

# KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

April 2021



## HAPPY EASTER

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[www.kersey.suffolk.cloud](http://www.kersey.suffolk.cloud)

50p\*

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(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

**Neighbourhood Watch –** Vacant

## **Village Hall –**

Chairman: Veronica Partridge ..... 01473 823188

Bookings: Norah Orriss ..... 01473 827513

or Natalie Blyth ..... 01473 827805

## **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 –** Acting Head Teacher: Jess Damant ..... 01473 823397

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

**Kersey Community Website** ..... [www.kersey.suffolk.cloud](http://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.

## THANK YOU

To Neville and Kate who rang the bells on the 23rd in support of The National Day of Reflection.

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## CHURCH CLEANING

12th April – Ruth Anderson and Sue Attridge.

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## INVALIDS

We send our best wishes to all those who are unwell.

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## FLOWERS

The church flower rota is now up on the notice board in the porch. All the arrangers will be helping to decorate the church for Easter. It will be good to see it looking colourful and cheering us up as we come out of lockdown.

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## VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

The committee have agreed to make plans to hold the Flower Show on the 11th September. As last years was cancelled the same schedule of classes will be used. If you haven't kept it and need a replacement please ask me for one. **Rachel**

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## PLANTS

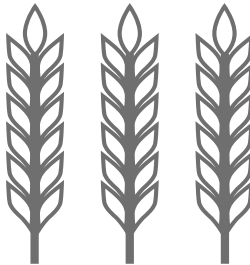
As it is not possible to hold the plant sale in church again this year I shall have perennial, basket, bedding and a few vegetable plants available in May. Just give me a ring to see what will be available. **Rachel**

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# PARISH NEWS

## OBITUARY

**Nora Ryde** – Nora was born in Kersey in 1932 daughter to Jack and Clara Stiff. She was passionate about the village where she had lived all her life and had a great knowledge of the village always recalling how it used to be. Along with her husband Paul she was committed to the upkeep of the village hall. She regularly attended Parish Council meetings and had been a member of the Village Produce Association and Tuesday Club. Over many years she had been involved in some way with the family business. She was a great support to her late husband Paul in his work and was known by many in the farming world. She will be greatly missed by her family, villagers and the wider community.

A funeral service taken by Rev Nicola Tindall took place at St Mary's on the 16th March followed by interment in the churchyard

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## KERSEY COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There is now a google calendar for Kersey Community. You can view the calendar on the Events page of the website:

**<https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/events/>**

The plan is for all Kersey Community organisations to have their events and public meetings listed. This should make it simple for everyone to check what's on throughout the year and avoid a clash of event dates.

If you would like your events or meetings listed then please contact **Sarah Partridge** – **[kerseypc@gmail.com](mailto:kerseypc@gmail.com)** or **01787 210859**

Hopefully more events will be planned as the situation improves and we will all have social events to look forward to.

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## BEATING THE BOUNDS

We are hoping to resurrect the Kersey social walks which have not taken place for some years. A leisurely walk of around 4 to 6 miles several times a year, taking in some of our local footpaths (so ably maintained by the Footpath Working Group), and sometimes into surrounding parishes (some short sections on quiet roads will be inevitable). Children and well behaved dogs on leads are welcome – please bring necessary bags etc. Suitable rainwear, strong shoes or boots are recommended – especially at this time of year.

The first outing will be on Easter Monday (5th April) and follows close to some of the parish boundary (hence *Beating The Bounds*). It is around 5½ miles so should take around 2-3 hours – but no one will be left behind!

We'll meet outside The Bell at 10am. (Whilst the Covid restrictions remain in force please gather in groups of no more than six and we will set off in such groups at short intervals as necessary.) **Viv Marsh, [btb@moonridge.me.uk](mailto:btb@moonridge.me.uk)**

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# PARISH NEWS (cont.)

## CHURCH CLOSED

The church will be closed to the public from April the 26th – 11th May due to filming taking place in the church and churchyard.

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## THE KERSEY BELL

It's nearly time to welcome you all back!

