

# PARISH MAGAZINE

Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls

May 2022



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

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

**Parish Website:**  
[rbrchurch.org.uk](http://rbrchurch.org.uk)  
**St Mary's Rickinghall Inferior**  
[www.stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net](http://www.stmarysrickinghallinferior.onesuffolk.net)  
**Instagram:**  
[@rbrchurch](https://www.instagram.com/rbrchurch)  
**Email:** [revchris@rbrchurch.org.uk](mailto:revchris@rbrchurch.org.uk)

**Foreword from**  
**Reverend Chris Norburn**  
**Rector of**  
**Redgrave cum Botesdale**  
**with the Rickinghalls**  
*The Rectory, Bury Road,*  
*Rickinghall, Diss. IP22 1HA*  
*Tel: 01379 898685*



Have I always been a fan of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II? Confession time, no!! I had no real objection, but like many I questioned the purpose of the British monarchy. Was it really necessary in this day and age? Yet, she is, as 'Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England' my boss as a priest in the Church of England. At my ordination twenty-six years ago I made an Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, ("I do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors according to law: so help me God"). Still I was pretty nonplussed about the monarchy. But then as the Golden Jubilee approached 20 years ago something changed. I began to take more notice of what the Queen actually did and the sort of person she was and realised that there was a lot more to her than I had first thought.

By this time the family was still coming to terms with Princess Diana's death, and coming through the rocky time of the divorces of her children. I began to see that her family life was not that much different to our family life, full of highs and lows, good times and bad times and, like us all, she is trying her best to navigate the best way she can through all that life throws at us. Whilst the media was telling us how she should have responded to certain family events, she was continuing to let her faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour shape her and lead her in God's way. I could see that she was endeavouring to put her faith in Jesus first in her life, letting it shape how she lived day by day. I learnt that her personal faith was evident even before she was crowned.

*'Pray for me ... that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.'*

This prayer request of hers was made during her first Christmas broadcast in 1952, 6 months before her crowning as Queen in June 1953, and 10 months after her ascension to the throne in February 1952. To me, what has stood out is her willingness to serve her people.

A book produced by the Bible Society celebrating her Diamond Jubilee in 2012 was titled *The Servant Queen and the King She Serves*. This book uses the Queen's own words to draw out the central role of her Christian faith and the Bible in her daily life. During her long reign, she has been inspired by the sacrificial life of Jesus Christ, who said of himself: he 'did not come to be served, but to serve'. She lives by this teaching of Jesus, believing *'that genuine human happiness and satisfaction lie more in giving than receiving; more in serving than in being served.'* Often she refers to Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, trying to follow Christ's clear instruction at the end of this parable: "Go and do likewise" (Luke 10).

Her personal faith also prompts her to work for peace and reconciliation internationally and in her own family. In 2011 she said, *'Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love.'*

In her 2012 Christmas speech she concluded her broadcast by praying for her people and inviting a practical, servant-hearted response to Jesus Christ's message of love:

*'This is the time of year when we remember that God sent his only Son "to serve, not to be served". He restored love and service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer this Christmas Day that His example and teaching will continue to bring people together to give the best of themselves in the service of others. The carol, "In the Bleak Midwinter" ends by asking a question of all of us who know the Christmas story, of how God gave himself to us in humble service:*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part...*

*'The carol gives the answer,*

*'Yet what I can I give him – give my heart!'*

Throughout her long life and reign, Christ's example and teaching have been seen acted out in the dutiful and faithful life of our servant-hearted Queen. Yes, like us all she is not perfect, but it seems to me that her prayer from the start of her reign has been answered, and I am thankful to God for her long reign, and steadfastness of faith. She is a powerful and positive example of wonderful Christian living. God save our Queen.

See pages 9 and 11 for how our communities are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at the beginning of June.

With every blessing.

*Chris Norburn.*



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/>



Deleted (Rickinghall Parish Council) Entry	Reason
Stephen Pattenden	Resigned from Parish Council

### Message from the team

Summer is well on its way now and we have 5 packed pages of events for you. There is the Jubilee to look forward to with various events in the villages. We hope everybody can get out and enjoy themselves and please support local businesses who have had a hard time over the last couple of years

*Charles Murray*

### Contacts

For all editorial content: [editoratrbparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:editoratrbparishmag@gmail.com)

For all commercial adverts: [advertsatrbparishmag@gmail.com](mailto:advertsatrbparishmag@gmail.com)

To advertise events: [eventsatrbparishmag@gmail.com](mailto: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

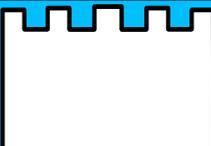
- **May issue 11 Apr (Mon)** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave—3.15pm on **22 Apr (Fri)**
- **June issue 9 May (Mon)** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave—3.15pm on **20 May (Fri)**
- **July issue 13 June (Mon)** Come and help stuff the magazine @ All Saint's, Redgrave—3.15pm on **24 June (Fri)**

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

We are still open every day, however please note the temporary timings, until further notice.

### CURRENT OPENING HOURS

Mon – Sat 8:30 - 1:00pm  
Sun 9:00 - 11:00am

Telephone: 01379 898848

Email: [www.redgravecommunityshop@gmail.com](mailto:www.redgravecommunityshop@gmail.com)

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[www.mickthebaker.com](http://www.mickthebaker.com)  
[facebook.com/mickthebaker](https://facebook.com/mickthebaker)

# STAR WING BREWERY

**\*\* BEER FESTIVAL 30 Apr – 2 May \*\***

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Opening Times  
Tue -Thu 9am - 9pm  
Fri, Sat, Sun 9am - late

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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
MONDAY	2 - 10	
TUESDAY	2 - 10	
WEDNESDAY	2 - 10	
THURSDAY	12 - 10	12 - 2.30 & 5 - 8.30
FRIDAY	12 - 10	12 - 2.30 & 5 - 8.30
SATURDAY	12 - 10	12 - 2.30 & 5 - 8.30
SUNDAY	12 - 6	12 - 3

### Future Events:

Sat 14th May : *Redwood live music (Steve Tonsley)* 8.30pm  
Sat 28th May : *Bike Meet & BBQ* 12noon  
*Nick Stephenson live music* 8.30pm  
Tue 31st May : *Ian's Quiz Night* 7pm for 7.30pm  
3rd - 5th June : *Jubilee 3 Pub Beer Festival*

### PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Takeaways available Fridays and Sundays

#### Contact us:

Cross Keys, The Street, Redgrave, Diss IP22 1RW  
[gm@redgravecommunitysociety.com](mailto:gm@redgravecommunitysociety.com)

**01379 779822**

Please check the website and social media for all the latest updates  
[www.crosskeysredgrave.co.uk](http://www.crosskeysredgrave.co.uk) / Facebook @crosskeyspubredgrave  
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# May What's On



On 25<sup>th</sup> May 7:30pm  
at Rickinghall Village Hall,  
the Heritage Circle presents  
**a talk by Stuart Bowell :**  
**Visiting Churches**  
New members & guests welcome  
Visit [onesuffolk.co.uk/HeritageCircle](http://onesuffolk.co.uk/HeritageCircle)



## Redgrave & Lopham Fen

Regular Events	<b>Wild Tots/Wild Babies</b> See website for details
	<b>Weekend Wildlife Club</b> for 6-11 year olds. First Saturday of the month in May then second Saturday, 10.30am-12.30pm
	<b>Young Naturalists</b> for 11-16 year olds First Saturday of the month in May then second Saturday, 10.30am-12.30pm
	<b>Guided walk</b> Fourth Monday of the month, 10am-12noon. A sociable stroll for adults looking at seasonal wildlife
May	<b>Time to paint</b> Creative & social session for adults. Last Friday of the month, 10am-2pm £5 donation. No need to book
	<b>Needle felted curly hedgehog workshop</b> Fri 20 May, 2-5pm £32 including materials & refreshments
	<b>Go Wild Holiday Club</b> Tue 31 May, 9am-3.30pm. For unaccompanied 6-11 year olds. Wild play, games and activities. £25 each, including a healthy, vegetarian lunch

**Booking essential for all activities unless otherwise stated. For further details and to book, visit [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org) or call 01473 890089**

## Classic Car Meet, Autojumble & Car Boots...

...start again from Saturday 14 May alongside the monthly Farmers' Markets.

