which is better for Patients and Care Navigators.

PPG HELP AND INFORMATION DESK

The PPG have been in attendance undertaking a Pilot Study at the Health Centre on a Monday morning for the past nine weeks.

Some Patients may have noted the desk in the waiting room.

This PPG presence emanated from Care Navigators being concerned regarding Patient frustrations. Various areas of concern were addressed.

The PPG have undertaken research to assist with alleviating problems and will report to the Health Centre on their findings at the end of the Study.

One of the problems was related to the non-functioning Check -in Monitor which is now being repaired as above.

STROKE AWARENESS

Following the Stroke Association - Stroke Awareness Day (Stroke strikes every five minutes in the UK), the question for us all is 'are all Patients familiar in spotting the signs of stroke in yourself or someone else'?

Is everyone familiar with the acronym FAST - and the test? -see below

F- Facial Weakness

A-Arm Weakness

S-Speech problems

T-Time to call 999

WELLBEING WALKS


The Wellbeing Walks are continuing throughout winter until 13 December and first Walk of 2023 will be around the beautiful lake at Redgrave Park on Tuesday 10 January. There is Community transport for those who can only manage one way. If you wish to improve your physical or mental wellbeing or are recovering from illness do join us at the start point- Parkview Chapel. It is a 10 am start every Tuesday with coffee/refreshments after the Walk in Parkview Chapel.

[illegible]

If you, as a Patient of Botesdale Health Centre, have any comments you would like the PPG to be aware of, please contact the below email or phone number. Your comments as a Patient are of immense importance to us.

If you are interested to learn how the Patient Participation Group assists the Health Centre (all Health Centres must now have a Patient Participation Group) please do contact botesdaleppg@gmail.com or 07787 148947

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Rickinghall Farmers' Market - Plan for the Future

Rickinghall Farmers' Market has been running for some 22 years always on the second Saturday of the month. It has raised thousands of pounds which has been invested in improvements to the hall and playing field. With rising energy bills, people are trying to make savings where they can and are now shopping more at Aldi rather than Waitrose. Our Farmers' Market has been affected by this trend and needs to evolve to survive and continue in its purpose to raise funds for the village hall.

During the last couple of years the summertime autojumbles and classic car meets have expanded and now create more revenue than the market. The forward plan is to hold the very popular Christmas Farmers' Market on Saturday 10th of December as usual. Christmas trees will be available. We will be entertained by Gislingham Silver Band and we have booked a visit by Father Christmas. Do bring the young members of your family to meet him!

The second Saturday in January 2023 will see an indoor autojumble and car-related ephemera inside the hall on 14 January. The cafe will be operating. David Juniper, tel : 07806 437 722 is taking bookings for this event.

As in 2021 and 2022 there will be no Farmers' Market in January. The outdoor autojumble and classic car meets will resume on 8 April 2023 and run throughout the summer until 14 October.

Starting on Saturday 11 February 2023 (still the 2nd Saturday) we will be rebranding to become **Rickinghall Country Market**. The food stalls will continue and we will also welcome stallholders selling other products of their choice. We hope to see handicrafts, collectables, ephemera etc. Please bring only quality items, we do not want to be a white elephant show. Stalls will be £10 for a 6ft table. Booking in advance will be essential as we only have space for 22 stalls inside. To book a stall, please telephone John on 07771 522 095. No texts please - they will be ignored.

Rickinghall Village Hall Management Committee
December 2022

The White Horse Pub in Thelnetham is open again under new management.



Already closed before the first lockdown, a group of local volunteers made an application to the council to list the building as an asset of community value and reopened in March this year. A selection of local ales and cider are served. Food is only served on Fridays via catering vans outside at the moment but preparations for reopening the kitchen are ongoing. Further information and updates can be seen on the webpage <https://www.facebook.com/SaveTheWhiteHorseThelnetham> What's happening at the White Horse

The pub's normal opening hours are Fridays 5pm - close, Saturdays 5pm - close, Sundays 12 noon - 6pm. Over the seasonal period, the hours will be: Friday 23 December 5pm - close Saturday 24 December 12 noon - close Sunday 25 December 12 noon - 2pm Monday 26 December 12 noon - 4pm Friday 30 December to Sunday 1 January - as normal Monday 2 January 12 noon - 4pm

For a special Christmas treat, come along and join in the carols on 10 December from 7.30pm with Shelfanger Singers. There's delicious food being served by street vendors every Friday (except on Saturday 17 December when we have Marg n Rita's pizzas). We have Suffolk Wild Flour pizzas on 25 November, Curry Leaf on 9 December and Field Kitchen wraps on 30 December.

Barmy Bookworms will be meeting on 4 and 22 December, 7 and 27 January.

Come along and listen to the folk music sessions held from 7.30pm on, 22 and 30 December.

Don't forget Meet Up Mondays where you will receive a warm welcome, enjoy teas, coffees and cakes, and be able to have a chat with the locals. Arrive any time after 10.30am. The pub is being offered as a 'Warm Space' on a Monday so the fire will be burning all day, hot drinks and company will also be available! We are always looking for volunteer help, so if you have any spare time, please get in contact Joolz@ifarm.land or 07507 819288



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Redgrave Parish Council



Parish Council Report – November 2022 By Alison Spouncer, Parish Clerk

November 2022's meeting had a full complement of Councillors present, and one member of the public. County Councillor and District Councillor Fleming was not present.

Public Forum

No comments were received from the public for this month's meeting.

Cllr Fleming was unable to attend but sent her report with points to note including:

Potholes, Flooding, Drainage and Cycle/Pathways

A reminder regarding potholes, flooding or any highways issue, contact can be made via the Suffolk County Council (SCC) website; <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/potholes/report-a-pothole/>. Foot/cycle path improvements are being worked on through the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), this includes improvements to Fen Lane.

Health Care Careers - SCC is highlighting the opportunities within the 'Early Years' sector as a career path for young adults. Anyone interested is advised to visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/working-in-the-early-years-sector/> for more information.

Current Bus Timetable – is available via www.suffolkonboard.com

Bird Flu in Suffolk - Please report suspicious dead wild birds to Defra on 03459 33 55 77, keepers should report suspicion of disease to APHA on 03000 200 301. All keepers should register poultry with Defra so you can be contacted, this is a legal requirement for 50 or more birds - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms>

Cost of Living Support – more details are available online; <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/cost-of-living-support/>

Pathways Training Fund - the project's website at www.suffolk.gov.uk/pathways-training-fund Please contact Grace (Suffolk) or Lisa (Norfolk) at sparc@suffolk.gov.uk for more information

Apprenticeships Suffolk - For more information about the work that Apprenticeships Suffolk does with businesses, follow this link: <https://apprenticeshipssuffolk.org/employers/>

Planning

There were two items of planning on the agenda to discuss: Works to a tree at Felix Cottage, The Street, Redgrave with no objections.

Proposed planning for 1no property at The Green, Redgrave. After the chair removed himself from the meeting due to his closeness of the application. The Council decided to object to this application.

Ongoing Items:

Footpaths: The Highways department are progressing the issue of the stile mentioned in last month's meeting and will update the Council shortly.

Policies: Four policies were for renewal; General Privacy, Information Security Incident, Document Control and Records Management and Data Protection Policy. All were approved.

Road Signage for the Village Shop: The Village Shop, following a visit from the Plunkett Foundation, have requested signage for the shop at each end of the village. The Council did not disagree in principle and would discuss further with Suffolk Highways for the way forward.

Recreation Ground: One objection had been received which was acknowledged by the Council.

Grant Requests: it was agreed this would be discussed at the next meeting.

Location of Parish Council Meetings for 2023: There was discussion regarding the use of the Green Hut becoming a possibility for meetings in future. It was agreed the Council would await a firm proposal from Redgrave Amenities Trust prior to deciding the venue for 2023.

