

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

July/August 2020



50p*

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

* **WHERE SOLD.** Delivered FREE to properties within the parish.
(50p is the approximate production cost per copy. All contributions gratefully received.)

CONTACT NUMBERS

Parochial Church Council –

Chairman: Jackson Crompton-Battersby 01473 657349

Vice Chairman: Lucy Oldham. 07753 626899

Church Warden: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Bellringers – Bell Captain: Neville Whittell 01473 822616

Forgetmenots – Organiser: Veronica Partridge 01473 823188

Tuesday Club – Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Table Tennis Club – Adrian Blyth 01473 827805

Parish Council –

Chairman: John Hume 01473 810098

Clerk to the Council: Sarah Partridge 01787 210859

Footpaths – Chairman: Kevin Pratt 07854 390658

Kersey Community Playground Committee – Jonathan Marsh 01473 822927

Millennium Book Fund – Sarah Partridge 01787 210859

Neighbourhood Watch – Vacant

Village Hall –

Chairman: Veronica Partridge 01473 823188

Bookings: Norah Orriss 01473 827513

VPA (Village Produce Association) –

Chairman: Peter Partridge 01473 827231

Secretary: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

The Lewis Mowles Trust Fund – Secretary: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Grays Trust –

Chairman: John Robinson 01473 823247

Secretary: Philippa Harris 01473 827079

Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth 01473 827805

School – Interim Head Teacher: Ian Belham 01473 823397

Kersey Playingfield Assoc. (Glebe) – Mark Pertwee 01473 810227

Kersey Community Website www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

Hadleigh Health Practice 01473 822961

West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds) 01284 713000

Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust 01473 712233

Police The non-emergency number to call if you want to contact the local police is 101 (when it's less urgent than 999) .

Please let us know of any changes.

Defibrillators – *There are two AEDs located within the parish at The Bell Inn, Kersey IP7 6DY and Kersey Mill IP7 6DP.*

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Clergy:

Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby.
01473 657349 rev@kind.church

Church Wardens:

Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230.
and vacant position.

Elder: Mrs Julie Boast 01787 249511.

Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact the Benefice administrator 07706 188842 weekday mornings.

ST MARY'S CHURCH

With fully normal life and regular services and fundraising many months away, we need to make sure that the church can stay open and for that we need your help. It's really simple and it's something we do together, please can you take part by making a monthly contribution? It is easy but it completely changes the prospect of your church staying open and serving the community. The government will also add 25% to your contribution if you pay tax. We can stay open with your monthly giving, thank you!

To make a monthly contribution either contact Colin Grannell direct or just call the Parish Giving Service on **0333 002 1271** and quote the reference: ***Kersey Parish Church - 330633057***

INVALIDS

We send our best wishes to any who are in hospital, receiving treatment or unwell at home.

WEATHER

Rainfall for May (fell on the 1st).0.4mm (less than 1/50th")
Maximum temperature 28°C (82°F)
Minimum temperature 1°C (34°F)

Kersey Community Website

*Remember to check **www.kersey.suffolk.cloud** regularly
for latest news, information and updates.*

GRAYS' TRUST, KERSEY

It is, once again, the time of year that the Grays' Trust reminds you all that we will be expecting applications for educational grants for the academic year 2020/2021 **by the 31st August**, for consideration at our September meeting.

Applicants must be residents of Kersey and may be either pupils attending years 12 and 13 of school, students at college or university, or mature students enlisted in re-training, or further training courses.

Applications should be addressed to:
graystrustapplications@gmail.com
and should include the applicant's name, address, and the name of the course he or she is attending.
We look forward to hearing from you.

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PARISH NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

To Lauren Sargeant from Kersey Uplands whose photograph “Head in the clouds” has been selected to be shown at a national exhibition in a showcase named “At home” which interprets Lockdown. Lauren is a photography student at Suffolk One.

CANCELLED

If this had been normal times members of the VPA and friends would now have been looking forward to their annual outing, this year we had planned to visit Bressingham gardens. Instead sadly this was cancelled.

