

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

March 2022



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: Claire Donnelly Paley 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 CLEANING

7th Mar – Janet Covell and Rachael Rogers.

21st Mar – Susannah Marsh and Annie Delmar.

SERVICE

It was a pleasure to welcome Bishop Mike Harrison to our Holy Communion service with confirmation on the 20th. Jenny Partridge from St Mary's and Kate Sands from Aldham church were the candidates who were confirmed.

BELLS

A full complement of bells was rung for the confirmation service. This was made possible with the help of ringers from three other churches for which we are very grateful.

WELCOME

Welcome to David and Jayne Butcher who have moved to Kedges End and Polly Dickens and Mark Gilbey who have moved into Little Pond Barn at Kersey Uplands with their poodle, Otto. We hope they will enjoy living in Kersey.

FAREWELL

To Claire Healey who has recently moved from Kersey Street to Sudbury.

INVALIDS

We send our best wishes to those who have been in hospital, having treatment or unwell at home.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met at Quiet Waters on 25th January.

Future services were discussed. Rev Jackson paid tribute to Julie Boast for her contribution to St. Mary's. Her term as elder finishes in March.



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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

It was agreed to purchase cushions for the chairs.

How to celebrate the Queen's jubilee was discussed. It was suggested that perhaps a short service could be held before the street party.

The Friends of St. Mary's raised £1,220 at the American Swing evening.

Quinquennial. Quotes for window repairs have been received. It was agreed we should go ahead with this work. Financial report had been circulated and was discussed.

Repairs to the Lightning Conductor at the top of the Tower have been completed. A Roofing Contractor has been retained to assess any immediate work required on the lead roof and to report on any longer term maintenance needs.

A new "like for like" light has been purchased to replace the one at the top of the steps which should be working again shortly.

AOB. The school has agreed to organise two church services a year.

REVISION OF ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll for St Mary's Church is due for its annual review. We are able to add new applicants and amend current entries. If you would like to be added, application forms are available on the church notice board situated inside the bell tower. Alternatively, I can email you a copy or deliver to your address.

email: jenny.partridge19@btinternet.com. Phone: 07747 778608.

Please send completed applications to: Jenny Partridge, Trickers Farm, Boxford Road, Kersey, Ipswich, IP76EW.

Can you help secure and manage newsletter advertising?

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

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

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 28th March 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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NEXT LECTURE:

Tuesday 15 March at 2pm.

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PARISH NEWS

TUESDAY CLUB

Our first Tuesday Club of the year is 1st March 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Note change of time. We will be having a beetle drive.

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

A meeting was held in January when the show schedule was agreed. The annual meeting will be held on Monday 21st March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Open to all.

FARM OPEN DAY

Visitors will be welcomed to Bridges Farm at Kersey Tye on Saturday 9th April to raise funds for the upkeep of Kersey Church. Bulls, cows and calves, ewes with their lambs, chickens, ducks and quail will all be on show. There will be a chance to touch and even to feed some of the animals.

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

To start off the village celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Kersey Projects will be inviting all residents to a complimentary evening of music, canapes and fizz in a marquee on the Glebe on Thursday 2nd June 2022.

The Parish Council are also organising a street party for Sunday 5th June. More information and an invitation to follow in the April Newsletter.

BOB WHEELER 1926-2021

Bob, who died on Boxing Day 2021, was a well known and much loved figure of Kersey Tye who lived a wonderful life. East Bergholt born, as a young man he served in the Navy where he witnessed the Hiroshima bomb cloud in 1944. He later joined the Colonial Office in 1954 and travelled to Africa where he spend over 40 years in Malawi, Botswana, Nigeria and Zambia.

He was a Tye resident for over 50 years and always spotted on his daily walk in his high-viz jacket, spotted neckerchief and walking stick which was a heart warming sight. He loved to stop and chat and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

FILMING IN KERSEY

Following last summer's filming in Kersey (see cover picture), Magpie Murders is streaming now on BritBox.