Meetings Change of Time:

Meetings going forward will now start at **7pm** to allow Jessica Fleming to be at both the Rickinghall and Redgrave meetings, dates remain as before. The next meeting will be at 7pm on 1st December 2022 at All Saints Church.

Vacancy:

There remains a vacancy for a Councillor. A voluntary role, the time commitment is not onerous with the only formal requirement being attendance at the monthly meetings in the village (except for August). Please visit www.local.gov.uk/be-councillor for more details and please contact the Clerk if interested.

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON

THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER

at **7.00pm**

at

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, REDGRAVE

All parishioners are cordially invited to attend or to send any queries for the meeting, if unable to attend, to the Clerk (details below).

Your Clerk is: Alison Spouncer

Tel: 01379 890613

E-mail: clerk@redgrave-pc.gov.uk

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Botesdale :	Farnish House	11.40 – 11.55

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Botesdale :	Backhills	12.20 – 12.35
Redgrave :	The Knoll	12.45 – 1.05

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Rickinghall Parish Council



Parish Council Report November 2022 by Cllr Geoff Short

Our November meeting was attended by County Councillor Jessica Fleming, and our local community police officer, Stefan Henriksen.

Suffolk County Council have just purchased two machines to investigate and clear blocked drains. Jessica advised there were still problems with people putting glass, nappies and tetrapaks in the recycling - please ensure these are kept away from the recycling bin. Broken glass and used nappies are not too pleasant on the sorting conveyor belts and can ruin the entire collection.

PC Henriksen was able to contribute to our discussion on speeding issues in the village. Residents had complained about speeding in Hinderclay Road, and we know there are problems in Bury Road. They will arrange to put a measuring device down, but this may take about three months. In the meantime, we have ordered a new flashing sign recorder; one is being ordered by both Rickinghall and Botesdale so that we do not need to share it, as before.

Discussions took place over a proposal to build two houses on land behind Marsden Terrace (next door to the Co-op) with concern being expressed over the density and the very poor visibility exiting onto the road between two houses. The final decision will be made by MSDC taking into account the Highways report.

The skate park has now been fully completed, inspected and passed as fit for purpose, and has seen a steady stream of users. The Village Hall thanked the Parish Council for their contribution, both financially and in the organisation.

Various regular 'admin' matters were discussed, including the budget for next year, the Community Governance Review (please see the Botesdale PC report), and the PIIP. This is the Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan, and the clerk will be getting in touch with various organisations listed in the plan to see what is required to improve village facilities. We may be able to assist in a small way from Community Infrastructure Levy monies received from new build developments.

Finally, we would like to boost our Councillor numbers a little and would be pleased to hear from anybody who feels they would like to come along to see what goes on. There would be no obligation to join if you did not want to, but you may even enjoy it! The Community Governance Review entailed a possible merger with Botesdale, but signs are evident this will not be happening, so we are happy to recruit from Rickinghall!

Meeting Dates for 2023:

Tuesday, 10 Jan; 2 Feb; 2 Mar; 6 Apr; Tuesday, 9 May; 1 Jun; 6 Jul; 3 Aug (Planning only); 7 Sep; 5 Oct; 2 Nov; 7 Dec.

RICKINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING IS ON

THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER

at 7.30 pm

AT RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL

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Please contact DURING OFFICE HOURS ONLY
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Village News

OIL SYNDICATE



The current Order is being processed on Monday 28 November.

The next Syndicate Order will be the spring one at the end of February.

The last date for orders will be Saturday 26 February. Delivery should follow within a fortnight.

For orders, as always, e-mail is preferred:

botesdaleoil@gmail.com,

If not available call me on: 01379 890952. Leave a message if nobody answers.

I will return all messages within 48 hours, if I haven't done so try again or use a different method.

David Sloan.

The Government has announced a plan to give £100 to each household that uses oil for domestic heating. This would be distributed by your electricity supplier. As of this date, how this is to be done has yet to be decided

Thankyou

To everyone who donated to Macmillan cancer support in memory of our mother Barbara Joan Foulger who's funeral took place on Tuesday 25th October. £205.00 was raised.

Robert Foulger & Christine Hollings

THANK YOU

A huge "Thank you" from the RAHOF Committee to all those who supported our Annual Quiz on Friday 21st October at Hinderclay Village Hall. This event raised a splendid £765 for St Nicholas Hospice Care, Bury St Edmunds, the hospice serving our catchment area.

Your support is very much appreciated.

from Rickinghall Area Hospice Fundraisers

RBR Church Electoral Roll - Welcome!

We were delighted to give a warm welcome to Michael and Frances Salinger on 23 October 2022 who have joined our church. They are new to Rickinghall but not to Suffolk having lived at Fressingfield for several years as members of St Peter and St Paul's Church.

They live close to St Mary's on the Hinderclay Road.

Our Electoral Roll for RBR Church has 65 members.

Kit Brinkley. Electoral Roll Officer

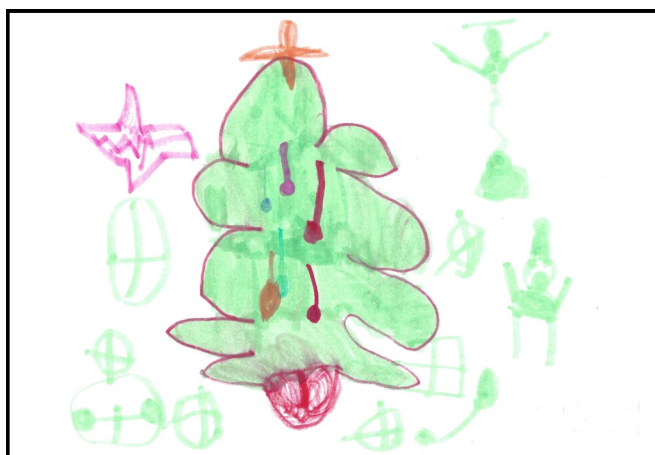


**Mill Lane
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(MLAA)
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new members!**

We have vacant plots for immediate occupation, and expect a number of tenant retirements at the end of 2022 making further plots available.

Full & Half Plots will be available for 2023. Half plots at £15.00 and full plots at £25.00 per year.

**To get your name on our waiting list please contact Mark Wiseman on 01379 898805 or 07808469954,
email: mark.wiseman@virgin.net**



Annie Burgin

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St Botolph's Bowls Club

The main event in October was our Annual Dinner on Saturday 15th October attended by over 40 members. We had an excellent 4 course meal with our caterers doing us proud. Our chairman, Keith Double started the proceedings with a toast to the king whilst our speaker, Nigel Penfold gave a toast to the club. Nigel is a new member to the club, and he told us the history and progress made in recent years with anaesthetics; Nigel is an anaesthetist at a local hospital.

Anthony Foulger, our Competitions Secretary, then announced the winners of the various cups and trophies members had won during the course of the season and on our Finals Days held on 23/24th September. The winners were presented with their cups and trophies by Nigel.

Our Social Friday evenings started on Friday 21st October where members enjoyed a free buffet, a chance to chat and to play board games and cards.

Another evening's entertainment was also arranged by Keith Double for Saturday 29th October, when members enjoyed a lively social evening.

Social evenings are continuing every Friday evening during the winter starting at 7 pm giving members a chance to meet up, relax, enjoy the bar and play games if they wish.

Our AGM is being held on Wednesday 7th December at 7.30 pm when all members are encouraged to attend to discuss club matters and vote for the Officers, Committee Members and Team Captains for the 2023 season.

Our Christmas Dinner takes place on Saturday 10th December at 7.30 pm, a chance for us all to get in the Christmas spirit.