## Rickinghall Village Hall

**Angles Way Filling Station**

Friday 13 May 2022  
7.30pm  
with Andy Jelks  
'What I have I give you'

**THE FILLING STATION**

Garboldisham Village Hall IP22 2SE

**Have a go at Bowling!**  
**OPEN AFTERNOON**  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
1.30 – 5.30pm  
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Fen Lane, Rickinghall, IP22 1DP  
(opposite Greyhound Pub)  
**BOWLS GEAR**  
**AVAILABLE TO USE**  
Come along and have some fun!

**Botesdale Methodist Church**  
"Coffee down the Lane"  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>



## Motocross Wattisfield Hall

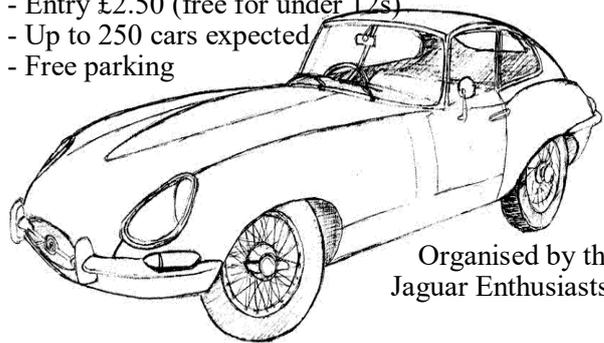


**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May** - Solos - 11.30am start  
**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June** - Evening Solos - 5.45 pm start  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept.** - Solos - 11.30am start  
[www.dissmcc.co.uk](http://www.dissmcc.co.uk)

## Car Show and Craft Fair

**Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am Rickinghall Village Hall**

- Craft fair, Stalls and Refreshments
- Entry £2.50 (free for under 12s)
- Up to 250 cars expected
- Free parking



Organised by the Jaguar Enthusiasts'

*Would you like to display your classic car? Or volunteer to help on the day? If so, please contact : Geoff Short on 01379 897164*

## COFFEE ON THE CORNER Plus!

Coffee on the Corner will have extra fun and stalls this month, including a produce stall.



**We are raising funds for Ukraine at 9am to 12 noon on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Parkview Chapel, The Street, Botesdale**

Do come along - encourage as many friends, neighbours and family members to support this brilliant cause.

## A reminder that the Parish Magazine email addresses have changed...

Articles	<a href="mailto:articlesatrbparishmag@gmail.com">articlesatrbparishmag@gmail.com</a>
Adverts	<a href="mailto:advertsatrbparishmag@gmail.com">advertsatrbparishmag@gmail.com</a>
Editor	<a href="mailto:editoratrbparishmag@gmail.com">editoratrbparishmag@gmail.com</a>
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Our fees are as follows;

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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

### Gentle Yoga

at  
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Starting 25th April  
Mon 10:30 - 11:30am  
First class free  
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Suitable for all levels  
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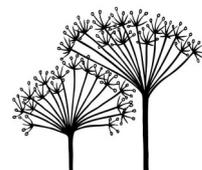
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[aislingcounsellingpractice@gmail.com](mailto:aislingcounsellingpractice@gmail.com)

# Jubilant June!



Opens 10 am  
Sunday 5 June  
Rickinghall Playing Field

## Arena Events



Enter your pooch on the day  
3 Groups:

1 & under / adult / senior

## Fancy Dress—Royal Theme

Age groups 0 to 10

11-16 & 17-177

Just turn up and enter on the day.

Food Stalls  
Bar by The Bell

with

BRUHA ⊕

beer

Picnic Area  
Park Radio Live!

## Side Shows

Splat The Rat; Ski Ball; Bowling,  
Coconut shy; bale toss & more

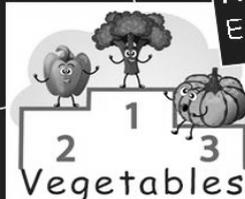
## Craft Tent

Pre-booked stalls only  
Enquiries: rickinghallfair@gmail.com



Pre booked entry only  
Enquiries:  
rickinghallfair@gmail.com

## Competition Tent



Flower  
Arranging

Music by Swervy World



Two Groups: Children / Adults

Enter on the day

To get the latest  
information scan  
this QR code →



CAVEAT: Information hereon may change without notice! V 1.3 March 2022

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1lb potatoes	1 teaspoon oil
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2oz plain flour	1 large clove of garlic (chopped)
1lb fresh spinach	4 ozs single cream
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg	1 egg, beaten
1oz grated cheddar	

1. Boil the potatoes in salted water until soft - then mash well with butter and flour
2. Grease an 8/9" quiche dish with butter, and use your fingers to press the potato mixture into the dish, until the base and sides are evenly covered
3. Wash spinach, remove thick stalks, and put into a pan with a sprinkling of salt; cover and cook for 5 minutes. Drain and remove excess water by squeezing between 2 plates, then chop roughly
4. Heat oil in a frying pan and gently sauté the mushrooms and garlic. Using a slotted spoon, transfer to the potato base, then cover evenly with spinach
5. Mix the cream, egg, nutmeg and seasoning together and pour over the pie. Finally sprinkle on the grated cheese and bake in a pre-heated oven (190°) for 25/30 minutes or until the edge of the potato and cheese are well-browned.



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# Botesdale Parish Council



Leeann Jackson-Eve

## Report from the April 2022 Botesdale PC Meeting

This year the April PC meeting was preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting. The APM provides an opportunity for parishioners to discuss parish affairs, and for village organisations to tell them what they've been doing over the past year. It is not to be confused with the annual meeting of the Parish Council in May, where the Chairman is elected and other annual business is conducted (similar to an AGM). We have received 16 reports in total from local organisations and these will be posted on the BPC website and in the Botesdale Bugle which you will receive in the summer. One "Local Issue" was raised which was the lack of sufficient parking on Chapel Lane for residents of Oswald Mews and their visitors. County Cllr Jessica Fleming has agreed to take this up with Suffolk County Council Highways on behalf of the residents.

We then proceeded with the regular meeting of the Parish Council with all Councillors in attendance.

**Planning:** There was one application for an extension to 8 Park View. Councillors thought that the application was clear and well-presented, and there was no objection.

**Recreation Ground Project:** We are excited to report that by the time you receive this, work will have begun. The Recreation Ground has now been closed until Spring 2023. The work will be completed by November, but the longer closure will allow the soft landscaping to become well established prior to use. The Community Art Project was advertised in the last parish magazine and will be promoted at the Village Hall for the Open Gardens event in June. This will be followed by a big exhibition in September to display the entries.