We have now taken the decision to cancel the flower show in September. It’s disappointing but the committee feel they are unable to go ahead given all the restrictions which are in place. We could see no safe way around them. We will be back next year on the 11th September 2021 (tbc) God willing.

SUNFLOWER POTS – APPEAL

You may have read about Otto Carter in the papers recently – he is selling sunflowers over the summer to raise money for the EACH Treehouse hospice where his sister, Xanthe, gets care and respite.

He is asking if anyone locally has any old plant pots, at least 4.5” in diameter, that they would be happy to give to him so he can pot all 80 of his seedlings? Demand has outstripped supply! Otto wants to keep growing sunflowers for as long as he has seeds, and he would be really grateful for any surplus ones that anyone might have. They could just be dropped by his front door (address below) if you have any. **Thank you!**

Sunflowers will be for sale outside No. 1, The Tye, Kersey Tye, from the middle of July, for the duration of the summer, for a donation for the siblings groups at the EACH treehouse hospice. He is wanting to reach his goal of £300 in fundraising and is already half way there! **Thank you all in advance.**

RECIPE OF THE MONTH – RASPBERRY BROWNIES

185g (6 ½ oz) butter
185g (6 ½ oz) dark chocolate
85g (3 oz) plain flour
40g (1 ½ oz) cocoa powder) sieved together.
3 eggs
250g (9 oz) golden caster sugar
150g (5 oz) fresh raspberries

Melt the butter and chocolate together over a pan of hot water. Cool. Whisk eggs and sugar until thick then fold in the butter and chocolate mixture. Mix together. Add flour and cocoa, fold gently. Pour in half the raspberries and mix but not too much. Pour the mixture into a lined tin (approx 8 x 12”) Scatter the remaining raspberries on top. Bake for 20 mins. at 180°C/gas 4. When cool cut into squares.

FARMING NOTES

Arable:

Having suffered the driest spring for many years, we finally received some meaningful rain around the end of the first week of June and then a wonderful 15mm more on the 18th of the month. This has helped greatly with all the crops and grass, but particularly the sugar beet which had showed a very patchy emergence, and was beginning to exhibit signs of severe stress.

The oilseed rape is rapidly approaching the time when we apply a spray for desiccation which helps the seed pods to ripen evenly, and usually means we are about three weeks from harvest. It would be normal for our winter barley to ripen naturally around the same time, followed by the wheat and spring barley, so we are probably about a month away from harvest as I write on June 20th.

This means that in about 4 weeks time we should be able to bale some lovely fresh barley straw that I am certain will be welcomed by the livestock enterprise on our farm! Generally the crops look surprisingly well considering the weather we have had, although one more nice rain prior to harvest would be very beneficial. At this time of year some of our staff members take a well-earned break before the harvest rush and I would like to thank them all for another years hard work in what has been a difficult time.

Cattle Marketing:

This is the time of year when the commercial beef calves which were born in the spring of the previous year are ready for marketing. The heifer calves grow at about 1 kg per day while the steers (castrated males) put on about 1.2kg per day. At 15 months of age the heifers weigh 500 to 550 kg and the steers 550 to 600kg these are ideal weights for our buyers. There are 2 main ways to market cattle for meat: deadweight which involves agreeing a price with a slaughterhouse (usually done through a third party) or live weight which means taking them to a live market where they are sold by auction to the highest bidder. Although we sometimes sell deadweight we have found that for our cattle the live weight system is usually better. We are fortunate that one of the few livestock markets in the East of England is situated in Colchester.

Colchester market attracts about 70 cattle per week where a group of around 12 buyers compete to buy. Each animal is weighed before entering the sale ring and bids are in pence per kilo, the better quality animals make up to 230p/kg while poorer ones can make less than half of that. The buyers range from medium size slaughterhouses who buy up to 20 cattle per week through local wholesalers to butchers who may buy just one. There are also of course a few dealers about who will buy an animal if they think it is undervalued and they can earn a quid on it!