WEATHER (for January)

Rainfall 14mm (0.6")
Maximum temperature 15°C (59°F)
Minimum temperature -2°C (28°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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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

THE STOUR VALLEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Started just after the first World War, the Society was put together by a very diverse group of people including professionals, clergy, farmers, landowners and others. Mostly retired, their aim was to foster new friendships and provide the opportunity for members to appreciate the huge number of fascinating places in the Stour Valley and its surroundings. We've just celebrated our Centenary and are looking for new members to join this friendly group and participate in our programme of excursions.



Typically, we meet at a central point near Ipswich, board a comfortable coach and set off to the arranged venue. Visits to a wide variety of places of interest, including 'stately' and private homes, National Trust and Historic England properties, national gardens, river cruises and places of historic importance within a two-hour drive, are arranged between May and September. A buffet lunch takes place in October and an AGM in April/May, accompanied by a talk, starts the following year's programme of events.

This year we shall start by having a party and private view of the refurbished Munnings museum in March and an expedition to the Kelvedon Secret Nuclear Bunker in May. If you would like to join us please contact our Hon. Secretary Ann Davenport at ann.davenport@btinternet.com for more information.

Membership is open to anyone enthusiastic about our part of the UK. Subscription is £12 a year, £23 for a couple.

Kersey Community Website

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

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 ***kerseypc@gmail.com*** so it can be included.

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Have you got a light boy?

I was literally sitting in the lounge saying to the family “Looks like we got off lightly, Eunice hasn’t damaged the power cables round here.” when quite literally, I mean at that exact moment the power went off and we were plunged into darkness, illuminated for only a short while by the smug glow from my family as they said something like “Any more prophecies clever clogs?”

As this is the Vicar’s letter I should really bang on about the fragility of modern life and our dependency on transient pathways of electrons. (Actually that’s too good a phrase to not use, so expect me to use it in a future newsletter.) What I was actually going to say was that trusty, rusty Facebook immediately showed a post from someone down the road who was boiling saucepans of water on their gas camping stove for anyone who needed a hot drink or to warm-up baby milk. Now, you know me well enough to not expect me to pass up an opportunity like that. Cue at least a couple of sermons about love-in-action. Except that it was genuinely heart-warming. Even more so as she was busy with the boiling from 6am the next morning, and all that day. Genuine real life connections versus transient electric cables, it’s a metaphor for church.

Confirmation

The power came on and the heating fired up just in time for us to celebrate Kate and Jenny’s confirmation last Sunday. It was one of those times. One of those moments when the simplicity of faith was tangible and real. It profoundly moved me. The world has quite enough cynicism thank you, I want more faith.

Sing, sing, sing

Some oik at school once turned to me in a junior choir rehearsal and said “You’re flat”. I probably was. I probably often still am. The result at the time was I lost my confidence and immediately left the choir. I doubted for a long time if I could sing and would routinely fake-sing at church. Then I got a job as a Vicar and they made me sing. I still don’t know if I can. Anyway a bunch of us were chatting at St Mary’s after the Confirmation service about wanting to learn to sing – not to be in a choir heaven forbid – but just to enjoy the process. Well to cut one of my ridiculously long stories short, it only turns out that Nicola, who did all those online services with me and was helping with the service on Sunday, well she’s an actual real life singing teacher and overheard us talking and offered to teach us. So if you’d like to meet for a few weeks just for the purely private joy of being taught as a group to enjoy singing, drop me an email.

Lots of love,

Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby

rev@kind.church

Vicar of Kersey

Assistant Deputy Chaplain to West Suffolk Coastal Rescue

www.kerseychurch.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

6 Mar	9.00	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Jackson
13 Mar	11.00	Parish service	Rev Jackson
20 Mar	16.00	Evensong	Adrian Waller
27 Mar	11.00am	Aldham church	No service in Kersey



ST MARY'S FLAGPOLE

If a flag is flying on the pole there will be a short explanation on the church website. Flags will only be flown for specific events.

A silencer has been fitted to the pole in consideration of our near neighbours.

admim@kind.church
www.kerseychurch.org

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

The **500 Club** draw took place in the church on February 19th with independent witnesses and the winners were:

1st Prize – Colin Grannell

2nd Prize – Jackson Crompton-Battersby

3rd Prize – Matthew 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 **Mark Pertwee** on 07919 166782 or email fosmkersey@gmail.com.