We are opening on Wednesday the 14th April (Wednesdays to Sundays only). As it's outside only we are hoping for good weather but if we get torrential rain we will have to close.

As you are all aware we have filming in the village and as they want to use our beautiful pub we will close from Monday 26th April and open Wednesday 12th May. For all our locals and friends we will open on Saturday 1st May, Sunday 2nd May and Saturday 8th May for drinks only. Will confirm about the bank holiday Monday ASAP.

As always we will be adhering to COVID-19 guidelines.

Stay safe everyone and see you soon.

**Janet and Wendy**

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## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

This month's **500 Club** draw took place in the Church on Saturday 21st March with independent witnesses and the winners were:-

1st Prize – Pascoe Gibbons

2nd Prize – Rev Jackson

3rd Prize – Sarah Partridge

Well done to all the winners and thanks to everyone who has already joined the club.

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Details of the **500 Club** monthly lottery, plus all membership information can be accessed at: [www.kerseychurch.org/fosm](http://www.kerseychurch.org/fosm)

Or for further details please contact either Mark Rigby on **07484 649235** or Bruce Newbigging on **07734 595404/01787 210137** or email [fosmkersey@gmail.com](mailto:fosmkersey@gmail.com).

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## WEATHER

February rainfall . . . . . 37mm (1.5")

Minimum temperature . . . . . -4°C (24°F)

Maximum temperature . . . . . 14°C (57°F)

*Thank you to Kate Banks who records the weather for us in Wickerstreet Green.  
The rainfall amount sometimes varies in different parts of the parish.*



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# PRIDE IN OUR PARISH

This month we are writing to ask you all to not just take *pride in your parish*, but ask you to ***“Take an Interest in your Parish”***.

During the pandemic the Parish Council has embraced new technology, along with most of the country, and meetings are held via Zoom. It is really easy to join Parish Council meetings on zoom, just click on the links published on the Kersey website. ***https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/parish-council/meetings/***

On Monday 12 April the Annual Parish Assembly will be held via zoom at 6pm. This is a meeting for all residents in the Parish and is your opportunity to put forward ideas to make Kersey a better place to live, work and visit. It is important the community makes comments, positive or negative, so the Parish Council can try to represent everyone's interests. You can also find out about the work of all the Kersey community organisations at this meeting.

We hope you will join us remotely from the comfort of your homes on 12 April at 6pm to share your thoughts.

**John Hume**  
**Chair, Kersey Parish Council**

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More information is on the Kersey website:  
***www.kersey.suffolk.cloud.***

If you don't have access to the internet, contact a Parish Councillor for help.

## Antique Renovations



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# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

## **Snowdrops and Daffodils.**

They mean different things, snowdrops and daffodils. In January and early February we have that feeling that somehow winter is here to stay, like it started three years ago and will probably carry on for another eight or nine months. In the street below the church the rich scent of woodsmoke fills the air, much as it might have done five hundred years ago when visitors travelled across Europe to visit our Shrine. The Splash is in full spate, the roads are icy and there seems to be a distinct lack of colour, as if nature has given everything a grey-brown hue.

Then overnight the snowdrops appear. They're a joyous sight, the end of the Rectory garden has quite a few that the pony hasn't trampled and when I see them in the churchyard I sense that the seasons are changing. Except that they're not. Snowdrops are sneaky flowers, they pop up and say "winter's ending" when actually they mean "February, you forgot about February". There is no other month like Feb. It's cold and damp like it never used to be, I mean I'm sure last February wasn't as bad as this year's and the one before was lovely wasn't it? This year, like all years, February is grim.

Then sometime around the first of March something miraculous happens. The first daffs appear. A shot of bright yellow, green and those crazy ones with orange middles that look a bit weird. The garden at the Rectory has a large bank of them and they're a blaze of colour. They're also really handy when you've forgotten it's Mothers' Day and can quickly snip a few and take them round.