The wholesalers and slaughter houses are all reasonably local and they supply the

FARMING NOTES (cont.)

beef to butchers shops as well as pubs and restaurants. Supermarkets want large numbers of regular carcasses of the same weight so they tend to have contracts with big producers or buy through the deadweight system. Few animals sold through Colchester market end up in supermarkets. Ideally we like to see the butchers and small wholesalers buying our cattle because they want the best quality and consequently pay the best prices.

I deliver nearly all of our stock to market using our livestock trailer and often do 2 trips on a Tuesday, one with prime cattle and another with sheep or cull cows.

A third way to sell beef is to take an animal for private slaughter, the carcass is hung for three weeks and then cut up and packaged, it is then sold in freezer packs (one eighth of an animal). This is a time consuming option which we do only once a year so if you would like to buy some prime Kersey beef get in touch soon!



Please remember to keep dogs under close control where necessary and to clean up after them.



The Kersey Parish Newsletter

The Parish Newsletter is sponsored and distributed by St. Mary's Church on behalf of all parishioners.

The newsletter is delivered **FREE** to properties within the parish 10 times a year and is also available to download from:

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud/our-community/newsletter/

The approximate production cost is 50p per copy (£5 per year). All contributions gratefully received – please pass via your distributor or to:

Rachel Wells, 1 Vale Corner, Vale Lane, Kersey.

Or make online transfers (or arrange an annual standing order) to:

Kersey St. Mary PCC, 30-13-52 00694777.

For further parish details and events, please see www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

Advertising

¼ page – £6.00 per issue

½ page – £11.00 per issue

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

My Peace I Give You

Jesus' words as he arrived in the upper room could be spoken in living rooms across the parish as we prepare for restarting normal life. Except it's not normal, it's a new form of strange, it's another new way of doing things. Studies show that our brains require about 18 weeks to normalise a new pattern of behaviour. Meanwhile the paint in the Zoom Room is barely dry, I've just mastered what 2m sort of feels like and learned to live without hugs - well learned to exist without hugs, *it's life but not as we know it Jim*. Ah well, whatever, this actually has started to feel familiar and vaguely normal.

I've saved my pocket money for a proper meal and beer at the Bell and I know it won't be too long before restaurants reopen, and going out for the evening no longer means the dog having to suffer "another blumin' walk" (his words, not mine).

But it isn't quite going to be normal, if we pretend it will be, then we build unnecessary anxiety when we see half the population wearing face masks and 25,000 trackers and tracers monitoring our visits to Morrisons, or as my mate John calls it "Hadleigh Harrods".

We said all the way through lockdown that there were things we would hold on to that had changed society for the better, less cynicism, more faith; and the more aware we are of the impact of change, the more resilient we can be. We can prepare for a rise in anxiety by asking now: when lockdown began, what behaviours lowered my anxiety levels? What did I do then that aided sleep and reduced self critical thinking? And what behaviours didn't help?

Jesus' Peace isn't magic fairy dust that can be sprinkled on us; it's a change of heart that comes from trusting God and following His way; He knows of what we are made and knows we can learn from what worked the last time it all got turned upside down.

So I'm off to tick another day off the chart counting down to the Bell re-opening; but personally, for me, I learnt in early lockdown that more exercise made me sleep better and think more clearly. So on the 4th of when it opens, I'll be cycling over.

Yes Mark I'm well aware that that means I can have a couple of pints but I'm doing it for my resilience.

God Bless you all, see you soon,

Jackson

Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby.

Vicar of Kersey, Elmsett, Aldham, Hintlesham & Chattisham

Telephone: 01473 657349

Email: rev@kind.church

All our Sunday services and other events are at www.kerseychurch.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

We are delighted to say that the church is now open for individual private prayer and visitors and we anticipate that it will also be open for funeral services by the time the newsletter goes to press.

The PCC has done all that it can to make the church as safe as possible for visitors and a fantastic team of helpers gave the church a wonderful spring clean to mark the re-opening – thank you very much.

Frances has kindly agreed to open the church each morning and we are now working on building a team of volunteers who would like to help us lock up each evening which will also include a quick spray and wipe of handles on the door.

