

KERSEY

PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2021/January 2022

*We wish all our readers a Happy
Christmas and a peaceful new year.*



PHOTO: VIV MARSH

St. Mary's Church Services

19th Dec	Carol Service	4pm
24th Dec	Nearly Midnight Mass	10.30pm

www.kerseychurch.org
www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

50p*

* 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

Neighbourhood Watch – Vacant

Village Hall –

Chairman: Veronica Partridge 01473 823188
Secretary and Bookings: Natalie Blyth nablyth1@gmail.com or 01473 827805
Treasurer: Norah Orriss

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

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.

CHURCH COUNCIL

A meeting of the PCC was held in St Mary's church on the 3rd November.

Reports: Ticket sales for the American supper dance are going well.

The school is now formally academized with Tilian.

Church matters: Services for December were confirmed.

Craft Fair: 11th December in church.

Five year plan: The spiritual, financial and community impact was discussed and decided what success would look like.

Fabric and churchyard: The groundsman is giving up after many years. The sound system is being updated.

Quinquennial report: Costings for smaller items of repair are being looked into. The financial report had been circulated and was discussed.

AOB: Ideas were put forward on how to celebrate the Queens jubilee.

REMEMBRANCE

A well attended remembrance service was taken by Rev. Jackson assisted by Julie Boast. The trumpeter was Jamie Dilnot from Wickerstreet Green who is a student at Ipswich school. The names of the fallen were read by Jonathan Marsh and the wreath laid by Liz Hanson. David Anderson and Mark Rigby also took part in the service. A retiring collection will be sent to the Royal British Legion.

INTERMENT

The ashes of the late Harold Horst were interred in the churchyard on 18th November. Although he hadn't lived in Kersey for many years his wish was to be buried in the family grave. The family originally lived on Kersey Tye.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes to Frances and all the family on the sudden passing of Gerald. He will be greatly missed by them and many others in the village and beyond.

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**Tree garden work and
driveways also undertaken**

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

CHURCH CLEANING

18th December 10.00 for all who can make it to clean and decorate the church for Christmas.

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

At the recent VPA meeting it was noted that the show had gone well although numbers were down. As the association had done better this year with lettings it was agreed to give donations towards the churchyard, floodlights and newsletter.

The date set for the 2022 show was 10th September.

A meeting would be held in January to discuss the schedule and possible outing.

INVALIDS

Our best wishes goes to those who have been in hospital or unwell at home.

THANK YOU

to those who have donated so far to the newsletter printing costs.

WEATHER (for October)

Rainfall96mm (3.8")
Maximum temperature 20°C (68°F)
Minimum temperature 4°C (39°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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KERSEY CALENDAR ON-LINE

We also have a Kersey Community *Google calendar* on the website:

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

If you are planning an event in Kersey please email the information to Sarah Partridge at ***kerseyipc@gmail.com*** so it can be included.

(If you already use Google Calendar you can add this to yours.)



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PARISH NEWS

TUESDAY CLUB

Our Christmas party is being held on the 7th December in the Village Hall 3-6pm. It has been decided to meet in the afternoon which means only one journey in the dark. We will be having a quiz and carol singing ending with eats and drinks at 5pm.

FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Farewell to Ann Baker who has moved from Mill House to Norfolk, we extend a warm welcome to Neil and Joan Hutton we hope you enjoy living in the village.

CONGRATULATIONS

To David and Jade on the safe arrival of their son Byron.

SCHOOL

Congratulations to Jess Damant and her husband on the birth of a daughter Sophia. Whilst Jess is on maternity leave the new headteachers are Louise Clark and Claire Dunnell Paley.

THE KERSEY BELL

We would like to say a big thank you to those who have supported us over the last seven years at the Kersey Bell. We look forward to seeing you soon and wish you a merry Christmas and healthy and happy new year. A huge welcome to Derii and Sean who will be reopening the doors of the Bell on Friday 3rd December. Janet and Wendy.



KERSEY STREET LIGHTS

In view of the climate crisis and the need for everyone to reduce their carbon footprint the Parish Council is reviewing the street lighting provision in Kersey. Parishioners will be consulted early in the new year about whether they feel all the street lights in Kersey are really necessary. When you receive your survey please respond so the Parish Council gets a clear understanding of everyone's wishes.