**Correspondence:** The PC has received some information from MSDC about their upcoming Community Governance Review and how to take part. The PC feels that this is a good opportunity to consider the merger of Botesdale and Rickinghall Parish Councils and it is noted that there are two options: the creation of a new single parish with one Parish Council or the re-grouping of Botesdale, Rickinghall Inferior and Rickinghall Superior parishes under one Parish Council. Councillors will be meeting with Rickinghall PC before making a decision at the May meeting. If you have any thoughts about a potential merger – either option outlined above

– please get in touch or attend our meeting in May!

**Grant Funding:** Local grants have been agreed for the Parochial Church Council for local churchyard maintenance, the Rickinghall Day Centre and Barwoods (for public liability insurance for Millers Orchard). Most payments will be made in May.

### Village Issues:

The PC will be renewing its contract with Tim Gaddis for street sweeping and some footpath cutting on top of what is carried out by Suffolk County Council.

The large crater on the Bridewell Lane footpath has been filled by Suffolk County Council and some side clearance has taken place. It has long been agreed that the wooden bridge near the Event Company needs a step up to make it safe. This has been brought to SCC's attention in the past and it was agreed to make another request.

Cllr Stracey has spent some time investigating the problems with the Speed Indicator Device and has discovered some water ingress. This appears to have damaged the sign so that it will not hold its settings when turned off. Please bear with us – we think we can still continue to use it, but it needs further work.

**Jubilee:** The Commemorative coins have been received and will be gifted to the children at St Botolph's in due course. There are a limited number of coins available for older children and children in the village who don't attend St Botolphs. Please contact the Clerk, noting that these are available on a first come, first served basis.

**THE NEXT BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON**

**MONDAY 9th MAY**

**at 7.00 pm**

**at Botesdale Village Hall**

**All residents welcome**

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**Your Clerk is: Mrs Leeann Jackson-Eve,  
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# Redgrave Parish Council



## Redgrave April 2022 Report

Six Councillors attended the meeting. There were two apologies. Six members of the public were present. County Councillor and District Councillor Fleming attended the meeting.

**Public Forum:** Matters were discussed regarding Footpath 2. One of the stiles is broken and dangerous to use. Some of the areas have been compounded by the previous storms. Some of the finger posts are missing too. District Cllr Fleming will get the Footpath Officer to come down and do a survey for the repairs needed. Reports from Cllr Fleming were presented for Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. Full reports can be obtained via the Parish Clerk.

**Planning:** No planning applications were discussed.

### Ongoing Items:

**Redgrave Recreation Ground:** Cllr Warnes provided a historic update of the Redgrave Recreation Ground and Llanover. He concluded by stating that his recent discussion with the Llanover representative was constructive and, as a result, there is now a potential way forward which, subject to finalisation and agreement with all interested parties, should be acceptable to the village at large.

The PC agreed that they should hold a meeting with all interested parties (RPC, RAT, RNPSG, Llanover and the Chief Planning Officer from BMSDC to finalise the details of this outline agreement. The PC also agreed that they should prepare and send an outline written plan to Llanover before this meeting.

It was agreed that the village would need to be consulted on any agreement reached with Llanover. Timings and format of this consultation would be agreed at a future PC meeting.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** There is no update yet.

### Green Redgrave Group:

**Old School Playing Field:** Planning permission is not required for building the pond. An application has been submitted to the National Garden Scheme for an award under the Community Gardens Award Scheme for the completion of the Old School Playing Field as a Wildlife Friendly Garden. Peter Frizzell has made specific recommendations for the creation and management of the wildflower meadow and the pond construction.

**Old Allotments:** Some trees have initially been planted on the boundary.

**The Knoll:** A tree has been planted on the Knoll to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The plaque will be placed there shortly.

**Planting of Snowdrops on the Knoll:** Green Redgrave Group planted a thousand snowdrops on the Knoll.

**Save our Suffolk Swifts!:** The Group are discussing the siting of four bird boxes for the swifts. Offers from people wanting a Swift Box on their house or outbuilding would be appreciated.

**Turtle Doves:** We have had meetings with the local Turtle Dove Conservation adviser for the RSPB. As a result, John Davie-Thornhill has agreed to put aside part of his land on Searchlight Hill to grow seeds for the Turtle Doves.

**Litter Picking:** The first session took place on 8th March followed by another on 12th April.

**Bat Boxes:** An initial survey of bat boxes around the village was undertaken on 2nd April. The first boxes have now been installed and more will go up soon.

**Grass Cutting Contract:** The contractors from last year did not want to cut this year. The Parish Council has resolved to go with Tremar Services.

**Activities:** The PC would welcome any ideas from the villagers regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Although the PC will not be organising any such event, it would be willing to support any event being planned by residents.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** This year's reports will be placed on the website.

**Meeting Dates:** The following meeting dates all start at 7.30pm. 4th May; 1st June; 6th July; (no August meeting); 7th September; 5th October and 2nd November. There is no meeting in December.

**Vacancy:** There is still a Councillor vacancy available for co-option. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested.

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
WILL TAKE PLACE ON  
WEDNESDAY 4th MAY**

**at 7.30 pm**

**Redgrave Amenities Centre**

**All Parishioners are cordially invited to attend**

**Your Clerk is: Mrs Tina Newby,**

**33, Tudor Rose Way,  
Harleston, Norfolk. IP20 9QH**

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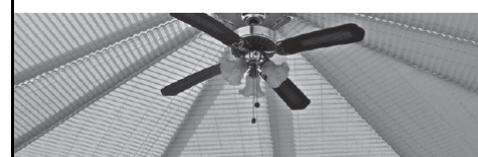
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# Rickinghall Parish Council



## Parish Council Report April 2022 by Cllr Sally Smith

The Rickinghall Annual Parish Meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Apologies were given by Cllr Jessica Fleming and Cllr Gordon.

- Chairman Geoff Short gave a report of the preceding 12 months and the Clerk outlined that the finance report could be found online for those interested.
- The new Village Hall Chairman, David Lister, and Lesley Free, a Village Hall committee member, outlined the plans for the Jubilee Party to be held on Sunday 5th June. This is to be a big event in the village and any offers of help would be greatly appreciated. They also asked the Parish Council for financial help.
- Three members from Botesdale Parish Council attended to discuss the possible merger of Botesdale and Rickinghall Parish Councils. It was agreed a meeting would be held between the two councils to discuss this further.

The monthly Parish Council Meeting was held afterwards at 7.30pm.

### Planning Application

One application was received regarding The Walk, Garden House Lane to demolish the existing house and rebuild. No objections were received from the Council members.

### Tree Works

An application to cut down a 30ft Leylandii at Stanley Cottage, Bury Road was also agreed.

### Correspondence

MSDC are looking at holding a Governance Review and Botesdale and Rickinghall Parish Councils have decided to look into this and

establish whether there would be a benefit to the two Councils combining. A meeting will be held between the Councils and an outcome reported back at the next meeting.

### General Items

It was agreed to provide Tim Gaddis with a further contract for street sweeping and path cutting.

The skate park refurbishment is due to take place in May / June.

Queen's Jubilee – commemorative coins have been received ready to hand out to the children at the primary school. There are also a limited number of extra coins for those children who are home schooled or at different primary schools. It was also agreed that the PC would donate £1000 towards the cost of the Jubilee celebrations.