If you feel able to help with locking up the church, then please contact **Nick Judd** gn.judd@gmail.com who is putting the rota together.

The Annual Parochial Meeting which should have been held in April is now scheduled for 16th September. We hope very much to hold it in the church at 7pm and you are all most warmly welcome. Don't forget to add your name to the Electoral Register through **Jenny Partridge** jenny.partridge19@btinternet.com if you would like to vote on the business of the PCC. If you feel able to become a member of the PCC to help with running the church in some way, then please contact **Linda Newbigging** lindanewbigging@btinternet.com

The PCC is now beginning to plan for the resumption of services in the not too distant future, however our daily and Sunday services are continuing online on YouTube – search for Parish Connection or use the QR code here:

You may also subscribe to the channel via YouTube – search “Parish Connection”. A lovely way to ‘visit’ our Benefice churches.

Please go to www.kerseychurch.org for information.



To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

Colin Grannell at hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

¼ page – £6.00 per issue, ½ page – £11.00 per issue

The next issue will cover **September 2020**.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 24th August to:

Rachel Wells: 01473 822230 - rachel@kersey-village.co.uk or

Viv Marsh: 07747 175858 - kersey@moonridge.me.uk

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KERSEY – STRONGHOLD FOR THREATENED STAG BEETLE

This magnificent fellow was recently spotted struggling along Kersey Street. Following a subsequent post on Facebook it became apparent that not only are stag beetles now under extreme threat, but Kersey and the area between here and Woodbridge is one of their few remaining strongholds in the UK.



This info from Suffolk Wildlife trust website:

“This is the time of year to look out for stag beetles; the iconic males will be flying on warm summer evenings at dusk in search of a female. At the same time, females will be on the ground, where they will be emitting pheromones to attract a mate.

Stag beetles are facing a serious decline across Europe, but we are lucky to have a relatively good population in parts of Suffolk. Their falling numbers have been attributed to habitat loss and populations becoming isolated, and the species is extinct in many areas. In Britain, the beetle is mostly confined to the warmer, drier, south east of England and in Suffolk they are usually only found in the south east of the county between the rivers Deben and Stour. Few British insects are quite as impressive and distinctive as the stag beetle. The spectacular male, with its huge antler-like jaws, is our largest and most conspicuous terrestrial beetle.”

The Suffolk Wildlife trust are interested in any sightings and they can be reported on their website: www.suffolkbis.org.uk/stagbeetlesurvey

Thank you to those who have already.

Telephone Advice

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PARISH COUNCIL

An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held via Zoom on the 26th May. Present were Chairman J Hume, five councillors, clerk and two members of the public.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from one councillor.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Planning: Progress –

Babergh council had granted Kersey Mill permission for conversion of office/store and stabling to provide guest accommodation.

Old Mill House, Uplands. Erection of three bay cart lodge following demolition of outbuildings. Councillors fully supported this application.

Kersey Mill. Erection of pair of semi detached dwellings. This was the third of three applications on the site completing a courtyard style development. These proposals had been discussed with Historic England and Babergh heritage team. The proposal also included more tree planting.

Councillors fully supported this application.

AOB: Following the death of the former chairman of the Footpath Working Group a file of old footpath documents had been passed on to the council.

An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held via Zoom on the 15th June. Present were Chairman, four councillors, clerk and one member of the public.

Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as correct.

Planning: Progress –

Babergh council have refused permission for planning application for dwellings on land west of Vale Lane.

Kersey Mill. Application for removal or variation on a condition. This was to allow flexibility between buildings. Councillors were in support of this.

AOB: To consider whether Kersey requires any interventions to support social distancing. Councillors didn't think any were necessary.

The bench on Priory Hill has been stolen. All parish assets to be checked regularly. Seat on the playground to have Kersey 2020 engraved on it.