POST COLLECTION

Postal collection times have changed and will now only be collected from boxes once a day in the morning at 9am.



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FARMING NOTES

Arable:

November has been a satisfactory month on the arable front – the weather has been quiet and we have been able to work without fighting the soil conditions. All the sugar and fodder beet have now been harvested and the aftermath has been ploughed in preparation for spring barley. Almost all of the sugar beet have been sent to Bury beet factory and the returns have been better than the last couple of years, with sugar content running in the mid to high 17% with a few loads making 18% sugar.

Whilst inspecting the avenue of 70 year old oaks that frame a view between our two houses, I noticed that there are no acorns at all this year, which does happen occasionally, and must be weather related; probably the cold, late spring of 2021. Although this seems of no great importance it will surely make it tough for all the wildlife that relies on them for winter sustenance – jays, magpies, rooks and squirrels all bury them in a good year and unearth them when there is no other food available in the depth of winter. Indeed, many are overlooked and become new oak saplings which we often use for replanting such as the one we have just dug up to replace a tree in the avenue that was damaged in the '87 & '92 storms and then struck by lightning as it was recovering.

Sheep:

The two Suffolk stock rams Zoom and Roooot have now been removed from the ewes which should be safely in lamb. We will know for sure how effective they have been once the ewes have been pregnancy scanned at the turn of the year. The ewes and last year's ewe lambs have now formed one large group and are enjoying a field of stubble turnips for the next few weeks.

Cattle:

Now that winter has truly arrived all the cattle are housed. Three pedigree British Blue calves were born in mid-November, these being the result of pedigree embryos implanted into crossbred surrogate mums which I talked about in the farming notes some months ago. The first two were reasonably small (46kg) and were easily born. Continuing the use of the letter R for this year these have been named Rolls Royce and Robin. When the third cow started to calve I was able to feel inside and found a pair of much bigger front feet, combined with a lack of pelvic space inside the cow, it was a straightforward decision that this fella had to come out by C-section. He was duly delivered out of the 'side door' by the vet and Rhino as we have called him and his Mum are doing well. He was 10 kg heavier than his siblings at birth, is growing fast and given his chunky stature he looks well named. There are three more 'embryo' calves due to be born just before Christmas and lots more in 2022.

History of the farming notes:

It is now 13 years since Marianne Lash (late of this Parish) the then editor of the Kersey Newsletter approached us with the idea of these notes back in 2008. Simon aged 12 took on the job of explaining what was going on here on the farm each month. When Simon went off to university in 2015 Josie took on his job for several years until she left to study for her degree. Having run out of willing children we felt it was worth continuing the notes and now Rob writes the arable section and I (Chris) write about the livestock.

Happy Christmas one and all!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Put your head out of the tent...

It's an ancient Arabian proverb. When someone is feeling stressed and anxious, concerned about what's happened or what may happen. The proverb goes like this "Untie the cords and loosen the flaps, put your head out of the tent and look at the stars".

Or at least that's the English translation. I'm told that in the original Arabic it's a flowing idiomatic river of words, and I think there's something about the fortitude of a camel; or that may be a confusion between the Arabic word for camel and their word for colour which is the same as their word for chameleon. Never mind, on with the story.

Jeff Bezos said he was humbled when he went up into space for seven minutes in his \$3 billion pound phallic rocket, because he could see the earth and the stars. I personally wonder if he's quite grasped the meaning of the word "humble". The option to join him on his space jaunts isn't open to us so we need something different. Which is where the Arabic proverb comes in. I mean, last Christmas was stressful and tricky but this year Christmas is going to be realllllly tricky. It's going to be full of the E word. It's going to have lots and lots and lots of the E word. It's going to be wrapped up in the E word, basted in the E word and roasted in goose fat and the E word.

Expectations, or as we're going to do to ourselves ***EXPECTATIONS*** (yes, I really did make that word bold, italic and underlined. If I could have used green ink I would have done). We're going to tell ourselves that we must have a Christmas to make up for last year's; and we're going to be told by our esteemed politicians to have a normal Christmas, which is Boris Johnson's code for "spend as much as you can, we really need the VAT". Which is one reason why we've decided that all presents in Rectory Towers this year will be from charity shops. But enough of my greenwashing, what I want to say is this....