### CIL Report

Rickinghall PC have just over £28,000 in Community Infrastructure Levy funds with £10,000 of this earmarked for the Skate Park. There is therefore just over £18,000 available CIL money.

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# Village News

## OIL SYNDICATE



The next Oil Syndicate Order will be the summer one at the end of July.

Order details will be shown in a later edition of the Magazine.

As always, e-mail is preferred:

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If e-mail is 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.

Messages do get lost, so if I have not told you that "You are on the list", you are not, so try again.

Hopefully the cost per litre this next time will be a little more sensible than for the February order, but I'm not holding my breath.

David Sloan



## The Regenerated Recreation Ground Becomes Reality

The Construction of the Regenerated Recreation Ground has begun.

Urban Forestry began their work on site just after Easter and will be there until late November. Their initial activities over the first couple of months will be on constructing the Project infrastructure, the paths, mounds, and new entrance. Through the summer the Toddler, Junior, Youth and Fitness equipment will be installed along with most of the site facilities e.g. eco features, seating etc. The autumn will see the focus move to the planting and landscaping.

Through the winter the Recreation Ground will remain closed so that the new trees, hedging and planting can become well established ready for re-opening in the spring of 2023.

We will keep you up to date with progress through articles in the Parish magazine along with regular photographs added to the Botesdale Parish Council website.

You will hopefully have seen the articles about the Community Art Project. This is a really important part of the scheme and a wonderful opportunity to contribute something tangible to the Recreation Ground. Please get involved!

The Regenerated Recreation Ground will provide a valuable asset for the whole Community. If you want to know more about the Project or are keen to get involved with its establishment as a major recreational facility in the village, please do not hesitate to contact us at [botesdalergp@gmail.com](mailto:botesdalergp@gmail.com)



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# Club News



## Bound for Van Diemen's Land – The tragic story of Alfred Talent of Hoxne by Chris Johnson

The speaker at the March meeting of the Heritage Circle was Chris Johnson. His talk was entitled Bound for Van Diemen's Land, and he told the story of Alfred Talent of Hoxne.

Talent was born in Dickleburgh in 1795. In 1821 he had a grocery and drapers shop in Hoxne which he had inherited from his father, but he then went bankrupt. He was known to be a liar and fraudster, and in 1838 he was arrested for fraudulently obtaining goods from London on credit. He was tried at Ipswich court and sentenced to 7 years transportation. This included 3 years on a prison hulk in Portsmouth dock where conditions were terrible with prisoners chained and kept in metal cages.

Talent's wife wrote to Lord Normanby pleading for his release. He was pardoned and released. He then purchased, with his brother, a shop in Ipswich. Again he was arrested for fraudulently obtaining goods. He was tried in 1845 and sentenced to transportation. Prior to this he spent 3 months enduring horrendous conditions in Millbank Prison.

Talent was shipped out to Norfolk Island on the ship 'China' along with 199 other prisoners. Conditions on Norfolk Island prior to Talent's arrival had been horrendous, but a new governor had been appointed and conditions had improved. Talent worked in the vegetable garden and also smashed coral, which was used to make cement. Whilst he was there he was sentenced to 6 months in chains, day and night, for insubordination to an officer.

In 1849 all the remaining prisoners on Norfolk Island were sent to Tasmania (Van Diemen's land). He worked to get a ticket of leave and became a publican but, again, he fell foul of the law for fraud and was sentenced to work on a road gang. In 1859 he was pardoned and could have returned to England. The rest of Talent's life is difficult to trace, but it is believed he possibly remained in Tasmania.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be on Wednesday 25 May at Rickingham Village Hall when Stuart Bowell will give a talk entitled *Visiting Churches*.

New members and visitors are very welcome. Further information is available at:  
[www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net](http://www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net)

Angela Bigley

## Coffee On



The  
Corner

## COFFEE ON THE CORNER

Another second Tuesday and another Coffee Shop. However, this seemed to be one with a difference and we were certainly busy. What did you miss if you weren't able to make it? Well, there was a lot of chatter and laughter, some lovely refreshments and, though perhaps I shouldn't say it, quite a few calories consumed! There was a good selection of

items for sale/donation on the bric-a-brac stall including some of Sherrie's lovely home made marmalade, which is delicious!

We were also joined by those taking part in the first Tuesday Morning Wellbeing Walk. This is an opportunity for anyone to join a friendly local walk - just a mile, or 2,000 steps, around the local area, starting at 10.00am every Tuesday at Parkview Chapel. The details of these walks are on the noticeboard outside the main door to the health centre - or you can communicate via [Botesdaleppg@gmail.com](mailto:Botesdaleppg@gmail.com) or on 07787 148 947. They are aimed at anyone who might want to walk their way to health - anyone who is recovering from illness, isolation at home or who wants to improve their mental and/or physical health. Whilst this morning's walk coincided with Coffee on the Corner which only takes place once a month, there will normally be the chance to come into the building after the walk for a cuppa and a biscuit! Why not join them?!

We were raising funds this morning for The Starlight Foundation, a charity which helps to support seriously/terminally ill children and their families and tries to grant them "wishes" whenever possible. During the pandemic they worked hard to ensure that appropriate packs of colouring cards and pencils went into hospitals for the children where visitors were fewer due to the Covid situation and, I believe, they organised some remote entertainment too. Whilst I don't necessarily see the end results of the monies that we collect and give to charities, I am quite sure that the money will be well used and much appreciated so THANK YOU, generous visitors! In all this morning, we took £127.41 - quite astonishing for a 3 hour local coffee shop. I'd like to say that the generosity is due to the quality of the refreshments and the genial welcome, but if you haven't been before, you will have to come to find out if that's true!

Next month we shall be organising COFFEE on the CORNER PLUS, that is to say that we shall have a couple of extra stalls - including a produce stall with goodies to buy and take home, one or two little guessing games and an encouragement for you to bring along your neighbours, friends and family members ...

## WHY?

because all the monies that are donated next month will be sent to **The Ukraine** - not sure at this stage which of the many charities working there will be the recipient, but it will probably be one of the Aid Agencies working hard to alleviate the suffering and difficult situations that the citizens of that country find themselves in at the moment.

PLEASE, PLEASE come along to support this and bring as many others as possible. We would really appreciate it, as would those who so desperately need our help.

Wishing 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.

## UNDER ONE ROOF

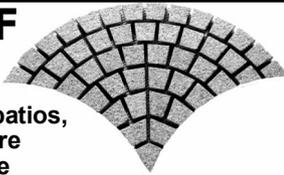
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Last month I produced a possible letter from God to Mr Putin. The words were fictitious but the sentiments were not in that everything I put in was totally what God inspired to be written in the Bible. What I did not do and wanted very much to do was to sign the letter, 'Love, God.' The reason that I restrained myself from doing that was that there was the possibility of it be interpreted as saying, 'Mr Putin, you are going to hell. Love God.' It wouldn't be seen as loving to tell someone something like that, even though many will think that that is what he deserves.

It may be that Putin has gone past the point of no return and history demonstrates that those that have gone as far as he has have left themselves no room to relent. However, the sacrifice of God's son is so great as to be enough to atone for all sins. Thus the magnitude of Putin's sins, for example, demonstrates how great the love of God is towards the sinner. Thus the idea of warning someone of the inevitable result of continuing in their wickedness while offering a way out must be a loving statement. That is what I tried to do in my, 'Dear Mr Putin,' letter.

I have read that C S Lewis came into a room where a discussion was taking place at a Christian conference and asked what they were talking about.