Kersey Community Website

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



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PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 31st January

Present were chairman John Hume, four councillors, the clerk and three members of the public. County and district councillors were present for part of meeting.

Apologies received from one councillor.

Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed and signed as correct.

County councillor Robert Lindsay: The council are waiving road closure fees for jubilee events. SCC are proposing a 4 per cent rise in council tax for next year. Also included in the report was Carbon budget, Scrutiny meeting on SEND report and Bio diversity recommendations. As part of a two-year project Discover Suffolk have launched a free mobile app to help access and enjoy the countryside. Suffolk libraries day 12th March. Libraries day is designed to both celebrate local libraries and raise funds to keep them going.

District councillor Leigh Jamieson reported on Joint Local plan, cabinet overturning Audit committee recommendation, Neighbourhood plan pilot, Leisure centres renewables energy drive and Omicron business grants are available. Warmer homes, Babergh has received funding from the government's sustainable warmth competition after a successful bid by district councils in Suffolk. The funding is designed to support improvements to low energy efficiency rated homes.

Clerk's report: Babergh has confirmed The Bell is now listed as an Asset of Community Value. Screen Suffolk had been in touch about the screening of Magpie Murders to local residents. Advertising will be done by a flyer.

Finance: Financial statement had been circulated to all councillors. All payments were approved.

The millennium book fund account had been closed and money allocated to KCPC funds.

Planning progress: Babergh had granted permission for tree works at Priory Holme and for an attached annex at Harts Cottage.

1 Hollies Cottage – Babergh had granted permission for re thatching roof and construction of three dormer windows.

Manor Farm – Change of use of agricultural land to tennis court. Councillors agreed to support subject to no lighting being installed, no additional buildings and no further development on the site.

3 Church Hill – Erection of part two storey and single storey extension following demolition of existing single storey. After much debate and hearing from the applicant and noting neighbours concerns councillors objected to the proposal. They were mainly concerned by the impact on the neighbours due to loss of light.

St Mary's churchyard – Application for removal of lower branches of fir tree to prevent damage to gravestones. Councillors approved this application.

River House – It was noted that works have started which includes the construction

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PARISH COUNCIL (cont.)

of a first floor extension to preserve the historic wall paintings.

Dog bins: Parish councillors would continue to empty the bins on a voluntary basis.

Footpath working group: There are two broken footpath signs which have been reported plus the damaged sign on the Vale Lane triangle. The budget was approved.

KCPC: The quarterly inspection was carried out in December. Date for maintenance day will be set in the warmer weather. Budget was approved.

Update on progress to reduce nuisance parking. It was agreed to write letters of advice to residents and holiday let owners.

Platinum jubilee celebrations. Kersey projects are planning an early evening event to launch the weekend celebrations. A street party is planned for the Sunday.

Update to support residents to reduce their carbon footprint. All information was given.

UK Power Networks Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement consultation. It was agreed to respond by stating that as much of the network as possible should be laid underground.

Consider the street lighting provision for Kersey and updating to LED units. The cost of upgrading is £410 each light but energy costs would decrease. All residents will be notified on this proposal.

Spring Litter collection: Kersey Volunteer Group to be thanked and asked if they are happy with their allocated areas.

Budget and Precept: This was set at £189.02

Pride in our Parish item for newsletter. It was agreed to include an item about the National Spring clean campaign.

Reports from other meetings had been circulated.

AOB: The chair was concerned about face to face meetings during Covid-19. Currently there is no legalisation which allows remote meetings.

Next meeting 7th March 7.30 Village Hall.

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Arable

Having had a long dry, quiet spell in January and most of February, we had begun to hope that spring was just around the corner – indeed we cultivated the ploughed land behind sugar beet and got close to drilling spring barley, but decided to leave it in case the weather turned for the worse. Instead we decided to tackle some large dead willow trees that had begun to lean and were close to falling into an important ditch and onto some livestock fencing. It was a tricky/dangerous operation but we managed to complete the task and fell them where we wanted them. We finished the day before the storm on Friday 18th Feb and just as well as it would have been more difficult had they been blown down in random fashion.