They signal that even if there's a few more icy blasts, the nine year winter we've just endured is coming to an end. It's official, the daffs have spoken. And this year they've coincided with the end of a year of lockdowns. I mean I know The Bell isn't quite open – that's what I'm looking forward to most – but there are some signs that it's OK to emerge from our hibernation hiatus. I can go to the really nice Aldi near Southwold and the children can have an ice cream at Felixstowe. All without fear of arrest. That's daffodil season that is. The services are up and running at our gorgeous church, the bells are being rung again, we've got the May Kersey Craft Fair coming up, those are signs of a changing season.

We've been locked up for too long and cautiously we need to reconnect. There are signs of hope and the promise of resurrection. Because that's what the daffs really signal. They appear at Easter time, a blaze of sunlight

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH

like the morning light that shone in the empty tomb as the stone was rolled away. We've all been in the cold grey tomb, locked up and apart. It's the resurrection of Jesus those 2000 years ago that energises the resurrection of our world, especially this year.

May the light of Christ shine in the homes of hope and also in the places of fear and may we emerge in Kersey stronger and more connected this Easter.

God Bless you,

**Rev Jackson**

Vicar of Kersey

PS. See you at 4pm of Easter Sunday for our Parish Easter Day Service.

PPS. I won £7.50 in the Friends of St Mary 500 club draw last week, I highly recommend it. I've put my winnings in a jar marked "Lunch at the Bell". I just need one more win; Mark have I told you how handsome you are?

PPPS. Thank you for your lovely cards, flowers, fruit and messages. I am so much better and all I have to avoid is alcohol, caffeine, nicotine and chocolate. Yep it's grim. See you soon. 😊

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## ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

In addition to our monthly BCP Communion here are services for the year ahead, there will be other services but these – we hope – we can be sure of:

April 4th, 4pm . . . . . Easter Sunday Service with music, poetry and readings  
. . . . . taken by Rev Jackson  
April 11th, 9am . . . . . BCP Holy Communion taken by Rev Jackson  
May 9th . . . . . Rogation Sunday Pet Service: Pooches, Ponies and Parrots  
June 20th . . . . . Fathers' Day  
July 4th . . . . . Rose Festival  
September 26th . . . . . Harvest Festival  
October 31st . . . . . Thanksgiving service for the lives of those we love  
November 14th . . . . . Remembrance Sunday

***Kersey Community Website***

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

# NEWS FROM KERSEY SCHOOL

## Otters (Reception, Years 1 and 2):

With a return to school Otters Class have been very busy.

We have continued our learning about plants and seeds by starting our very own cress experiment, placing the seeds in different places and using different variables to see how they grow. In our class vote, most of us thought that the seeds that have water and sunlight will grow the best and we are checking every day to see what happens.



We have also celebrated World Book Day and had a whole school celebration where we were able to make our very own wooden spoon book character. It was so much fun to design and create whilst also sharing our favourite books with each other. The children in Otters loved the opportunity to work with the Badgers and Owls.

It was wonderful to celebrate our mums on Mother's Day and all the children in Otters had a go at sewing a beautiful flower to decorate the card they made. The children were very proud of their creations and were so eager to make them with such care for their mums.

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## Badgers (Years 3 and 4):

“Once upon a time...” Badgers class went ‘Into the Forest’ with our author for the term, Anthony Browne. We have enjoyed his ‘twist’ on a traditional tale and written our own versions using tips and tricks from his books. We have also shared other Anthony Browne books that we like. In art, we have examined his illustrations, discussed and used warm, cool and complimentary colours to respond to the book.

For Mothering Sunday, we wrote kenning poems about the important women in our lives, made and decorated cards with heart and flower designs and presented them with daffodils and chocolates kindly donated by St Mary’s church. Our creativity continued when, as a school, we worked with buddies to make World Book Day characters from wooden spoons. The variety of designs and characters were incredible and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed learning together. Harry Potter, Mr Stink, the Gruffalo and others will decorate our school entrance and remind us of the wonderful time we had.

“The Romans” is our topic and we have learned about their invasion, Boudicca’s revolt and Hadrian’s wall. The class have been really keen to learn about this period of history and have developed their understanding and explaining skills further. To finish we will investigate the ‘Romanisation’ of Britain.