The
Children's
Society

Coffee Morning

Thanks to all that attended, and special thanks to all helpers. The lovely sum of £260 was raised on the morning.

Unfortunately not all box holders attended, therefore, if you want your box to be counted in this years' collection, please hand in as soon as possible; to – Linda Green, Anglian House, Botesdale or Brenda Green, The Hollies, Botesdale. If you want to "roll over" to next year, please give me a call so I can account for this in the 'official return' paperwork. Anyone with mobility problems getting the box to us, please make contact on
Tel: 01379 890740 or greenz4@tiscali.co.uk.
Linda Green

Community Woodland

Amazingly, the weather is still very mild today and there are still leaves on trees, although they are falling now and high winds will bring more down.

Again, we have been asked where our sites are, so I shall tell you as I mention each one.

In Botesdale we own a small wood on Mill Road, the road to Botesdale Common. The wood is on the right, before the bypass and next to the bridleway. It is where there used to be a windmill and the fruit trees indicate that the miller had a garden, so we call it **Miller's Orchard**. A footpath runs the length of it from the bridleway and we have gradually opened up the overgrown wood to let light into the understorey. Recently some unsafe-looking trees have been cut down and of course we are into leaf fall now.

In Rickinghall we manage two plots of land for the Parish.

Northfield Wood lies next to the allotments on Mill Lane, a turning to the right beyond the Village Hall. It is an entirely new wood of native trees that we have been planting gradually since 2006, starting near the lane where the trees are now looking like trees and not a nursery. We also planted the hedge on two sides with native hedge species. A path runs down the wood, past a circular space where native fruit trees have been set for the benefit of the community, right to the bottom. Two smaller paths loop off the central one, and these have been kept clear by walkers!

At the Bury end of the village, there is **Low Meadow**. It's just after the last house on the left of Bury Road. A footpath starts here and we have planted trees spaced along this. The site is triangular, with willow trees along the stream at the far end and shrubs grouped on the left. There are two benches which have now been restored by the man who put them in originally, Denis Worby. We are grateful to him for this enhancement to the meadow and I hope people will enjoy sitting on them.

People are beginning to comment that there is less litter than usual. Are people becoming more responsible or is it just that they cannot afford to buy take-aways? Either way, it is better for the environment!

Rosemary Jones,
Botesdale and Rickinghall
Community Woodland
7th November, 2022
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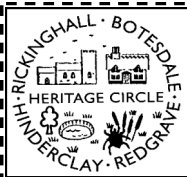


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Club News



The Dig - with Charlie Haylock

Charlie Haylock gave a very interesting and entertaining talk at the October meeting of the Heritage Circle about his experience as the Suffolk dialect coach on the Netflix film *The Dig* about the discovery of the Sutton Hoo treasure.

The invitation to become the dialect coach came as a complete surprise to Charlie. He received an email from the producer, Redmond Morris, but he initially thought that it was either spam or a scam. Charlie managed to contact Morris who convinced him that the offer was genuine. He was put in touch with the star of the film, Ralph Fiennes. This was the start of a very close working relationship. Charlie's role was to coach the cast so that they would speak with Suffolk accents. The director of the film was determined that the accents should be authentic, not 'West of Swindon with a touch of Long John Silver'!

Charlie was sent the script and his first task was 'Suffolkate' it. He changed some of the language to introduce Suffolk words and expressions, such as 'I runned' not 'I ran.' He had to avoid words which would not be understood by the expected global audience for the film. He then annotated the script by writing the dialogue phonetically and using hieroglyphics to alert the cast to the inflection of the words so that 'farm' would be pronounced 'faam' as there is no 'r' in Suffolk speech. Suffolk people resonate sounds at the front of the mouth. They speak slowly with tiny pauses when telling a story which encourages listeners to concentrate on what is said.

The cast were actors who were drawn from many regions of the British Isles. Charlie had to ensure that they spoke like people from Suffolk rather than 'West Country Pirates.' This was a challenge. He took the cast to a dance studio so that they were able to look at their mouth movements in a mirror so that their accent would be accurate. They even carried a small mirror on to the set for the same purpose when filming. Scenes were often shot 25 or 30 times until Charlie was happy with the quality of the accent of individual actors. This could be very difficult for everyone on the set. Occasionally, tempers frayed.

Charlie was very impressed with the dedication of Ralph Fiennes to become his character, Basil Brown, the archaeologist employed to direct the excavation of the Sutton Hoo site. Before filming began, Ralph Fiennes read all of the books that he could find on Basil Brown, Mrs Pretty who owned the land, and Sutton Hoo. He dressed in tweed clothes like those worn by Basil Brown. He talked to people who knew his character and looked at photographs to understand his mannerisms. He took part in an archaeological dig. Ralph Fiennes cycled huge distances, just like Brown, including from Woodbridge to Brown's home in Rickinghall. This was a journey that Basil Brown did every weekend during the excavation in 1939. Once filming began, Ralph Fiennes spoke in his Suffolk accent all of the time and went to pubs and cafés to listen to people speaking. Charlie called him 'Basil.' Ralph Fiennes thinks that Basil Brown is the most iconic character that he has ever played. There are elements of the film *The Dig* which were fictionalised but Charlie is convinced that the portrayal of Basil Brown was accurate. This is an interesting observation as, at the Heritage Circle meeting on Wednesday 25 January, Sarah Doig will give a talk entitled *The Real Basil Brown*.

Charlie illustrated his talk with a number of stories about the filming, many of which were very funny. It was an excellent evening entertaining a large audience.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be on Wednesday 14 December at Rickinghall Village Hall when Stuart Bowell will give a talk about *The History of Advertising*. Further information is available at www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net

Gerry Gurhy

Coffee On



Well what a brilliant morning ... we were rushed off our feet! As you will be aware we run the coffee shop, more or less, on the same lines each month. It is therefore of great delight to us that so many folks return month after month - whether they come for the chat, the sense of community or simply the delicious

cakes and savouries along with a cuppa, we don't know. We are simply pleased that you all come along and this morning was no different. We had our usual crowd of visitors, a selection of the members of the Chapel itself, three childminders and a delightful group of young children aged under 5, joined later in the morning by the walkers group, who really had earned their refreshments!

Many of you will have heard of "The Shoebox Appeal" and, whilst I don't have time to organise the boxes themselves this year, we will ensure that your kind donations made at this month's coffee shop will go towards the transport costs for the shoeboxes. These boxes, wrapped in festive paper, go out to various parts of the world to needy children. I have, in the past, watched some of the film of the children receiving these gifts and it is SO heart-warming. Not just their joy at receiving toys, hats, gloves and other useful items such as toothbrushes etc. but also their knowledge that someone, in another part of the world, cares enough to send the gifts. So thank you, thank you, thank you for your generosity at Coffee on the Corner - £150 will be sent very shortly to Samaritan's Purse, the charity that organises the distribution, to help to fund the transport.

We have all been made aware of the recent financial problems for many people in this country and how food banks have been increasingly in demand. Our collection for the December Coffee shop will therefore be added to their coffers. I appreciate that we should not, in a country such as ours, need to have food banks, but as we do, I feel we should help to ensure that no-one goes hungry, if we can help it. We look forward to seeing you again, at the next coffee shop on Tuesday 13th December.

As I said in last month's report, do look out for posters around the village for various things that are happening at Parkview Chapel between now and Christmas - if you haven't been along before, then please do so ... you never know, you might just enjoy the welcome you receive!

In the meantime, I wish you all the very best,

Sue Allen

If you would like to know more about our coffee shop or any of the happenings at Parkview Chapel, do please call me on 01379 890423. Alternatively, try Kevin Gladwell, our Community Pastor on 01379 898924.