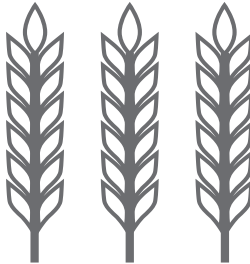
Next meeting (via Zoom) 6th July 6.00

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TAKE PRIDE IN KERSEY PARISH

It is with sadness that we have to report that the wrought iron bench normally located on the grass at Priory Hill has been removed without permission. The matter has been reported to the Police.

The bench was last seen in its location on or around the 5th June.



If anyone knows of its whereabouts or where it may have been offered for sale, please contact the Police or the clerk of the Parish Council.

On a more positive note the Parish as a whole is being kept tidy and clean despite the efforts of a few visitors who continue to throw their rubbish out onto the footpaths and grass verges. The efforts of the Footpath Working Group and the Kersey Volunteer Group have been much appreciated.

The fly tipped rubbish down at the Water Works has been reported to Anglian Water and they are going to arrange its removal.



As many of you will have noticed we have had a significant increase in walkers, cyclists and visitors in general in the past few weeks, helped we think by the very positive press articles that have been made about the Kersey Parish.

We wish you all a very happy and healthy summer and hope that our beautiful bench will be found and returned to its rightful place.

On behalf of the Parish Council

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BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tree for Life

The Tree for Life scheme is now open for 2020 applications following last year's success that saw over 400 trees planted across both districts. The scheme offers a free tree for new parents, who can apply from home during the coronavirus outbreak. Tree for Life is open to all families in the district who welcome a new arrival between 1 January and 31 December 2020, in addition to parents who may have lost a child during the same period to apply for a remembrance tree. Its aim is to benefit families, communities, and the environment by boosting tree coverage across the district. At the same time it provides the family with a living monument for their memories.

Expert help will be on hand to advise families on their tree choice and aftercare at home. The scheme is, however, open to all including those without a garden. Last year's scheme saw a selection of trees planted with families at key locations in the districts including Needham Lake, Shotley Golden Wood, Broom Hill in Hadleigh, Gallowsfield Wood in Haughley and Sproughton Millennium Green. The scheme has been running in Mid Suffolk since 2018 and in Babergh, where the Tree for Life scheme launched for the first time in November last year, there were 196 applicants. According to the Office for National Statistics, that means around 30% of families with new- borns in our districts applied for the scheme, but now the councils are encouraging even more people to claim their free tree this year.

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/tree-for-life/

Council Funding

As local authorities continue to work hard to beat the effects of the pandemic in our local communities there are growing concerns that the financial pressures could be unsustainable. The government has so far provided councils with £3.2billion and a further £600million for infection control in Care Homes. However, many councils are still finding costs are out of control while income has dropped or vanished all together.

The LGA has estimated that councils will need up to four times as much funding from central government. With Babergh providing vital funding grants for communities; funding for foodbanks and Citizens Advice among others all ongoing, it is not possible at this stage in the pandemic to estimate the final cost, which will undoubtedly be large. The government promised councils the resources they need to cope with the pandemic. The money needs to be guaranteed to ensure that the services that our communities rely on do not face severe cuts.

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr)

Leigh.jamieson@babergh.gov.uk

Bus. mobile: 07548 156181

DIARY DATES

- 6 Jul – Parish Council meeting On-line*
- 25 Jul – Swingin’ for St Mary’s Cancelled
- 7 Sep – Parish Council meeting On-line*
- 16 Sep – Annual Parochial meeting St Mary’s church19.00
- 12 Sep – Flower Show Cancelled
- 16 Nov – Parish Council meeting On-line*
- 28 Nov – Kersey Christmas Party Village HallTBC

**Until further notice Parish meetings are being held online using “Zoom.us”.*

Links are published on <https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/parish-council/meetings/>

Kersey Open Gardens 2020

In view of the necessity to cancel Kersey Open Gardens this year we thought you would enjoy seeing pictures of some of our beautiful village gardens.

Please see centre pages for more colour pictures.



ORCHARD BARN

The next issue will cover **September 2020**.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 24th August to:

Rachel Wells: 01473 822230 - rachel@kersey-village.co.uk or

Viv Marsh: 07747 175858 - kersey@moonridge.me.uk

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