As we all know the storm caused an 'outage' of electricity which brought its own problems, but also reminded us just how much we take the regular supply of power for granted. Luckily, unlike the storm of 1987, the ground was not waterlogged, the trees were not in leaf and the wind came from the prevailing direction, so less damage was caused.

Cattle

The storms and strong winds which we have had recently have made us very grateful that we have a decent set of buildings here at Bridges Farm. Over the years we have gradually added bigger steel framed buildings to the traditional timber framed ones built in previous generations. To have all of the 150 or so cattle housed on the same site makes the difficult weather easier to cope with, especially as February and March are the busiest times for calving. Fortunately this year we have ample supplies of straw so we are able to keep the cattle clean and comfortable while the gales blow outside.

In December we flushed four of the pedigree British Blue cows for embryos, resulting in a moderate yield of nine. These nine embryos were implanted into waiting cross bred recipient cows (surrogate mothers). The conception rate to embryos is rarely above fifty percent so we were delighted to find that when ultrasound scanned to check, eight of the nine were confirmed as in calf. These pregnancies together with others achieved earlier in the year mean that we now have more than twenty cows in calf with pedigree British Blue calves, as well as about fifty with normal commercial calves. It has taken a while to get to this position but it is very pleasing to see things coming together. A more recent flush of 5 more cows yielded a further fourteen embryos, nine of which were implanted fresh, with the remaining five frozen in liquid nitrogen for use in the future.

Sheep

With their thick woolly coats and being lighter it is not such a problem to leave the sheep outside for most of the winter. As we approach lambing time however the ewes will also be housed for the few crucial weeks to make their management at this time easier. This also gives the meadows a rest just as the spring grass starts to grow.

Open Day

We are looking forward to welcoming visitors to the farm on Saturday 9th April when we hope to be holding an open day (cancelled for the last two years) to raise funds for the upkeep of Kersey Church. Bulls, cows and calves, ewes with their lambs, chickens, ducks and quail will all be on show. There will be a chance to touch and even to feed some of the animals.

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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/

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**

PRIDE IN OUR PARISH

The national annual spring clean campaign is underway when many communities carry out litter collections. Kersey is fortunate to have the KVG (Kersey Volunteer Group) who carry out litter picking all year round. Each volunteer looks after a small area of the parish. Kersey School also joins in with a litter collection in the Spring.

Thank you to all our KVG volunteers for keeping Kersey looking it's best.

Anyone wishing to join the KVG can contact John Hume 01473 810098 or the Parish Council kerseypc@gmail.com

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend

This is a brief reminder that plans are underway for two events in Kersey:

- Kersey Projects' Jubilee drinks and music evening on Thursday 2 June 2022 at 7pm.
- A Street Party in Kersey on Sunday 5 June, 2022.

Please put the dates in your calendar. Further details will follow soon.

If you want to join the Working Party or help on the day, please contact Sarah Partridge on 01787 210589 or John Hume on 01473 810098.

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.

DIARY DATES

- 1 Mar – Tuesday Club Village Hall..... 14:30
- 4 Mar – Magpie Murders screening St Mary's Church 18.30
- 7 Mar – Parish Council meeting Village Hall..... 19.30
- 21 Mar – VPA AGM Village Hall..... 19:30
- 9 Apr – Farm Open day..... Bridges Farm 12.00 - 17.00
- 11 Apr – Annual Parish Assembly & short Parish Council meeting
..... Village Hall..... 19.30
- 8 May – Book launch event St Mary's Church 16.00
- 16 May – Parish Council meeting Village Hall..... 19.30
- 2 Jun – Queen's Jubilee Drinks and Music on The Glebe..... 19.00
- 5 Jun – Kersey Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party..... TBC

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BOOK LAUNCH EVENT

● *Jackson Crompton-Battersby*

*"Henry Dance &
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● *"A rollocking good read" Suffolk
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cbjacksonauthor@gmail.com