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Nyall's Notes LOHP Local News

I welcome feedback, do get in touch. Nyall Davies 01379 897 067

There was no donkey

It is unlikely, though they are seen on many Christmas cards, that you think that Father Christmas and Rudolf feature in the Christmas story. However even Christians expect there to be a donkey and possibly some oxen. Thus many people will be surprised to find that the accounts make no mention of a donkey. Shepherds, yes, but no present of a lamb for the baby Jesus. These appear to be the fond imaginings of the writers of the Christmas carols that we sing.

There are many ideas associated with Christianity which are totally wrong. I have had people say to me, "I'm a Christian and I don't believe a word of it." I'm sorry but you can't be a Christian and not believe. In fact 'believer' is the word used for a Christian throughout the New Testament. Even the word Christian is only used three times and it was some years before the word was invented. The Bible says that the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch. Thus it didn't even originate with the first Christian community in Jerusalem. They were believers.

I question whether even the word believer is good enough these days for many will say that they believe and at Christmas much of our country puts on a good show. What did Jesus say? He said, "You will know them by their fruits."

Donald Trump opened my eyes to the state of Christianity in America. I had previously assumed that if anyone called themselves an evangelical Christian that they had put their faith in Jesus Christ for forgiveness and had beliefs that were strong enough to live by them. To me that would mean turning the other cheek, forgiving and loving their enemies as Jesus said. I am sure there are many that do believe in that way but I see little of that in American politics. How might we know whether these people are real or not? Jesus told us when he said that you shall know them by their fruits.

All of this must leave the public very confused so why not make Christmas more than an outward show that depends on the fond imaginings of those that wrote the carols we sing. Why not make it a time when we are all more able to talk of our faith, to openly say that the name Jesus means saviour - for that is what we need and is why the angel said to Joseph, "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." What better present can we give someone than the faith that saves, saves from sin, brings forgiveness, a love relationship with God and a place in heaven. The Bible says that faith comes through hearing. That means that those of us who are Christians need to open our mouths and speak.

And, if you are not a Christian, find one and ask them what Jesus means to them.

I wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord"

Luke Ch 2 vs. 10 & 11



Little Ouse
Headwaters
Project

Conservation & Community

*"I heard a bird sing
In the dark of December
A magical thing
And sweet to remember.
'We are nearer to Spring
Than we were in September'
I heard a bird sing
In the dark of December."*

Oliver Herford (1860-1935)

Redwings and fieldfares should have arrived from the North in good numbers. If we get snow, many garden birds just can't survive so please keep your feeders and bird tables topped up; shrews and voles will also benefit from this. Snipe can be spotted in the wetter areas and you may be lucky to see woodcock in damp woods. Keep an eye out for roe deer and brown hares across the fields and along woodland edges. When the forest extends into our area, red deer may also be seen. In fact, a large red stag was spotted around Garboldisham over the Autumn!

Our practical volunteers have been busy over the past months, replacing dangerous bridges over ditches on Parkers Piece, and on the Lows with culverts. Unfortunately, we found *Crassula Helmsii* (New Zealand Pygmyweed), a non-native invasive species, on the new dipping pond on Broomscott Common. Following guidance from other conservation organisations, we carried out a 'hand pull' and removal of the plant. We have reluctantly installed a fence around the pond. It may take a long time to get rid of it, but we will stay vigilant! We have also sadly had to close some of our paths because of dangerous trees suffering from Ash dieback. These poor trees become very unstable and can fall at any moment. Rest assured, as soon as these are spotted, we or our contractors will deal with them as soon as possible.

After all that doom and gloom, news of a happier event! Our annual New Year's walk is back this year! It will be held on Monday 2nd January meeting at Thelnetham windmill at 10am. All are welcome!

Wishing you and yours a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year from all at the LOHP!

John McCormack



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Rickingham Skate Park

Some good news to share

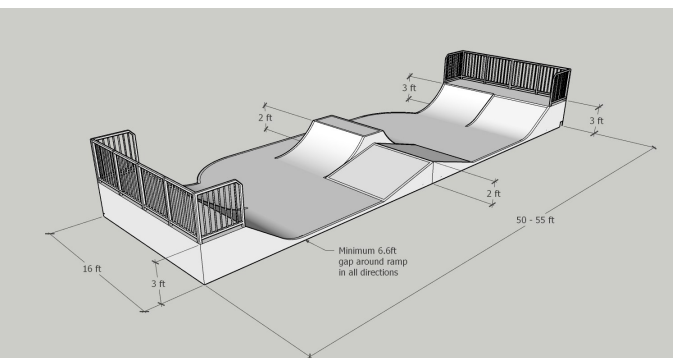
At long last the replacement ramp has been built at Rickingham Village Hall. The ramp has been welcomed by our young skaters who were able to start using it during the October half-term holiday.

The project was driven by Rickingham Parish Council. The Village Hall Management Committee would especially like to thank our Clerk, Leeann Jackson-Eve, who made a successful grant application to Mid Suffolk District Council which provided money from funds within its control. Jessica Fleming, our County and District Councillor, also provided a significant donation from her locality budgets. The project cost £55,000.

The involvement of the Parish Council, which also provided pump priming funds towards the project to the tune of £10,000, meant that VAT can be reclaimed, thus significantly reducing the total cost of the project to the community. Without a local parish financial contribution MSDC would not have been able to support the project.

The contractor, Fearless Ramps, was chosen from some five contenders. They designed and built the ramp which has a galvanised steel frame, is guaranteed for ten years and should last much longer. The original wooden ramps were built circa 2005 and were given a seven-year life. Like grandfather's hoe, they were rebuilt and added to over the years, and we managed to keep them in use for seventeen years.

Rickingham Village Hall Management Committee
November 2022



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Caring for church and community

Parish Magazine December 2022

The final donations have now been paid into Rickingham Fabric Fund and £540 was raised with an equal amount raised for Suffolk Historic Churches Trust for the Ride and Stride event in September. Thankyou to all the people who donated so generously. Special thanks to Kit Brinkley and Simon Draper for cycling between 44 churches to raise this tremendous amount. If anyone else would like to enter for this event next year look out for the advertising next summer.

The Round Tower Churches Society held a Study Day in Rickingham Village Hall and kindly donated £100 to the Fabric Fund for their visit to the church.

We were very pleased to welcome so many people to The Friendly Invasion Evening held in Rickingham Village Hall in October. Clive Stevens presented a detailed account of the USAAF airfields situated in the Eye area during the war and Alex kindly donned the gear needed to be worn by the airmen whilst flying their bombing raids over Germany. This was extremely hot and heavy to wear. Clive also offered to drive 6 people in a jeep in an auction which was won by Rev Cannon George Hilliard. A total of £546 was raised on this evening. Thank you to all the helpers.

The following day Mrs Ann Topham kindly opened her part of Redgrave Park. Mike Warner kindly guided people to the site of the 65th General Hospital which was temporarily situated in Redgrave Park to tend those seriously injured in the bombing raids from the surrounding airfields. Ann kindly took people to the site of the Prisoner of War camp on the opposite side of the lake. The weather was wonderful on this day and about 80 people attended and another £400 was raised for Rickingham Inferior Church fabric fund. A display of the Hospital and POW camp was held in the old game keepers cottage down by the lake.

Would you like to be the Local Recorder for: **REDGRAVE**

The Suffolk Local History Council runs a Recorders Scheme throughout Suffolk. We administer a network of volunteers to ensure that the 'present' is adequately recorded at local level for the 'future'.

A Recorder will note significant happenings in their parish and collect their local parish magazines, leaflets, election pamphlets and newspaper cuttings. At the end of each year, they are asked to submit a short report summarising the activities of their parish. The reports are deposited at the Suffolk Record Office and available to future researchers together with the collected items.

