

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

November 2023



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 –

Vice Chairman: Lucy Oldham 07753 626899

Church Warden: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Bellringers – Bell Captain: Neville Whittell 01473 822616

Forget-me-nots – 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

Grays Trust –

Chairman: Peter Martin 01473 828361

Secretary: Philippa Harris 01473 827079

Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth 01473 827805

School – Joint Headteachers: Jess Damant and Claire Dunnell 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 Geoffrey Clement
01473 657316

Church Warden:

Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230.
and vacant position.

Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact adrianwaller@mac.com or phone 01473 652561.

SERVICE

On the 26th September at St Mary's Rt Rev Martin Seeley Bishop of St Edmundsbury came and licensed Rev Geoffrey Clement as rector of the Benefice of Elmsett, Aldham, Hintlesham, Chattisham and Kersey.

The church was full of parishioners from the Benefice plus family and friends from the rectors previous parishes. Refreshments were served after the service with a chance to chat and meet each other.

HARVEST

The church was beautifully decorated for St Mary's harvest festival service held on the 8th October. Refreshments were served after the service. Rev Geoffrey Clement took the service. All the items donated will be given to Hadleigh Food Bank.

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 6th Nov – Sue Jones and Lynn English
" 20th Nov – Neil and Joan Hutton

THANK YOU

Thank you to the 36 households who have given so far for our annual newsletter appeal. We distribute 200 newsletters so still a long way to go.

INVALIDS

Our best wishes go to those who have attended hospital appointments or unwell at home.



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close control and to
clean up after them.**



PARISH NEWS



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FLOODING AT THE SPLASH

The arrival of Storm Babet on Friday, 20 October turned the stream at The Splash into a raging torrent. It rose up The Street and The Green and the resulting flood water flooded gardens and entered several houses.

It would have been even worse if not for the actions of a large group of volunteers who responded quickly and worked hard to block the water, preventing even more damage.

A big thank you to each of you for your quick reaction, enterprise and kindness.

John Hume, Chair, Kersey Parish Council 21.10.23.

VILLAGE HALL

Lots of delicious food and wine was enjoyed by more than fifty people at the annual Autumn Buffet. This was to raise funds for our lovely village hall. £749.52 was raised which will be used towards the ever increasing costs to keep our hall in good condition. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

A committee meeting was held on the 9th October.

The outing and flower show accounts were shown. Although both had been most enjoyable days they had both made a loss.

It was agreed that the association give donations towards the churchyard, newsletter and church floodlights. A decision on an outing in 2024 was left until the January meeting.

Flower show date set for the 14th September 2024.

Next meeting will be on 15th January when the main agenda item will be arranging the show schedule.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S – CHRISTMAS SUPPER DANCE

It's party time! Book now to secure your table in a splendid candlelit church this Christmas, enjoying live swing top music and dancing till midnight.

We will provide a fabulous festive venue, live music, American cocktails, food warming facilities. You can theme your own table and decide on your matching dress code – 'bring your own' food and drink – enjoy the party!

Friday 8th December from 7pm till midnight. Tickets £30 a head (£25 for FoSM members) sold in tables of 4, 6, 8 or 10 with all proceeds to our beautiful iconic church. For more information please call Sarah on 07977 725456 or Jackie on 07721 625932 or email fosmkersey@gmail.com.

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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

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KERSEY PLAYGROUND CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

The highlight of the Kersey Social Calendar – Friday 10th November, Kersey Village Hall. Doors open 7pm, start 7.30pm. Carriages: 10.30pm. Supper provided. Bring your own preferred refreshments.

Teams of up to 8 people. Entrance £15 per person: cash at the door. Glittering Trophy for the Champions (previous winning team please return the cup) and Raffle with a multitude of interesting and exciting prizes.

To reserve tables or donate prizes for the raffle: Jonathan Marsh, jonathan.marsh10@icloud.com, Dominique Young, dominique.young@btinternet.com Please book by Monday 6th November to avoid disappointment!

NIGHTINGALE TRUST

The Nightingale Trust was originally set up in 1583 with a remit to help the poor and needy of Kersey Parish. Times change, and with them, people’s needs. Payments are made in December that perhaps can help in some way towards winter fuel bills, rising food costs etc. – a big concern especially again this winter. We also make a donation to the local food bank, which can help Kersey parishioners too.

Are you finding it difficult to cope with rising costs? Do you know of anyone that would benefit from some assistance? Please contact me. All suggestions and conversations will be in the strictest confidence – details as below.

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE

The Nightingale Trust has 2 allotment plots available for rent – 1 full plot, 1 half plot. Have you ever wanted to grow your own tasty, fresh vegetables, fruit, flowers etc.? Now is your chance. The allotments are situated behind The Bell, within beautiful and peaceful countryside. The rent is £35 for a full plot, £25 for a half plot – cheaper than a gym membership and better for you! For more information please contact Natalie Blyth – 01473 827805 / 07487 816966 / nablyth1@gmail.com.

Natalie Blyth.

TUESDAY CLUB

At the October meeting we welcomed Graham Hart from Hadleigh. His title for the evening was “Welcome”. Some members were intrigued and didn’t know what to expect.

A picture of Kersey Church started the meeting. He said it was a very welcoming sight as you travelled to Hadleigh from Sudbury or Ipswich. We then listened to a recording of “Let us build a house where love can dwell”. All are welcome in this place. A line from a verse Graham referred to depicting his talk was “Here the outcast and the stranger”. He went on to show many pictures of Methodist chapels and churches he had encountered on his fund raising walks over the years. Many



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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

welcomed him in to join coffee mornings or just to show him around. Along the way strangers welcomed him into their homes for bed and breakfast. To name some of the churches and chapels we were shown were in Cornwall, Isle of Man, Welshpool, Monmouth, Castle Eaton, Thurso and Croston ending at the Methodist chapel in Ipswich. Some buildings were large some small but all with a story to tell and all made him feel very welcome. An interesting and enjoyable talk. Competition for “A flower” was won by Mary Smith.