The reply was that they were discussing what made Christianity different from any other religion. His reply was, "That's easy. It's grace."

Grace is that attribute of God whereby he has made an offer of free, undeserved forgiveness and has kept that offer open to all, down through the centuries. Like any offer it has to be accepted and that cannot be done by anyone who doesn't believe in a god who is a God of grace. As Jesus Christ provided the atonement that enabled forgiveness it cannot be accepted by anyone who does not believe in what Jesus has done. It also cannot be accepted by those that don't believe they need forgiveness.

Thus, God's love letter to you and me reads:

Please be aware that the penalty for wrongdoing must be paid. However, I do love you and I am making you an offer of free forgiveness which you can accept or reject. It is up to you.

Love, God

*"For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life."*

*Romans Ch 5 v.10*



Conservation & Community

*'Maiden May sat in her bower;  
Her own face was like a flower  
Of the prime,  
Half in sunshine, half in shower,  
In the year's most tender time.'*

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

I like that description of May as a tender time! Our sites will have awoken and the greens of the trees always seem so vivid at this time of year. The swallows, swifts and house martins will have arrived on their epic journey from Africa and cuckoos will be in full voice in the Little Ouse valley. Fledglings will start to appear but if you see any of them looking 'lost' don't be tempted to rescue them. Mum and Dad will be nearby! The orchids on SWT's Middle Fen in Thelnetham should be in flower by the end of the month and we are hoping that they will continue to migrate to our adjacent New Fen. Ladysmock or Cuckooflower will appear on damp areas and Sheep's Sorrel will coat heathland in a lovely shade of red on the Frith, Hinderclay Fen and Broomscot Common. In July we will be holding an event to mark our twentieth birthday, on Parkers Piece, opposite Thelnetham windmill and we would love to see you there.... more information next month!

You will find a copy of our newly designed leaflet and map inserted in this magazine, so why not tuck it in your pocket and come out and explore the sites. If you would like to join LOHP we now have a new membership category called 'Supporter of the Fens'. It covers a whole household and is great value at £42. Our work parties continue on Wednesdays and Thursdays and certain Sundays so if you would to join in, please email [enquiries@lohp.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lohp.org.uk) for details. I can't always guarantee good work party weather but I can guarantee cake!

John McCormack



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**Notes from the Green Redgrave Group**

Thanks to all who have been engaged in the Green Redgrave Group activities. Our latest meeting was held on Tuesday 5 Apr 22; the next will be somewhat unusual as we will combine it with our talk by Paula Baker of Suffolk Prickles hedgehog rescue on Saving Suffolk's Hedgehogs. So, the next meeting will be held in the Redgrave Amenities Centre on Thursday 5 May 22. Please buy tickets (£3 each) in advance from the Redgrave Community Shop or Elaine Brown on [elainebbrown@btinternet.com](mailto:elainebbrown@btinternet.com) (note extra 'b' in the middle) or phone/text 07944 196695. All welcome!

Our next litter pick will have been held by the time this is published (Tuesday 12 Apr 22) and is proving to be very popular. Please get in touch if you would like to be included in this activity.

The first of our bat boxes have now been installed and we plan to put up more in the coming weeks. We still have a few of these spare should you like to have one installed in your garden. Please get in touch if you would like to help bats in this way. No cost for these boxes.

We have reached an agreement with one of our local landowners to plant up an area of his land to grow seed plants suitable for the turtle doves in our area. This is an extremely generous offer and we are pleased to be able to do something to help keep this endangered bird in our locality.

With the imminent return of Swifts now anticipated, we are pushing ahead with plans for creating more habitats for them. We are planning to mount four boxes and associated calling system offered by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust on the right-hand gable end of the Cross Keys pub. We are also looking for people to host boxes on their houses. The Green Redgrave Group is also willing to pay for a few additional boxes to be located around the village (on a first come first served basis) but are also looking for people willing to sponsor the purchase of additional boxes at £25 each. This will all need to be done within the next couple of weeks as we can expect the return of the swifts by late April. Please get in touch if you live in Redgrave and are interested. If you live in Botesdale or Rickinghall and are keen to find out more let us know and we'll put you in touch with SOS Swifts.

We are continuing our Citizen Science work and are starting to log wildlife sightings in the iRecord database. Please let us know if you have any sightings, ideally with a photo and grid ref or W3W location.

We are still keen to get 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](mailto:awarnes@btinternet.com) or on 07478 337331) for more details.



**Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk are looking for volunteers to provide vital support in the community – can you help?**

The charity supports people all over Mid Suffolk from their office in Stowmarket, providing free, confidential, independent and impartial advice. Demand for the charity's services has continued to increase, and the wonderful team of volunteers are paramount to the help Citizens Advice provide.

The team are seeking volunteers from all kinds of backgrounds to support local people with their problems. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided.

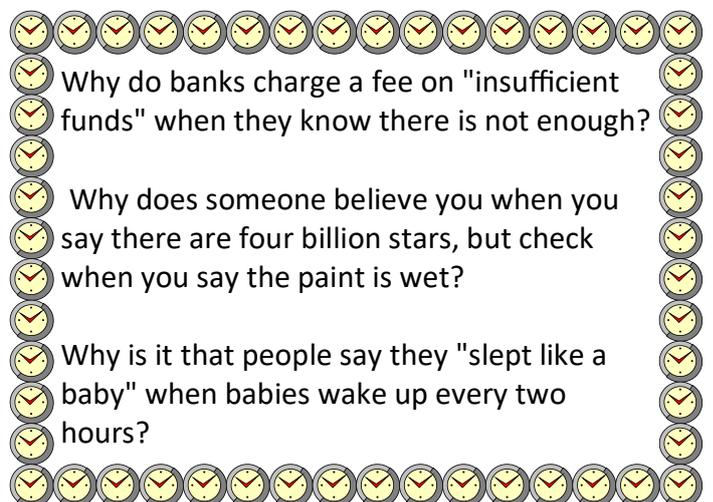
Citizens Advice volunteers come from all walks of life and choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. Volunteers are often looking for ways to make use of their skills or to gain valuable experience and make use of the fantastic training. They also enjoy the opportunity to meet different people and be part of a friendly, welcoming team of existing volunteers. They find it rewarding to support local people and make a difference to their lives.

Current volunteers at Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk said: "I wanted to help in some meaningful way in the local community. Volunteering at Citizens Advice has made me feel that I am doing something useful. After three years of retirement, it is nice to have a form of regular commitment and I enjoy interacting with the others in the office."

"When my youngest started school I had some extra time, so decided to volunteer, and haven't looked back! The team are great here, so the atmosphere is consistently very welcoming."

"I believe what we do is important to the community as evidenced by the increasing demand. I like to volunteer as it keeps my brain active and the camaraderie and social interaction is enjoyable as well as important."

**Interested in volunteering? Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk would love to hear from you! Go to [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/volunteer](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/volunteer) or call 01449 676060 for an informal chat.**



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- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up every two hours?

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# Exploring the Past

Jean Sheehan, 01379 890237

## The Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket, and a shop in Redgrave in the 1960s

The Museum of East Anglian Life started off as a collection of old farming tools and machinery saved by a Suffolk farmer, Jack Carter, and his wife Ena. Other people were collecting also, and the two ladies who owned the house in Stowmarket, where the present museum is situated, kindly gave the house and 75 acres of land to use as a museum. By the 1970s the land was also being used as a site for buildings which were going to be removed from their original site. They were carefully taken apart and rebuilt on the museum land.