If you are interested, please look at the Recorders Pack by visiting www.slhc.org.uk to acquaint yourself with the guidelines of the scheme. You do not need to be a historian; you do not need any qualifications other than an interest in your parish. In return you will receive a copy of the SLHC Newsletter and be invited to the annual conference specifically for Local Recorders. To volunteer to help in this important work, please contact recorders@slhc.org.uk



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Exploring the Past

Jean Sheehan, 01379 890237

Jim Healey's army service at Botesdale POW Camp 56 at the end of WW2 - (Part 2)

I am grateful to Marcia (formerly) Healey for allowing me to copy an article which she wrote about her father and the Botesdale POW Camp which was situated on the Botesdale side of the lake in Redgrave Park. This is the second part of the article which was in last month's magazine.

A month after arriving in Botesdale Jim met my mother, Peggy Fellingham, who was the daughter of a local shopkeeper. When they met for their first date, she demanded to see his pay book. He asked her 'Why?' She replied 'To check that you are not married!' There were many social functions at the camp. We have a hand written invitation to my mother dated 15 July 1947 to a social event in the sergeants' mess, just before they were married.

The POWs were given pieces of wood and other materials that they made into items such as trays, jewellery boxes, sewing boxes and lamp stands in exchange for cigarettes. From a photograph my father had, one POW painted a very nice watercolour portrait of my mother in her Royal Observer Corps uniform, which we still have. Many POWs went to work for local farmers after the war and were often seen around the villages of Botesdale, Redgrave and Rickinghall.

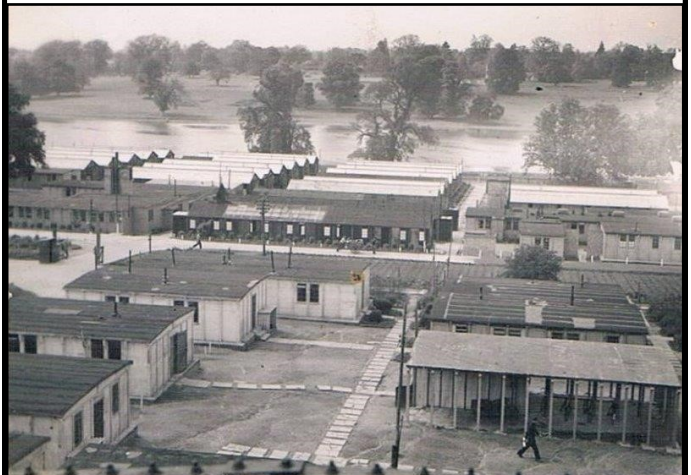
Not long after his wedding on 26 July 1947, Jim was required to go to Thornham Hall, Lord Henniker's home, to guard the premises. The hall had been requisitioned by the army and used, at least at the end of the war, as a hostel for extra prisoners that could not be accommodated at Botesdale. Thornham Hall was now unoccupied and the furniture removed. The soldiers were scared of staying there as it was said to be haunted. Jim was given a corporal to accompany him but he sent him back to Botesdale to 'lie low' and Peggy went instead. They thought that they were the only ones there. One day, when Peggy was cooking in the kitchen, she was petrified when a stranger looked through the window. Fortunately it was only the gamekeeper who offered them a rabbit for dinner! Unfortunately Thornham Hall burned down in 1954 and had to be rebuilt.

On 14 May 1948 Jim put one of the Ukrainians on a charge! In our collection of war documents is an Army Form B 252 which relates to soldier no.175848, M. Holowackyi. It states that the offence was 'Conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline among POWs i.e. breaking rear door lock whilst under close arrest.' Name of witness 14669723 Sgt J Healey. This is presumably a duplicate form as the space at the bottom for the signature of the commanding officer and the punishment awarded are left blank.

On 12 August 1948 my father was responsible for going to POW camp 80 at Hempton Green, Fakenham to collect 80 Ukrainian POWs and transport them back to

Botesdale. We have a copy of a document signed by GA Scott Lt authorising their release. There is a copy of the tear off slip that confirmed that the commandant at Botesdale had 'received the live bodies of 80 Ukrainian POWs' together with certain documents. Unfortunately we don't have the names or documents for these men, only the numbers of the documents that accompanied them.

After the Ukrainian soldiers left the camp Jim was released to the Royal Army Reserves on 17 October 1948. He stayed on the reserve list until 1959. He found work with Aves Builders of Redgrave, eventually becoming a self-employed bricklayer.



POW camp taken by Jim Healey from top of water tower

The only thing left of Camp 56 is the remains of the old water tower. During his stay at the camp, my father climbed up to the top of the tower and took a series of photographs to create a panoramic view. He also took photographs around the camp, giving us a very good idea of what life was like there just after the war. Once the POWs had left, the prefabricated buildings were made into temporary accommodation for local families until sufficient housing became available.

Sources:

James Healey service file obtained 17/03/2014 from Army Personnel Centre, Support Division Historical Disclosures, Mail Point 555 Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street Glasgow G2 8EX.

Documents relating to Botesdale Camp held by Jim Healey's family.

Conversations with Jim Healey over several years 1977-2008.

Website entitled: *Repatriated Landscape The Search for WW11 POW Camps in the British Landscape* - extracts from British Foreign Office Inspection Report from UK National Archives Kew for camp 56.

After sending this into the magazine last month I have learnt that the Ukrainians who stayed at the Botesdale camp, after many were sent home, were later known as Displaced Persons.



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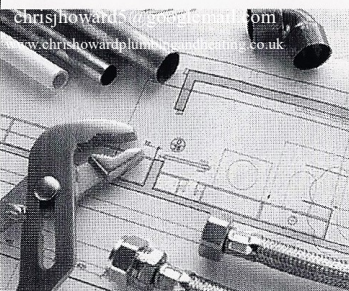
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Exploring the Past Again

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Field Names

Last month I wrote about a field called Barley Birch in Botesdale. There were many field names in the early years of our villages which we can find from the medieval documents. Some of these names have survived to this day. It is often difficult to discover where these fields actually were but we can sometimes find them named on later maps such as the Enclosure maps made in 1818 and 1819 or from various sales maps from the 19th century.

An interesting name on the Enclosure map for Rickinghall Superior is the 'Camping Close' which is shown as being situated in the field next to the Church. This would be where the medieval game of camping, a form of football, would take place between the villages. It could become a very rough game with reports in some villages of people being killed during a game. Each village would have had a field for this game, usually situated near a pub or the church. Unfortunately, we don't have any information as to where the ones in our other villages were situated.

The field to the East of West Street in Rickinghall is still known as ‘Duckingstool Meadow’. It has had this name for many years, once being known as Cokestole Meadow. A Coke or Cuke stool was a ducking stool. There is still a pond next to the stream in this field; it is possible that this was where the ducking stool was situated. Until the 1960s there was also a large pond opposite Pond House in Mill Road in Botesdale known in the 15th century as the Danglewell. This pond was also used as a ‘ducking pond’. On the Enclosure map it is called the Public Water Pit but it was also known well into the 20th century as the ‘Hoss’ pond. Horses were taken to these ponds to drink and cool their hooves after a day’s work.



Snape Farm Fields from 1841 Sales Map

Several fields in Rickinghall in the area of Snape Farm still have names similar to their medieval ones. Long and Lower Waites were once part of a field called Thwaites which is an Anglo-Saxon name meaning a clearing. Snape is another

Anglo-Saxon name meaning parcel of land. Snape Green is mentioned in a Court Roll as early as 1273 but it must have had its name from much earlier. There is a field called Galley Field which was recorded as Gallows Field in a 1437 survey and in later centuries. It is on the boundary between Rickinghall and Hinderclay. Gallows were often situated on boundaries between villages. However, no evidence of felons being hanged there has yet been found.