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## Owls (Years 5 and 6):

Today, Owls had to create a recipe that the chef of Ernest Shackleton’s infamous Endurance Expedition might have come up with... Did I forget to mention – a recipe he might come up with after months of being trapped on a weather-beaten coastline (off an island off Antarctica) along with a frostbitten 20+ crew to support?

Yes, Owls have been living the life of intrepid explorers and heroic survivors in English whilst simultaneously learning about the Geography of Antarctica throughout their topic. Sprinkle a bit of science on top and



# NEWS FROM KERSEY SCHOOL (cont.)

they are now experts in how the classification of organisms, plants and animal kingdoms has developed over time.

Like Badgers, the Owls created beautifully framed Kennings to honour their mothers and produced a spectacular array of wooden-spoon-characters to celebrate World Book Day. Following the theme of creation I have been inspired by some brilliant pieces of writing and artwork too.

In conclusion, not even two weeks back and all Owls have embraced their return to school with enthusiasm and a hard-working attitude. Brilliant!

## Worship Council:



The Collective Worship Council of Kersey Primary presented their wonderful teachers, Teaching Assistants, Midday Supervisors and Caretaker with a bunch of flowers and a bar of chocolate to thank them for their care and nurture during lockdown and in celebration of Mothering Sunday this weekend.







All the children were presented with a posy of daffodils and chocolate from St Mary's Church to take home as a thank you from Staff and Governors for all the parental support for their children and for Kersey School during the past year

*If you would like to know more about Kersey school or would like to arrange a visit please ring the office on 01473 823397, email: [admin@kersey.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kersey.suffolk.sch.uk) or visit our website: [www.kersey.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.kersey.suffolk.sch.uk)*



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# FARMING NOTES

## Arable:

As the month of March runs out we are pretty much on schedule with our arable work. All of the base fertiliser and some of the nitrogen has been applied to our autumn sown crops. The first sowing of spring malting barley took place in the first dry spell of the year around the 6th of the month and it remained dry enough to roll the sowed area to give a good firm bed for the seed (photo below).



I am pleased to say that we also were able to do some cultivations in preparation for sugar beet sowing at the end of the month. This will encourage some weeds to germinate and hopefully they will be destroyed in the pre-drilling cultivations and give us a clean start for the new crop. It is however, a different story for the land behind the most recent crop of sugar beet where the soil remains stubbornly wet and difficult to work. This has been an unfortunate feature of the last few years and coupled with poor yields, the removal of some very useful chemistry for environmental reasons and low prices, means 2022 will see the last crop of sugar beet on this farm. This will be a relief and allow us to repair extensive damage to our soil structure and our tracks and field gateways, although alternative cropping will need to be investigated. The opening of Ipswich sugar beet factory in the mid 1920's (closed now for many years) is when I think sugar beet were first grown here, so I think 95 years is long enough!

## Livestock:

Calving is three quarters completed now with over 50 live calves having been born. We had a couple of losses but otherwise it has been a good year so far. Cogent are keen that we should supply them with lots of white Pedigree British Blue bulls and we are striving to breed these, however this season and last we have had an abnormal number of pedigree heifer calves born which is frustrating on the short term, but as these will eventually join the breeding herd, it bodes well for the longer term. The pedigree calves are named using a year letter and we have had fun choosing "R"

## FARMING NOTES (cont.)

names, so far this year we have boys: Rhinestone and Rebel with heifers: Razzmatazz, Rose, Rolo, Rio and Ripple who will join Polo, Pavlova, Pinot, Prosecco and Pimms from last year. Possibly those names say more about us than they do about the cattle!

We recently welcomed home an old friend who we did not expect to see again: Kersey Linchpin was sold to Cogent in 2017. Having spent 4 years in their stud and after producing well over 30 000 doses of very saleable semen he developed a fertility problem which means that his semen is no longer of good enough quality for Cogent to freeze and sell. In the normal turn of events this would mean curtains for the bull but we and Cogent think so much of Linchpin that we agreed to have him back in the hope that he will father more calves here by natural service. If you see him he is difficult to miss as he is the only mature all white bull on the farm and weighs well over a tonne.