One of these was Alton Water Mill which was moved in the early 1970s as the area in which it was situated was going to become the Alton Walter Reservoir. The mill dated to at least the late eighteenth century, and the mill house and the cart lodge were moved with it. The mill recently received further grants to restore the mill and the Eastbridge wind pump. A bread oven is going to be built to demonstrate making bread.

The land was also used for other things such as growing crops and keeping animals to try and re-create the past in the production of food. The museum has recently received grants to change its image to appeal to all generations, but it also wants to receive more information from living people with memories of food from the past. They have changed the name to the Food Museum as there is no museum in England dedicated to food. The museum has organised a touring exhibition from April to June and is coming to Rickingham Village Hall, hosted by Friends of Rickingham Inferior Church, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June from 10 am – 4pm. They would like people to bring any old Suffolk recipes and food stories and memories which they have. Apparently the University of Leeds recorded memories of Suffolk people and their dialects about 50 or 60 years ago and they would love to hear from any of these people who may have taken part.



***Waveney House and Stores, Redgrave 1966***

We did not move to Redgrave until 1966 to take over Waveney Stores, one of the two general stores situated in the village at this time. The shop had changed hands twice in the previous three to four years. The way of selling food was very different to the shops of today. The closest shop to a supermarket in Diss was the International Stores in Mere Street. There was a Co-op in Rickingham which delivered to

Redgrave, as did Lasts butchers. Catlins Bakery in Botesdale delivered bread and cakes 3 times a week. On Maundy Thursday Dick Catlin stayed up all night to sell hot cross buns on good Friday. We sold Catlins bread and Frank used to collect it fresh from the coal fired ovens.

In Redgrave there were Waveney Stores and Redgrave Stores which sold everything; both were general stores. Peter Jenkins had a butchers shop nearly opposite Waveney Stores. Mr Feetham had a greengrocery round, and there was a small post office which sold stationery and sweets also.

In 1966 large companies sent round reps to take the orders which were then delivered in their own vans at a later date, although some came round in smaller vans carrying the stock with them. Harris sold meat pies, sausages, ham and bacon. Their factory was in Elmswell. We bought the ham and bacon in large pieces which Frank sliced on an ancient bacon slicer, with an enormous handle, until we bought a smaller stainless-steel slicer. We bought tea (in packets) from Brook Bond's van; tea bags had not been invented then. The McVitie biscuits rep came round to take the orders which were delivered later, including tins of biscuits at Christmas which were always exciting to choose. Cheese came in ten pound blocks from Unigate. We ordered our main stock from Thomas Ridley of Bury who had a warehouse in Diss. This consisted of all the buildings in St Nicholas Yard which are now individual specialist shops. The Rep would come round once a fortnight to take the order and a big lorry would deliver it a few days later. Frank could also pop into their warehouse in Diss to collect anything we had run out of and buy as little as 3 tins (a quarter dozen). Ridleys also had a sweet van which came round once a fortnight where we chose things like Easter Eggs, boxes of chocolates, Christmas stockings etc from the van. Ridleys eventually opened a cash and carry warehouse in Bury and closed the Diss warehouse. A rep still came round every fortnight and the lorry delivered the order a few days later but we had to buy in larger quantities then. We could also visit the cash and carry to choose what we wanted but this was time consuming.

Doubledays had a factory in Diss where they made fizzy drinks and we had an advertising metal stand with asbestos shelves to hold the large bottles of lemonade etc. They sent their lorry round every two weeks, and also sold sweets and cigarettes. I do not remember any cans of drink at this time. We also had Walls Ice Cream delivered. Walls had supplied us with an advertising wastebin which hung near the main shop door which one naughty boy put a firework in one November and blew it up. Cakes were delivered by Hales on their weekly vans. Pordage, a greengrocery wholesaler, delivered fresh fruit once a week. Bananas came in long wooden boxes and we had to buy a whole box. My family were sick of eating ripe bananas at the end of the week. We bought potatoes from Mr Andrews, a farmer of Blo Norton in sacks and they were sold by the stone.

Most people grew their own vegetables so we also sold Carters seeds at the appropriate time and seed potatoes. Although it was hard work running the shop, and not very profitable, it was also fun getting to know all the people in the village.

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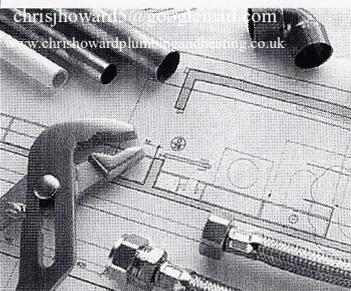
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# Exploring the Past Again

Di Maywhort, 01379 898785

## Memories of growing up in Rickingham in the 1950s and 1960s from Marcia Bell née Healey

I was born in Rickingham Superior on Sunday 30 May 1954, the only child of James and Peggy Healey née Fellingham. Like nearly every baby in our group of villages, I was delivered at home by Nurse Farnish, the district nurse, who delivered over 1000 babies before she retired and became something of a village celebrity. My father had arrived at Botesdale POW camp at the end of the war to help repatriate prisoners and in 1948 started work for Aves Builders. My mother was a local girl, having been born in South Lopham.

We lived in a small nineteenth century cottage which we rented from my grandmother Rosetta Fellingham, who had purchased four cottages in a row including a sweet shop. It all seems very basic now but seemed pretty normal at the time! There was no bathroom or flush toilet, no fridge, no telephone, no television, no vacuum cleaner and only coal fires.



*Marcia's Mother and Grandmother outside the Shop*

Our cottage, which was a two up and two down, was mid terrace. It was half of what is now 'Chestnut View.' There was no sewerage in this part of the village, hence everybody had a loo up the garden. These little sheds were easy to recognise as they were away from the main dwelling and often had a path with strong smelling lilies growing up the sides to mask the smell in the summer! Even now, every time I see large white lilies I think of those old privies! Once a week my father had to empty the metal pail that was under the wooden seat. The contents of this were tipped into an open cesspit at the top of the garden. My grandmother used to grow her rhubarb nearby. At night chamber pots were used and had to be emptied every morning. The gardens behind the row of cottages had no fencing between them. In fact only one tenant had their garden directly behind their cottage, the others had gardens in different areas with my grandmother as the landlady having by far the largest garden. Consequently, as a child, I was able to play all over the land at the back with no restrictions. Our next door neighbour did have to erect a low fence when I was a toddler as I was constantly crawling into their dog's kennel. I really loved their golden retriever, Rover. We grew a lot of our own vegetables, including potatoes and purple sprouting broccoli. There was an apple tree in our garden which produced a really good sized apple that could

be eaten or cooked. We used to bottle several pounds of apples in Kilner jars. Some apples were stored under the beds in between sheets of newspaper to eat in the winter.

When I was young we lived mostly in the kitchen which was heated in the winter by a coal fire which was an 'all night burner'. It had a type of grate that allowed you to bank up the fire at night with coal covered with ashes so that it could be resurrected the next morning without starting from scratch. Monday was wash day which took all morning off and on. Rather than a washing machine we had a round electric copper boiler made of galvanised iron (all mod cons!). A copper stick was used to agitate the washing and remove it from the tub. It had a tap at the bottom where you could empty the water into a bowl. My mother used to air underwear in the main body of the oven, using the residual heat from the electric oven after she had been cooking. The clothes were placed between two sheets of newspaper (the oven was switched off of course). Whether this was a common practice or my mother's idea I have no idea! Friday night was bath night when a tin bath was brought in from the old outhouses at the back and placed before the fire in the kitchen. The water had to be heated up in large saucepans on the stove. Unlike some people we didn't share the bath water.