Some names described the location within the village, for instance in Rickinghall in the medieval period there was a South and a North field, which still have these names. These were large fields divided into strips, commonly now referred to as 'strip fields'. Each strip was usually about 11 yards wide and 220 yards, a furlong, in length. Individual tenants would have had several of these strips scattered across the various fields. A map from 1799 shows that North Field was still being farmed in this way.

In the medieval period a small field was often known by the name of the tenant who farmed it. In Botesdale there is one which we know was called Docke's Field. The Docke family had land in both Redgrave and Botesdale in the 14th century. The Enclosure map of 1819 for Botesdale named a 'Docks Close' which was situated between Mill Road and Bridewell Lane (called Watersledeway before the 17th century). On this map Docke's Close was also called Bridewell Close, which shows how names are replaced over time.

Barker's Field was one of the two 'strip fields' in Botesdale, Botesdale Field was the other. This field was situated between Bridewell Lane and the path which now leads from Warren Lane towards the bypass. This was called the Procession way and is the boundary between Botesdale and Rickinghall.

The field in Rickingham, across the boundary path from Botesdale Field and running parallel to Garden House Lane, was called Patlot Field in earlier times. Garden House Lane was at that time called Patlot Lane. Patlot Field became Houchen's Field in the late 17th century when the Houchen family owned it and remained Houchen's Field well into the 20th century.

Sometimes the name itself gives a clue as to how and when the field was first developed. For instance in the past there was a Reding field in Rickinghall. 'Reding' means a field that has been cleared of trees for cultivation. Stubbing has the same meaning. Today Stubbings Field has returned to being woodland, Stubbings Wood. The 'Frith' was a wood situated next to Houchen's Field (the bypass now cuts through it). Frith is another Anglo-Saxon word meaning open woodland. These fields were usually on the edge of the village and brought into cultivation as the population grew in the 13th century.

My thanks to Patrick Miles who gave us a copy of the 1841 sales map of Snape Hill House which has several old field names on it.

William Morgan, who gave us information about racing at Barley Birch and Allwood Green in last month's article, has recently published his book about old race courses. It is called 'Strongholds of Satan'. His website is www.mainholmeypress.co.uk

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IN YOUR GARDEN

My recent comments about the use of peat and the plans the Government have to ban its use by the end of next year on environmental grounds has caused a reaction from the readers of this column, especially from those who want to retain peat based compost because they believe the current peat free alternatives are not fit for purpose causing concern and frustration about their lack of success in germinating seeds.

Many in the horticultural industry especially growers and garden centres too have voiced their wish to keep peat-based growing media to produce affordable plants, and keep a level playing field with Europe where there are no plans to ban peat.

However, one strident comment has taken me to task for inferring just because most of our peat comes from abroad makes it acceptable to use. All peat bearing land regardless where they are, should be protected and I should be ashamed of promoting the right to exploit them.

I do feel my stance has been misunderstood. Yes, the majority of the peat we use for gardening does come from abroad and the rationale in banning its import is to save British peatlands.

My primary concern however is not so much about banning peat but the fact the current alternatives are not up to scratch or of consistent quality. In my experience using peat free compost, does take a bit of getting used to and it has taken me a while to adapt, primarily by mixing it with my home produced compost. In fact in some cases with my tomatoes, it performed better than peat. As one reader pertinently pointed out, gardeners managed very well before the advent of great bags of peat, so what is all the fuss about!

TESTING TIME

Chemically testing your soil may sound a bit scientific but it has proved an economical and effective process that has helped me identify the acidity and alkalinity of my soil and nutrient levels to help me get the best from my plants and stop me buying unsuitable types. This month is a good time for testing as the soil generally is lying fallow as we approach the dormant winter months.

Test kits are widely available at garden centres or online and are very simple to use. Just add a small amount of your soil into the tube of solution, give it a good shake and wait for it to settle to reveal the chemical composition of your soil. Testing kits to assess nutrient levels are slightly more complex but once you have a clear indication of which levels of nutrients are present or lacking in your soil, you can then take steps to remedy the situation.

Compliments of the season and fingers crossed for a great growing year in 2023.

Lawrence

Dubai Tower - Page 4

The excavation of the sand fill I referred to in the previous page, was not as simple as digging a hole, as the contractor had to take account of some complications.

He had to demolish, and remove the unreinforced top third of each concrete pile. Starting at the apex of the island, and working towards the land, he excavated approximately two metres of sand to allow access to the pile shaft for demolition without the need for extensive scaffolding. After completing the first pass the contractor returned to the apex and started excavating the next two metres of sand, and the demolition gangs recommenced work on the piles. This sequence was continued until formation level was reached at -8.5 metres below datum.

At this level the site was covered with a gravel blanket 300 mm thick, followed by a mass concrete layer 500 mm thick. The gravel allowed any water that percolated into the base to drain away to the dewatering pumps, and the concrete provided a stable working platform for men and equipment working on the early stages of construction. It also provided additional support to the sheet piles.

Each pile was carefully cut down to its design level, and then sealed so that moisture could not enter the basement structure via the piles.

The contractor started to erect the shuttering for the first section of the basement slab, and assemble the reinforcement. This mainly consisted of two layers of 40mm dia. bars laid at 90 degrees to each other as bottom reinforcement, with the same amount of rebar as a top layer about two meters higher.

To give a sense of scale, I could walk on the top of the bottom reinforcement wearing a hard hat, and the helmet would not touch the upper layer.

Whilst this work was proceeding the contractor extended the precast yard so that he could start precasting the concrete units that would armour the outer slopes of the island. The designers had decided to use precast units as it had proved impossible to ensure a sufficient supply of suitably sized, natural rock armour from local quarries. They chose a new and novel design of unit patented by a company called Shepherd Hill. They were known as SHED's – Shepherd Hill Energy Dispersion units. The form work was supplied to the contractor by Shepherd Hill.

The first attempts at casting SHED's were not successful, and it needed the advice of an engineer from Shepherd Hill before production of SHED's could proceed with confidence.

On the island the contractor had to solve a number of problems. The first was the volume of concrete required for the first basement slab pour. It was the largest ever attempted in Dubai – (from memory about 1,250 cubic metres) – and required some special arrangements. As usual the Batching Plant output had to be checked, but the ability of the operator to deliver the concrete at the volume required per hour, and the arrangements for the resupply of cement and aggregates had to be checked and approved. Unusually, a second batch plant was checked and approved. It would only be put into operation if the first plant had a breakdown, and there was a risk of stopping the work part way through. Similarly every piece of equipment required for the work, from area lighting masts to poker vibrators, had their replacements on standby, just in case.

After everything had been checked and approved we only had to wait until it was time to start construction.

XXX

JML - To be continued.

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Fens, New Year's Day, 2016

*Another year, and winter not yet come.
The wind has dropped at last and in the pools
Pale reeds stand sentinel, while on the edge
Spring-yellow buds are bursting on the gorse.
On the wet fen, the night's first film-ice-sheets
Cover the flooded, shallow water, sheltering.*

*The seasons are confused; the birds are singing,
Bulbs are flowering before their time.
And yet the light is low, the days are short;
Winter should come, then spring can follow on.*

*Winter's a time for staying home, and grieving
The losses that attend advancing years,
For memories of treasured times and friendships,
For secret thoughts and very private tears.
Rosemary Jones*



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Nearly £700 was raised for St Mary's Church and our gratitude goes to all who gave so willingly. You can join the Friends of St Mary's Church Rickingham and play your part in supporting our much loved national heritage. Contact: Jean Sheehan tel: 01379 890 237



Mid Suffolk

Last year I fell for a scam when I was doing my Christmas shopping. The scam was clever. I thought I was getting a good deal but didn't realise I was

being scammed until it was too late. How can I avoid the same thing happening again this year?

Scammers' tactics become more sophisticated every year, making scams tricky to recognise, but there are things you can look out for.