When you try your best but the roast is burnt.

When you don't get what you want or like what you need.

When your family messes up the room and it's covered in stuff.

And the plans are stuck in rever-er-er-se (apologies to Coldplay).

Well that's when you quietly leave the room. Open the front door and take a few steps, look up and see the stars. It might only be a couple of them, in fact it'll most likely be cloudy anyway. So make a note to yourself: pop out tomorrow and go down the road to St Mary's and sit in there for a few minutes. Look at the Shrine and the lights and the illuminated plastic stars. Take a few minutes to put yourself in the Christmas story. A woman called Mary who saved the world by giving birth to Jesus. A person, you, loved unconditionally for who you are, not for the quality of your mulled wine or roast turkey. Loved unconditionally for being you.

And if you do that, if you take ten minutes out of your Christmastide to look at the stars and thank God that He says you matter, really matter. Then you'll have changed yourself and your Christmas. You, the Christmas story and ten minutes in church. Go on, you're worth it.

See you at the School service or the midnight service or the carol service and maybe one day you'll pop into church and see me sitting in there, looking at the stars, because I really need to this year.

All the best,

Jackson

Vicar of Kersey

Chaplain to Babergh Coastal Rescue

www.kerseychurch.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

5 Dec	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev. Jackson
12 Dec	11.00am	Parish service	Rev. Jackson
19 Dec	4.00pm	Carol service	Rev. Jackson
24 Dec	10.30pm	Christmas Nearly Midnight Mass	Rev. Jackson
25 Dec	10.00am	Christmas Day service at Aldham	Rev. Jackson
2 Jan	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev. Jackson
9 Jan	11.00am	Parish service	Rev. Jackson
16 Jan	4.00pm	Evensong	Rev. Adrian Waller
23 Jan		No service at Kersey. Aldham 11.00am	

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

This month's **500 Club** draw took place in the Church on 24th November with independent witnesses and the winners were:

1st Prize – Chris Partridge

2nd Prize – Pascoe Gibbons

3rd Prize – Colin Grannell

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

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

Or for further details please contact either **Mark Rigby** on **07484 649235** or **Bruce Newbigging** on **07734 595404** or email fosmkersey@gmail.com.

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

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Kersey Community Website

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

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The Parish Council met on the 15th November. Present were chairman J. Hume, three councillors, clerk and four members of the public. SCC and BDC attended for part of the meeting.

Apologies were received from two councillors and one member of the public.

Co-option: The vacancy for a parish councillor has been advertised. No applications have been received so far.

Public forum and reports:

Suffolk County Councillor Robert Lindsay – The County council cabinet have approved a bid for funding for buses from the Government’s “Bus Back Better” scheme. Kersey school is now part of the Tilian Partnership who are experts in running village schools. Our group on the council proposed a motion to support the Local Electricity Bill to help lower the costs to local and community energy suppliers of getting a license to sell energy to their local community. The motion was passed.

Suffolk schools to re-introduce face coverings, this is due to rise in COVID cases in Suffolk. Also mentioned was Sizewell C and part dualling of the A12 north of Woodbridge. Union Hill, Semer is going to have advisory road signs and markings to encourage drivers to slow down. He supported this.

Babergh District Councillor Leigh Jamieson – Babergh have released their five year housing supply position which demonstrates that the council have a supply for 6.86 years. Councillors were asked to vote for a pay rise for senior staff. The majority of Babergh councillors felt that it would be wrong at a time when people are struggling.

The council have agreed to review the Governance system being used at the council. In September I submitted a motion asking the council to sign up as a client partner of the Considerate Construction Scheme.

Corks Lane site. There are still some amendments to the planning consent. They are also awaiting tenders from contractors.

The council have committed to reducing street light intensity across their districts.

The chair thanked Leigh for getting the hedge cut in Vale Lane.

Parish time: A resident was pleased to see the hedge in Vale Lane had been cut but felt it could have been done better. The chair is still working on a replacement triangle for the historic street sign on Church Hill. Concern was raised about the number of potholes from the Crossroads to Williams Green. Residents were encouraged to keep reporting potholes via the SCC website.

Minutes of the October meeting were confirmed as correct and signed.