Shopping was done daily at Aldrich and Bryant, the local grocer's shop. As there was no fridge, milk was delivered daily by Bob Erith the local milkman and fresh meat was stored in a meat safe (a wooden box with a grill on the front) which was kept in one of the old clay lump outhouses at the back of the cottage. The meat was therefore protected from flies. The old buildings were very cool, even in summer. When I was around school age Aldridge and Bryant's shop was taken over by Jimmy Warner. I can remember asking my mother why he spoke with a funny accent. My mother replied that it was because he came from Northampton. I don't think that I had ever heard that accent before. (I later married someone who was born in Northampton!). Once a week we would buy fish and chips from Tom Shaw who lived just a few doors down the road. He operated his business from a wooden shed in his garden. He actually rented a cottage from my grandmother in the 1930s before moving up the road. Next door to Mr Shaw was an old railway carriage, the home of Mr Birks the cobbler. All our shoes were repaired here. I remember that, to make them last longer, he used to put metal studs on my school shoes but they made a terrible racket on the road. On Fridays we would go to Catlin's bakery to buy a milk loaf and a box of cakes. These would supplement the ones my mother used to bake. We must have been unusual in that a plain biscuit never graced our biscuit tins. My father said that he has suffered enough during the war with plain food and asked my mother to buy either cream or chocolate ones.

We listened to the radio every day, including 'Listen with Mother', a programme broadcast on weekday afternoons for pre-school children. We only used the front room occasionally, but that changed when we bought a television when I was nearly four years old. Having a television seemed wonderful and I was able to watch children's programmes such as *Andy Pandy*, *Bill and Ben* and my favourite *The Woodentops*.

*To be continued next month*

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## Bandar Abbas, Iran. Brief recollections (Part 5)

I realised quite quickly when I went to the Middle East that I needed a reliable source of international information, so I bought a small Sony radio and carried with it a length of aerial wire. Consequently, I was the first person in the camp to hear from the BBC Overseas service on short wave that two Iraqi fighter bombers had flown down the Gulf and attacked the Iranian oil installation on Qesham Island. The war had suddenly become much closer as the target was only about sixty kilometres away from the site (seconds away in a jet aircraft).

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

I drove into Bandar Abbas one morning as I needed things like breakfast cereal, powdered milk etc. and noticed when I parked that three buses were waiting on the opposite side of the central 'square'; there were many children wearing green headbands, and a large number of adults milling about; most of the women whose faces were un-masked, appeared to be weeping, and the men looked very serious.

I did my shopping and, by the time I returned to my vehicle, the buses, children and people had all disappeared.

Next morning I described to Ali, my young Iranian assistant engineer, what I had observed. "They are being taken to the front," he said unhappily.

To me his answer could only mean that three bus-loads of children were going to the war. I couldn't believe it then, and still find it hard to accept now. My assistant was a well-educated, articulate young man, and I am sure he was totally honest. He had no need to deceive me.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Our Team Leader had to fly to Tehran monthly to describe to the shipyard owners the progress made in the previous four weeks. He often annoyed the owners by his attitude, and on the occasion of his last visit succeeded in angering them to the extent that he was dismissed with immediate affect. He returned to the camp, packed, and left leaving a void because no one had officially replaced him. This was not an immediate problem as my two remaining colleagues and I knew exactly what was required on site and carried on, knowing that a new leader would be appointed sooner rather than later.

In fact it was sooner as the local representative of the owner arrived at my office door brandishing an envelope a day later. It contained two letters, one from my company that instructed me to takeover the responsibilities of Team Leader, and the other envelope contained a letter from the owners confirming my appointment, and advising me that the next progress meeting would be in Tehran in two weeks' time.

I was suddenly in charge of a multi-million pound project in a country at war with a neighbour, and suffering from American sanctions. Additionally, the failure of the Iranian owner to pay supervision fees to my company, whilst demanding additional design work, was spoiling relationships.

Nothing is simple!!

To be continued. JML

## IN YOUR GARDEN

For me, water adds a magical element to a garden and there is nothing better than a small pond providing a constant source of interest and delight. No matter what size, it can be just a still glassy mirror or an ever moving water feature sparkling as it catches the light.

Water is a magnet for wildlife because you will be amazed by how many birds, amphibians and a host of insects and others will quickly arrive uninvited, closely followed by those who find them a tempting meal – all part of the natural cycle.

A pond can be as simple or elaborate as you like but my tips are focussing on a pool to grace an average sized garden. It is not my intention to go into great detail about the actual construction methods as numerous videos are available on You Tube to show you clearly and simply how to do it whether you choose to hand dig or employ a small excavator.

Location is crucial. It is very tempting to place it in full view in the middle of the lawn but there are drawbacks. Whilst ponds in full sun mean you can grow a wider range of aquatic plants, it also comes with the risk as the water warms up of an algae bloom - the green growth that quickly disfigures the water.

If you have a degree of shade it usually means better clarity of water, but it's best not to locate it too close to deciduous trees as the leaves falling into the water in the autumn will make it cloudy and smelly - although you can net it to trap the leaves.

Ideally, I would site my pond where there is plenty of perimeter planting at ground level to provide habitat for the wildlife.

The big question of course is size and depth. This will of course depend on the proportions of your garden but a round shape or one with curves tends to look more natural than a rectangular one. It is a good idea to mark out on the ground, using string or a hosepipe, a rough shape to give you an idea of dimensions. My round pond looked enormous as I dug it out but shrunk visibly once filled with water and I added aquatic plants. So my tip is to go as big as you can. Aim for a depth of between 45 and 60 cm. Use a spirit level and straight edge on the sides during your excavating to check the edges are level and determine the final water level although water will always find a perfect level and expose any inaccuracy.

You will need to line the pond to retain the water and liners come in a range of materials, sizes and prices. The pre formed fibre glass shapes can be dropped straight into the hole and work well for the small informal pond up to about 2m across and most have useful shelves built in to house aquatic plants. I used a butyl plastic liner with an underlay underneath to help protect from punctures. Best to install on a warm day when the liner is more malleable, slowly filling the pond with water and carefully folding the liner around corners or curves.

Make a small shallow beach area on one side for wildlife access. Don't try and introduce wildlife such as frog spawn as this could spread disease.

If you are filling your pond for the first time using tap water, leave it at least a week before introducing plants so as to allow harmful chemicals to dissolve.

A word of warning. Ponds can be very dangerous with small children around so it is best to erect a safety barrier of some sort that is easily removed at a later date.

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## STAY SCAM SMART

### Watch out for scammers posing as the tax man.

HMRC are warning that scammers are tricking people into handing over their personal tax identification information so they can submit fraudulent refund claims in their name. Worse still, anyone who hands over sensitive HMRC login information such as the Government Gateway ID that is then used for fraud, could be liable to pay the money back.

Victims of all ages, from teenagers to pensioners, have been approached by fraudsters on social media platforms who worm their way into your confidence so as to ask if they could 'borrow' your logins.

Many of the scammers purport to be tax refund claims management companies.

Recently, a number of taxpayers who had been hoodwinked have been handed substantial tax bills after scammers claimed tax refunds in their names that HMRC later discovered were bogus.