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. For example, tickets to an event that are much cheaper than they're being sold elsewhere, or a holiday that's a lot less than you'd expect to pay.

Be wary of people contacting you out of the blue on social media sites or via text and email offering an item for sale or deal on something.

Do your research. If you're buying from a website you haven't used before, spend a few minutes researching it. A good place to start is finding a website's terms and conditions. You should also look up the company's address, this can normally be found in the website's 'contact us' section and should have a street name, not just a PO box. If it's a registered UK company you can check its details on the Companies House website at gov.uk/get-information-about-a-company

Check to see what people have said about the company. It's worth looking at different review websites to see other people's feedback – don't rely on reviews the company has put on its own website.

Scammers will often ask you to pay in an unusual way, or very quickly. For example, you're asked to send money through a transfer service like MoneyGram or Western Union or pay via vouchers.

Remember never give away your personal information like a password or PIN and never click on or download anything you don't trust.

To hear about scams in Suffolk, you can sign up to the very useful Trading Standards email at suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/suffolk-trading-standards/become-a-consumer-champion

If you've transferred money, speak to your bank and the police. You should also contact the police if the scammer is in your area or you feel unsafe.

Don't feel embarrassed about reporting a scam – scammers are clever and it can happen to anyone.

Reporting a scam helps track down and stop scammers, helping to prevent it from happening to others too.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this and other issues, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. More information and our opening hours can also be found at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us.

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Botesdale & Rickinghall	Peter Beck	01379 890495	peter@pbeck.plus.com	Emergency	999	For Ambulance, Fire Brigade, Police
Redgrave	John Campbell	01379 890946	redgravenwatch@outlook.com	Manned desks		Bury St Edmunds - Raingate Street IP33 2AP Ipswich - 10/10a Museum Street IP1 1HT Lowestoft - Old Nelson Street NR32 1PE

SCAM ALERT

ENERGY BILL DISCOUNT

Text messages are circulating locally from fraudsters advising you need to urgently claim your energy bill discount.

We would remind everyone.

You do not have to apply for the energy bill discount.

You will not be contacted by the Government or OFGEM asking for your bank details.

Your electricity supplier will apply a £400 discount automatically if you pay your bills by Direct Debit, Standard Credit, or payment card smart prepayment meter.

Traditional payment meter holders will receive discount vouchers issued by their electricity supplier via SMS text, email or in the post along with information where they can be redeemed usually at a Pay Point or at Post Office branches.

For further information on energy bills support scheme visit the Gov. UK website

People's Postcode Lottery.

Fake emails are circulating luring people into giving away personal details and documentation on the premise they have won substantial cash sums in the post code lottery.

To confirm you are the genuine winner, you are asked to forward a scan of your driving licence or passport and a current utility bill as well as your National Insurance number plus bank details to have the prize credited to your account.

The Peoples Postcode Lottery have issued a warning about this fake email scam confirming they never ask you to provide any personal or financial details. If your postcode is drawn and you win over £1000 or more, they will either phone you or send a letter in the post.

Please share this information with your family, friends and neighbours. In fact, anyone who may find it helpful.

FOREWARNED IS FOREARMED



Ada Daniels



Esme Green

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YOUR PARISH MAGAZINE

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE?

We run 10 issues a year, combining Dec/Jan and Aug/Sep and deliver to 1300 homes throughout Rickingham, Botesdale and Redgrave.

Also online at: stmarysrickinghamlinferior.onesuffolk.net/parish-magazine

The three sizes of adverts we offer are:

Size 1: 4cm wide x 6cm high - £45.00 per year

Size 2: 9cm wide x 6cm high - £75.00 per year

Size 3: 9cm wide x 13cm high - £120.00 per year

Another option would be to place a one-off flyer in the next available edition, at a cost of £75.00.

**If interested, please contact
adverts@trbrparishmag@gmail.com**

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At our October meeting we were pleased to welcome 3 new members. Our speaker was Amanda Sutherland talking about her 'Creative Journey', which had started when she was a child. After completing a combined 4year BTEC and HND in fashion design at the London College of Fashion she launched into her working career as a head buyer at the London Royal Opera House in Convent Garden.

She then continued her journey within the West End by working on productions including Jesus Christ Superstar as well as various fringe theatre productions and commercials for TV. Her final break came about by working as a ladies period costumer for the world's leading costume house 'Angels The Costumers', which was a life changing opportunity where she worked with stars from both film and TV.

Eventually Amanda moved out of London with her family and started her own business first in bridal wear and then using reclaimed tin cans and other items to make head-ware, jewellery and accessories,

Amanda displayed a wide range of her products which were available for purchase at the end of our meeting and proved very popular.



Members checking out Amanda's jewellery & accessories

The speaker at our November meeting was Emily Matthews talking about the Snetterton Dogs Trust, a local branch of the national Dogs Trust which has 22 branches throughout the UK. Emily told us the history of the Dogs Trust, which was first set up, with a different name, in the 1920's to try to eradicate cruelty and neglect to dogs.

Its name was changed in 2002 to The Dogs Trust, and is open to any dogs who require re-housing, for whatever the reason. Emily showed us a video showing the modern buildings and land around and it is obvious the dogs are exceedingly well looked after, with play areas, woodland walks and toys. Dogs stay on average for about 6 weeks before being re-homed, puppies normally sooner. Their motto is to never put down a healthy dog. They have dog training facilities, dog fostering schemes and a scheme which means they automatically take a dog once their owner is no longer able, or alive, to look after them. Although they don't take dogs directly from abroad we were pleased to hear they have been able to help with Ukrainian refugees with dogs. Emily praised the dedication and hard work of the many volunteers who support the trust, helping with dog walks, training and managing the dogs.

An enlightening talk enjoyed by our members. Our fun competition of 'something doggy' was well supported, with dog ornaments and other doggy memorabilia.

10 ladies enjoyed an afternoon tea and chat at Wortham Tea Rooms on Wednesday 19th October. We are now changing to *Soup and Natters* in Rickinghamhall Village Hall, the first one being held on Friday 25th November at 12.30.

Rosemary Setterfield – President



Joni Burgin



Derry Hughes

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Notes from the Green Redgrave Group

We had a break from our series of wildlife talks in November. Instead, we held a meeting of the Green Redgrave Group in the Cross Keys pub on Thursday 10th November primarily to make sure that we were on track for our planting activities this winter (see below for more details) but also to make sure we discuss our future plans for 'greening' the village more generally. John Preston, our village Tree Warden, held an extremely interesting Tree Sowing workshop. He showed us how to take seeds from local native trees and sow them to make sure we can have a nursery stock for the future; he also handed out seeds to those willing to give it a go. Hopefully we will have lots of baby hawthorns, sweet chestnuts and other small trees growing soon.

Our plans to plant up nearly 3,600 trees, provided by the Sicon Foundation, in and around the village are on track. We have a volunteer list from residents in Redgrave but also from local partner organizations – thanks particularly to the Little Ouse Headwaters Project for their offer of assistance. We intend to plant up to 600 trees a day over 6 days (or perhaps more) starting in December. In particular we intend to use the Miyawaki (or micro forest) method for part of the area to be planted. This will involve planting trees at 3 per square meter which encourages rapid growth. If you feel that you are able to help with the odd few days of planting then we would be delighted to hear from you. We are currently planning on the following planting days, although we may have to add to or change these based on the experiences of the first few days: Sunday 4th Dec; Wed 7th Dec; Wed 14th Dec; Fri 6th Jan; Sun 8th Jan; Wed 11th Jan. We will be pleased to see you if you can come along to any of these days. Please get in touch – details below. We completed the planting of 300 daffodils in the Knoll on Sunday 30th October. Hopefully we should get a good prolonged show of colour in the Spring as a result of this effort and the planting of snowdrops last Spring.