Clerk’s report: The clerk had carried out an audit to ensure the council were complying with the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations. The Parish Council had not been able to complete necessary public consultation to support the Quiet Lanes scheme in the time given. The overgrown hedges in Wickerstreet Green have been cut back. Highways have responded to a query on verge cutting of no through roads. There was some poor communication with the contractors and highways. Landowners have now done the necessary work. The council have been given assurance that these roads will not be missed in future.

Amongst correspondence was an item from BDC. Over the festive period bins will be emptied up to five days later than normal (see page 4).



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PARISH COUNCIL (cont.)

Finance: Accounts to date and financial statement were approved. The council insurance had been renewed. Closure of Millennium Book Fund account. It was agreed earlier to allocate all money to playground equipment. The playground improvement project has now been completed. The account will now be closed.

Internal audit: This had been carried out remotely and everything was in order.

Planning-progress: Erection of cart lodge with study, store and open garage. Babergh had granted permission with a condition that it cannot be used as accommodation for a separate dwelling.

Priory Holme – Application for work to cutting back of yew tree. Parish councillors fully supported this.

Harts Cottage – Erection of attached annex following demolition of garage. This was to provide accommodation for elderly parents. Councillors fully supported this application.

KCPC: The grass continues to be cut and the playground maintained. Due to Covid it was decided not to hold a quiz night. A maintenance day will be held before the end of the year. The ROSPA report had been received, recommended remedial tasks will be reviewed.

Consider solutions to nuisance car parking: A parish assembly was held to hear concerns from residents. A local resident has been advising the council on potential solutions. Some residents spoke again about the need for a car park. There were also concerns that most holiday websites do not mention anything about parking. Councillors agreed the Parish Council should follow expert advice and work on communication and education.

Update on nominating The Bell as an Asset of Community Value: An application had been submitted. The Bell is vital to the whole Kersey community as a formal and informal place to meet and socialise.

Plans for Platinum Jubilee celebrations: A working group will meet in December to come up with a suitable community celebration.

Update on project to reduce carbon footprint: The webpage on the Kersey website provides plenty of information for residents.

Dates for meetings in 2022 were agreed.

Clerk's job appraisal and salary review: The chair had met with the clerk and carried out her appraisal. He said it had been another year of strong performance and the council were fortunate to have a permanent clerk of this calibre.

Budget and precept: Councillors had a copy of the draft budget ending March 23. After a long discussion the precept was provisionally set at £9,891. This will be finalised in January.

Content for the newsletter article Pride in our Parish was agreed.

Reports from other meetings. Notes had been circulated to councillors.







AOB: A councillor raised a concern about the time County and District councillors take to give their reports. This impacts on the time available for the parish council to discuss all items on the agenda.

Next meeting 31st January.



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BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Firstly I'd like to offer you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the coming New Year. It's been another difficult year and at time of writing there is a concern that Covid figures will once again get out of control, with many countries now starting to impose restrictions and lock downs. As it stands our government have no plans to follow suit and we can only hope that this is the correct course of action. While none of us want a Christmas like last year we certainly don't want deaths spiralling out of control. Take care of yourselves and yours.

Babergh votes against Senior Leadership Team Pay Rise

Councillors were recently asked to vote for a pay rise that would have been c20% for the Senior staff at Babergh and Mid Suffolk. This would have increased the wages of the Directors and CEO by c£20,000 a year. An independent assessment by the East of England Local Government Authority (EELGA) had highlighted that the Senior Team at BMSDC are out of line with other similar councils and will experience difficulties employing staff.

However a significant majority of Babergh Councillors, including myself, felt that such a pay rise would be wrong at a time when people are struggling and losing their jobs while Council Tax is increasing and voted against it.

Council decisions - Cabinet or Committee

The Council have agreed to review the Governance system being used at the Council. The current Cabinet system has been in place for nearly five years now and following a motion calling for a return to the Committee system it was agreed that a working group would come up with a choice of a committee system and a revised cabinet system, which will be debated at the first full council meeting in the New Year.

I find it frustrating that I have little or no say in many decisions made at Council. All executive decisions are made by the select group of Councillors that are chosen to sit on the cabinet. Despite being the second largest party on Babergh Council, The Green Party councillors are still kept out of this Cabinet.