Lambing is now almost completed. On the whole things have gone well although as ever with livestock, and pedigree livestock in particular there are always niggles and frustrations. Ewes only have two teats and so generally Suffolks are not capable of rearing three lambs. When we have triplets born (there were 12 sets this year) we try to adopt a lamb across to a ewe who has had a single lamb. This does not always work and sometimes there is no ewe available to adopt to, so inevitably we end up bottle feeding some lambs.

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# PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met remotely via Zoom on 1st March.

Present was Chairman John Hume, six councillors, clerk and three members of the public. County and District councillors were present for reports and to answer questions.

The chair announced the sad passing of Nora Ryde who used to regularly attend the council meetings. She made a big contribution to the parish during her life especially the Village Hall.

**Reports:** County councillor Robert Lindsay. His report contained items on the budget, the joint bid with Norfolk for funding flood protection schemes, money received for highway repairs and transport policy for students after sixteen.

District councillor report from Leigh Jamieson. Car parking charges will begin no earlier than 1st October. One hours free parking was agreed. The council approved General Fund Budget proposals and Housing Revenue Account Budget. Census day will be on 21st March. New table of fares for Hackney carriages will come into effect from 5th April. A motion was submitted by some councillors calling for the resignation of the council leader. The motion was rejected.

**Minutes** of previous meeting were confirmed as correct.

**Clerk's report:** A notice about the parish footpaths has been in our own newsletter and should also be in other local news magazines this month. The clerk has registered some roads in the parish as "Quiet Lanes". The police had been contacted for advice concerning two near misses with vehicles and horse riders.

**Finance:** Bank balances were noted and payments approved for redesigning the footpath map, KCPC mower belt and clerk's salary and expenses. All other financial matters were discussed and agreed.

**Planning:** Progress. 1 Ancient houses. Application for internal alterations had been withdrawn. Babergh had approved plans for shed/wood store. A garden shed at Little Manor had been approved by Babergh. It had been confirmed that prior permission was not needed for building at Bridges Farm.

**Footpath working group:** Paths which had suffered with flooding are recovering well. The budget was approved. The dog bins are being well used. Some cyclists are still using the paths. Another volunteer has joined the group.

**KCPC:** Budget was approved. Two volunteers have been looking after the playground, the normal grass cutting rota will start when Covid restrictions are lifted. Funding has been secured for improvements. An order has been placed for the basket swing. Repairs are needed to the pedestrian entrance to the playing field. Some money had been received from the District councillor's locality budget.

Review effectiveness of internal audit and review of Risk Management policy, Business Risk register and risk assessments. Both done.

Consider any actions necessary due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Community support

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# PARISH COUNCIL (cont.)

is still in place. The playground is continuing to be open. It is not yet known whether parish council meetings will be able to continue via Zoom after May. The April meeting will be via Zoom and the date for the meeting in May has been brought forward to 4th May.

**Content** for newsletter. Next month it would be called “Part of your parish”. Litter on the main road from Hadleigh was spoken about. This was up to Babergh council to clear, volunteers must not collect litter on the main road.

**Training:** Clerk had attended a networking session. A councillor would attend a SALC meeting on Zoom.

**AOB:** Filming is to take place in Kersey next month.

**Next meeting** is on the 12th April which is the Annual Parish Assembly, 6.00pm via Zoom.

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## DIARY DATES

- 12 Apr – Annual Parish Assembly & short Parish Council .....
- 4 May – Parish Council Annual Meeting .....

If there are urgent matters that need considering that do not fit these scheduled meetings then extraordinary meetings will be called as necessary.

*\*Until further notice Parish meetings are being held online using “Zoom.us”.  
Links are published on <https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/parish-council/meetings/>*

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### 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/](http://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](http://www.kersey.suffolk.cloud)*



The next issue will cover **May 2021**.  
Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 26th April to:

**Rachel Wells: 01473 822230 - [rachel@kersey-village.co.uk](mailto:rachel@kersey-village.co.uk) or**  
**Viv Marsh: 07747 175858 - [kersey@moonridge.me.uk](mailto:kersey@moonridge.me.uk)**

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