Those who became victims also ran the risk of blackmail and threats of violence as well as wider abuse of their personal information as the criminals involved sought to exploit them further.

The head of cyber crime at HMRC says taxpayers should only deal directly with their tax office or their tax adviser and not use claims management companies.

### Fake Ukraine charity appeals

Be on your guard for fake charity emails claiming to raise money for the victims of the war in the Ukraine.

The Government's Action Fraud reporting centre has recorded an upsurge in spurious emails where recipients are asked for donations via links that take them to websites designed to steal your personal information and cash.

The Disaster Emergency Committee, a group of 15 leading UK charities, is providing aid to civilians suffering during the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine.

You can check on a charity's name via gov./find-charity. The Fundraiser Regulator also has a directory of bona fide charities and can be found on fundraisingregulator.org.uk/directory.

Do your research on who you are paying and don't let the money you donate end up in the pockets of heartless criminals.

### Your community pub needs you!

We would like to welcome you back to the White Horse, Thelnetham. We are open Friday and Saturday evenings 6pm - 10:30pm serving local ales, wines, spirits, non alcoholic beverages and a variety of snacks. Although our kitchen is not currently open, we are aiming to offer a variety of street food including pizza, burgers, hog roast and Mexican. Please feel free to contact us with your suggestions for other wagons and check social media for up-to-date details.

We love music and need musicians to come and join our crew, have a drink and play some tunes! We would love to promote local talent. Bring your instrument and join in the jam session in our music room.

You may have heard about Meet up Mondays where people get together regularly to enjoy coffee, cake and a chat.

If you'd like to join others and connect with the community, these start on Monday from 9th May 10am - 12 noon (not including Bank Holidays).

Just turn up!

On Sunday afternoons we have gardening with Tim from 12pm - 4pm; bring your own tools and enjoy the sunshine and refreshments! We would welcome any plant donations and offers of help.

As a community pub, we are volunteer run and need your support! We require bar staff, book keepers, gardeners, cleaners, social media coordinators, tradesmen, coffee and tea makers, cake bakers, talent scouts, event organisers, sound technicians, to name but a few. Come join us and make this pub a lovely place for our community to thrive!

If you have any questions, contact Joolz on 07507819288 or Bev on [Beverly.jane@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Beverly.jane@hotmail.co.uk)

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# Take part in our exciting Community Art Project



Photos by Lesley Foster

Take part by sending in your photos and sketches of the abundance of nature living on the edges of the fields surrounding our villages.

Your pictures may be included on an art work and in an exhibition, that is all part of the Botesdale Recreation Ground Regeneration project.

Please email them to [caroline@carolinesomerville.com](mailto:caroline@carolinesomerville.com) or deliver to Caroline Davidson, Pound Farm Barn, the Street, IP221EB

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# May Church Notices



## Message From Mel

 @rbrchurch  
 mel@rbrchurch.org.uk  
 01379 452702



Hello everyone, x

May is here, the nights are lighter, the weather is warming up and the summer is getting closer.

If you haven't been to Breakfast Church on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, you are missing out. It is a fab place for the whole family to come along, have a free breakfast, do some fun activities together and meet with other families. We also have a youth hangout area, so the space really is suited for all ages. This month's Breakfast Church is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and it'll be great to see you there. RBR Youth is going to be meeting up from now onward once every 2 weeks, so if you're interested, please contact me above.

Recently I have felt very overwhelmed and stressed about life... lots is going on in the world atm. Don't forget friends, to take a deep breath and to look after yourself and to take one day at a time. God is always with you, and he will never let you down.

God Bless, with Love Mel xx

### Short Note to Mums

In the next few months, I will write about inspiring women who have made a difference to the world.

The first is RITA LEVI MONTALCINI. She was a Jewish scientist during WW2. In between fleeing from the Nazis, she turned her bedroom into a research lab studying neurobiology. In 1986 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for Medicine because of the huge research and advancement she made studying the brain. She never gave up, no matter how difficult the situation was in hideout. She was passionate about her field and in making a difference. Being a mum and doing life is hard. In times of uncertainty and struggle, just like Rita, I (and we) can be inspired to not give up, to go the distance and to achieve our dreams for our children and ourselves, to make a better world for everyone. Overcoming not only makes us stronger, but it shapes our character.



## 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](http://www.parkviewchapel.co.uk)*

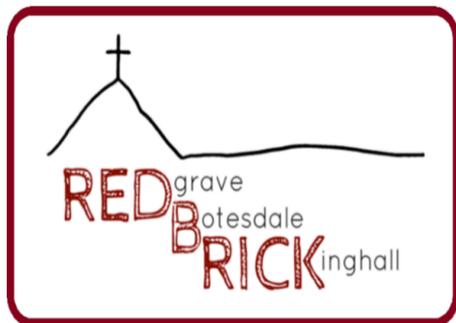
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Service at 11.00am	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Service at 11.00am	
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	'Coffee on a Sunday' service at 11:00am	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Service at 11.00am	
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Service at 11.00am	
Events	Coffee on the Corner Men's Breakfast	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> 9:00am Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am
	PARKVIEW Youth Junior Church	Sundays 11:00am - 12:00pm
	Junior Friday Club	Fridays 6:00pm - 7:00pm
	PYP	Sundays 7:00pm - 8:30pm
	Senior Friday Club	Fridays 7:30pm - 9:30pm

**A warm welcome at Botesdale Methodist Church to anyone who wishes to join our services**

**Services (all at 10.30am) - for further information phone 01379 890898**

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mr Pat Mottram
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Rev D Ely with Holy Communion
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Jane Mottram
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Local Arrangement
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Linda Spencer
<b>Events</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Afternoon meeting for tea, conversation and activity 2:30pm - 4:00pm at the Methodist Church Schoolroom. Open to all in these villages
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Down the Lane 10:00am-12:00pm in the Church. Everyone welcome.

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## Parish of Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls May 2022 Services

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May

**Community Worship**, 10am, All Saints Church, Redgrave  
Pause for refreshments 11.15am  
**Continue with Holy Communion**, 11.30am, All Saints Church, Redgrave

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May

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

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May

**Community Worship**, 10am, All Saints Church, Redgrave  
Pause for refreshments 11.15am  
**Continue with Holy Communion**, 11.30am, All Saints Church, Redgrave

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

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

### Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day

**United Holy Communion**, 7.30pm, Venue to be confirmed

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**BCP Holy Communion**, 8.45am, St Botolph's Chapel of Ease, Botesdale  
**Vestry Meeting & Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, 10.30am, Botesdale Village Hall  
This will be conducted as part of an act of worship, concluding with a "bring and share" lunch

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June Pentecost

**BCP Holy Communion**, 8.45am, St Botolph's Chapel of Ease, Botesdale  
**Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Community Service**, 10.30am, St Mary's Church, Redgrave

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

[www.rbrchurch.co.uk](http://www.rbrchurch.co.uk) 01379 898685

A reminder...

Both St Botolph's Chapel of Ease, Botesdale and St Mary's, Rickinghall continue to be open for private prayer and reflection:

Chapel of Ease, Botesdale on Wednesdays 9.30am-3.30pm

St Mary's, Rickinghall on Saturdays 9.30am-3.30pm

Please sanitise hands on entry. Many thanks.

### **From the Registers**

17.3.22 Graveside funeral of the late J Loynes, St Mary's Churchyard, Rickinghall. Died 2.3.22, age 93