The make-up of the cabinet is decided by the Council Leader, who has recently added two more members of his own party to the Cabinet and is not based on political proportionality unlike the committees. This leaves us asking how the feelings of Babergh residents are fairly represented.

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr.)

leigh.jamieson@babergh.gov.uk – Mobile: 07548 156181

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Lunch – 12.00 till 5.00 on Sunday.

Pizza night is Wednesday night.

Booking advisable.

A big thank you to everyone
for your support.

Janet, Wendy and all our lovely staff.

Tel: 01473 823229

www.kerseybell.com

The next issue will cover **February 2022.**

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

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

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

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

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Babergh District Council

Christmas & New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2021/22

	Usual Collection Date	Revised Collection Date	Change
Recycling	Monday 27th December 2021	Wednesday 29th December 2021	2 days later
	Tuesday 28th December 2021	Thursday 30th December 2021	2 days later
	Wednesday 29th December 2021	Friday 31st December 2021	2 days later
	Thursday 30th December 2021	Tuesday 4th January 2022	5 days later
	Friday 31st December 2021	Wednesday 5th January 2022	5 days later
Refuse	Monday 3rd January 2022	Thursday 6th January 2022	3 days later
	Tuesday 4th January 2022	Friday 7th January 2022	3 days later
	Wednesday 5th January 2022	Saturday 8th January 2022	3 days later
	Thursday 6th January 2022	Monday 10th January 2022	4 days later
	Friday 7th January 2022	Tuesday 11th January 2022	4 days later
Recycling	Monday 10th January 2022	Wednesday 12th January 2022	2 days later
	Tuesday 11th January 2022	Thursday 13th January 2022	2 days later
	Wednesday 12th January 2022	Friday 14th January 2022	2 days later
	Thursday 13th January 2022	Saturday 15th January 2022	2 days later
	Friday 14th January 2022	Monday 17th January 2022	3 days later
Refuse	Monday 17th January 2022	Tuesday 18th January 2022	1 day later
	Tuesday 18th January 2022	Wednesday 19th January 2022	1 day later
	Wednesday 19th January 2022	Thursday 20th January 2022	1 day later
	Thursday 20th January 2022	Friday 21st January 2022	1 day later
	Friday 21st January 2022	Saturday 22nd January 2022	1 day later

From Monday 24th January 2022 refuse and recycling collections return to the normal schedule.

Please note: There will be no garden waste (brown bin) collections during the weeks commencing 27th December 2021 and 3rd January 2022. Please refer to the garden waste collection schedule, which is available at: www.babergh.gov.uk/waste-services



The new book of the history of Whatfield is now available for £25 at Village Shop, Elmsett

Avis Newsagents, Hadleigh

Grubbs Edge, Whatfield IP7 6QN
Phone 01473 399215
Email djdray@sky.com

The book looks at the development of the village, covering over 2000 years. The 435 pages contain thousands of pictures, documents and photos, plus the memories of many villagers who grew up in the village and who witnessed the huge changes during the 20th century.

Sections include the World Wars, the ancient farms, the places of worship, the village school and other buildings of interest, crime, the relief of poverty, the shops, local memories and much more.



DIARY DATE(S)

7 Dec – Tuesday Club Christmas Party . . . Village Hall.15.00 to 18.00
 11 Dec – Christmas Craft FairSt Mary’s church . . 10.00 to 16.00
 19 Dec – Christmas Carol ServiceSt Mary’s church 16.00

PRIDE IN OUR PARISH

The Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, 2-6 June 2022.

Last July I wrote to say we will be looking for volunteers to help with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. The inaugural meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday, 6 December 2021, in the Village Hall. If you want to help make this a special event for Kersey, please come and join us ! .

Yours sincerely

John W. Hume.
Chair, Kersey Parish Council.

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.

Can you help secure and manage newsletter advertising?

Please contact Colin Grannell at
hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

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



PLEASE COME AND JOIN US AT

Kersey Church Christmas Craft Fair

Shopping by candlelight, we have over 20 stalls full
of wonderful gift ideas.

11TH DECEMBER 10AM - 4PM

*Mulled Wine and Mince pies available.
Carols and Christmas organ music throughout the
event.*