We will resume our programme of talks in December. This will be a fascinating talk by Kevin Sawford entitled "Introduction to Garden Photography". The talk will be held in the Cross Keys Pub at 7pm on Tuesday 6th December. Kevin is a multi-award-winning photographer based in Woolpit, Suffolk. Examples of some of the great photographs that he has taken can be seen at his website - <https://www.kevinsawford.com/>

We are still looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help us progress our activities. If you want to contribute or just learn about wildlife friendly activities then please join us. We would love to hear from you. Contact Andy Warnes (by email awarnes@btinternet.com or on 07478 337331) for more details.



Next Green Redgrave Talk

Introduction to Garden Photography



Talk by: Kevin Sawford

Place: Cross-Keys Pub, Redgrave

Time: 1900 hrs on Tuesday 6 Dec 22

Entrance £3 per person



Amy Tate

Victoria Vasileva



Rafferty Marsh




Church Notices

Parkview Chapel Sunday Services and Events

All services are at Parkview Chapel (unless noted otherwise), include Communion, and are live-streamed on the 'Parkview Chapel' Youtube channel. Refreshments will be served from 10.30am.

Please call Kev Gladwell on 01379 898924 for more details or check out www.parkviewchapel.co.uk

December		 PARKVIEW CHAPEL CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY
Sunday 4th	Service at 11.00am – A Different Gift	
Sunday 11th	Christmas Carol service at 4.00pm – A Different Celebration	
Sunday 18th	'Coffee On A Sunday' service at 11.00am – A Different Birth	
Sunday 25th	Christmas Day service at 10.30am – A Different King	
January		
Sunday 1st	Service at 11.00am	
Sunday 8th	Service at 11.00am – Major Lessons from The Minor Prophets	
Sunday 15th	'Coffee On A Sunday' service at 11.00am – Major Lessons from The Minor Prophets	
Sunday 22nd	Service at 11.00am – Major Lessons from The Minor Prophets	
Sunday 29th	United Church service at 10.30am (at Parkview Chapel)	
Events	Coffee on the Corner at 9.00am, with a visit in December from St. Botolph's Primary School children to sing carols.)	
		Tuesday 13th December Tuesday 10 th January
PARKVIEW Youth		Sundays 11:00am - 12:00pm
Junior Church		Fridays 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Junior Friday Club		Fridays 6:00pm - 7:00pm
PYP		Sundays 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Senior Friday Club		Fridays 7:30pm - 9:30pm

WELCOME TO BOTESDALE METHODIST CHURCH EVENTS AND GROUPS

Our Church is to be found in Fen Lane, Botesdale - the lane opposite the fish and chip shop. We are a friendly bunch of people holding Services every Sunday morning at 10.30 am, welcoming everyone to our services and weekday activities.

Services in December

- 4th Mr Neville Hodson
- 11th Rev David Ely - Holy Communion
- 18th Carol Service*
- 25th Christmas Day Service at 10 am led by Steve Aspinall
- * A 'Top of the Carols' voted for by our members, along with Christmas Readings

Services in January

- 1st Local Arrangement
- 8th Rev David Ely - Covenant Service and Holy Communion
- 15th Mrs Jane Mottram
- 22nd Mrs Margaret Chamberlain
- 29th United Service

December and January activities : you are very welcome to join us for any of the following :

- Dec Tuesday 6th : Social Afternoon 2.30 to 4pm - get together over a cup of tea. Christmas craft & readings
- Tuesday 13th : Bible Study 2pm led by Rev David Ely, then social time. Lively discussion guaranteed
- * **Please note that there will not be a Coffee Down the Lane in December** *
- Jan Monday 9th : 10am Bible Study led by Rev David Ely
- Tuesday 24th : Coffee Down The Lane - our regular Coffee Morning held every fourth Tuesday of the month - an opportunity for all to come in for a chat and get to know others in our community

Every service and activity is open to anyone - you do not have to 'belong' to this Church or any other, so give us a try and see what you think. For more information phone 01379 890898.



Parish of Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls December 2022 & January 2023

Sunday 4th December

Community Worship, 10am, All Saints Church, Redgrave; **Holy Communion**, 11.30am All Saints Church, Redgrave
Refreshments served from 11.15am

Sunday 11th December

BCP Holy Communion, 8.45am Chapel of Ease, Botesdale; **Christingle Service**, 3pm St Mary's Church, Rickinghall

Sunday 18th December

BCP Holy Communion, 8.45am Chapel of Ease, Botesdale; **Lessons and Carols Service** 2pm, St Mary's, Rickinghall

Christmas Eve

Crib Service/event, 5pm, All Saints, Redgrave; **Midnight Communion**, 11.15pm, St Mary's, Rickinghall

Christmas Day Happy Birthday Jesus!

Family Communion, 9.30am, St Botolph's, Botesdale

Sunday 1st January 2023 Happy New Year to one and all!

BCP Holy Communion, 9am All Saints Church, Redgrave

Sunday 8th January

All Together Communion, 10.30am, St Mary's, Rickinghall

Sunday 15th January

Community Worship, 10am, All Saints Church, Redgrave; **Holy Communion**, 11.30am All Saints Church, Redgrave
Refreshments served from 11.15am

Sunday 22nd January

Family Breakfast Church, 9.30am, Botesdale Village Hall; **Holy Communion**, 11am, St Botolph's, Botesdale

Sunday 29th January

BCP Holy Communion, 8.45am Chapel of Ease, Botesdale; **United Service**, 10.30/11am Venue to be confirmed

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

<http://www.rbrchurch.org.uk/> 01379 898685



Message From Mel

@rbrchurch
mel@rbrchurch.org.uk
01379 452702



Hello everyone,

It's the most wonderful time of the year.... Christmas and the New Year is here. I love this time of the year and I become a bit like a mad Christmas Elf... just so excited for the season and the joy and kindness that spreads in the world.

Churches across these villages are all preparing for Christmas and there is nothing much better than going along to a Christmas service and making a Christingle/craft and singing Christmas Carols. So, I encourage you to look at the services at RedBRick, Parkview and the Methodist and find a service that is right for you, and to celebrate this time of the year and the hope that it brings.

This is also my last article for this magazine, as I am getting a new job in the New Year. It has been a privilege to write regularly. Thank you everyone and I thank all of you who have read this column. I hope it has been a source of hope and encouragement to you all.

As you know, each month I have been writing about an inspirational woman and I have written about many over the past 14 months including Queen Elizabeth, Amelia Earhart, Florence Nightingale and Coco Chanel. For my last column, I am going to talk about a mother who inspires me continually; Mary, the mother of Jesus. The virgin Mary was only a teenager when the Holy Spirit touched her, and she became pregnant with Jesus. Mary came from a poor family and she wasn't anything special. She was a young girl just like you and me, yet God chose her to be the one who would birth the most important person in history, Jesus Christ. Being a first-time mum is hard enough, but giving birth to her baby in a poor dirty stable and laying him in a manger where the animals ate from, then raising a child who is God's son, is no mean feat, yet in the bible it describes her as "meek and mild" and a "servant". I find it hard to imagine what it must have been like.

In the bible it also says that God never gives us more than we can handle. God is always with us and He helps us. As mums we can get everything thrown at us and it can be hard to manage and deal with it all, but God is always with us and He never leaves us. God's purposes for us are to always prosper us and not to harm us, and they are plans for a future and a hope. My life is hard but I know God loves me and I can do all things through God who loves me. You can too and no matter what happens, God the father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit are always there to guide, love, cry out to and to comfort. God saves. God saved me and I wouldn't be alive today without Him.

I wish you all well. Happy Christmas and God Bless you in 2023. I pray it will be a year filled with hope. Goodbye and with Love x Mel Ramos