We meet again on the 7th November 2.30 at the Village Hall. We will be joined by Chris Parfitt with his lovely pictures and talk “Romania beyond Dracula”. Competition “Something colourful”.

Rachel Wells.

HADLEIGH CHORAL SOCIETY

Pulses will race as Hadleigh Choral Society performs an evening of Mozart and Haydn at our Autumn concert at St. Mary’s Church in Hadleigh on 18th November 2023, a night not to be missed! The evening will include the well-known and ever-popular Mozart Requiem plus a special concerto for flute & harp and other choral gems. We will be joined by professional soloists and the Colchester Symphony Orchestra, all conducted by Christopher Phelps. The concert will start at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £15 (free admission for those in full time education) and will be available on line through www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk, members of the choir, The Idler bookshop in Hadleigh, or on the door. For more information contact 01473 823 791.



WEATHER – for September

Rainfall 44mm (1.73”)



NEWSLETTER PRODUCER REQUIRED

After 5 years the current newsletter production editor intends to stand down. Would you be able to help design, layout and produce this newsletter?

No editorial input necessary.

FULL SUPPORT PROVIDED

For more details please contact:

Colin Grannell hawkcg@hotmail.com

01473 829074 / 07710096611

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

November is the month when we remember. In the church we will be remembering those mostly unknown to us but known to God as His faithful people on All Saints Day, 1st November. It is a time to give thanks to God for the lives of the saints down the ages, not just the saints we find in the Bible like St Mary or St Peter but also the modern day saints. Oscar Romero for example, Archbishop of San Salvador shot dead in church by the El Salvador military for standing up for the rights of poor farmers in 1980. Or Mother Teresa of Calcutta who dedicated her life to helping the marginalised in Calcutta for over 45 years. We don't worship the saints we give thanks to God that in them we catch glimpses of His love in action and for our part try our best to follow their example.

On the 11th of November we remember with gratitude the sacrifice made by our service men and women in the two world wars and during more recent conflicts. And in remembering them we pledge ourselves to seek ways of bettering the world in which we live. Our remembering would be empty if we did not reflect on how best to avoid such situations in the future. In remembering we reflect on the past and look at how best to use the lessons for a better tomorrow. We reflect how as a society there are occasions when a measured response needs to be made to confront a situation that is wrong.

On Sunday 12th November we will hold our Remembrance service in church at 10:45am.

Merciful God, who gave such grace to your servants that they served you with singleness of heart and loved you above all things: help us, to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I remain

Your Friend and Rector

Geoffrey

Rev. Geoffrey Clement

Kersey Community Website

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

29th Oct 11am	Benefice service	Aldham
5th Nov 9am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Janice White
12th Nov 10.45am	Remembrance service	Rev Liz Law
17th Nov 4pm	Evening service with Holy Communion	Rev Geoffrey Clement
26th Nov 11am	No service at Kersey	Aldham
3rd Dec 9am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Geoffrey Clement

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

If you would like the church floodlit to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or in remembrance etc. the cost is £10 per night. Contact **Rachel Wells** 01473 822230.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

Latest **500 Club** draw results:

	September	October
1st Prize –	Claire McQuaker	Neil Hutton
2nd Prize –	Jackie Rigby	Colin Grannell
3rd Prize –	Joan Hutton	Viv Marsh

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 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.)

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

Colin Grannell at hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

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PARISH COUNCIL

Community Organisation Spotlight:

Spotlight on Kersey Projects

Kersey Projects was formed in 2017 by a small group of village residents who endeavour to host various activities within Kersey with the view to bring the village together in the form of 'get togethers' where parishioners can meet up, have fun and enjoy each other's company. Kersey Projects also endeavour to organise more ambitious, far reaching events, such as Kersey Open Gardens.

Over recent years Kersey Projects have hosted a Flower Festival, Open Gardens, Trail Sale, Jubilee celebrations, Burns' Night, Christmas tree lighting, to name but a few. Some of the activities have produced a profit and Kersey Projects have been fortunate enough to support requests not only from village organisations but also organisations from a wider field, but always with the benefit of Kersey in mind. However, the main aim of Kersey Projects is not necessarily to produce a monetary profit, more to have the village come together and enjoy the activities.

The hands-on approach by Kersey Projects allows them to support other village organisations and they are always happy to lend a hand!

They can be contacted at: kerseyprojects@gmail.com

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Groundwork East are currently supporting households to improve their energy efficiency and help lower carbon footprints related to domestic properties. This support is fully funded by Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders and free to householders! Under this support we can provide advice on anything that can help improve the efficiency of Suffolk based homes or signpost householders to other energy efficiency projects that might be of interested.

We are delivering this free support via email or households can fill out our DIY virtual home energy audit which will provide us with basic info on their home which we can review and suggest changes.

Email – Suffolk@groundwork.org.uk

Virtual home energy audit - <https://forms.office.com/e/nG5aQAeviB>



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Arable

We are now well into the growing season for the 2024 harvest and almost all the winter wheat and barley is now drilled into good damp seedbeds. Indeed most has germinated by now and the earlier drillings are nicely emerged. Blackgrass can be a serious weed on our land in East Anglia in arable crops and we make lots of effort to minimise the problem. If blackgrass is able to shed its seed before or during the cereal harvest the numbers of seeds that can remain in the soil are astronomical and cause a problem for years to come. There are various ways in which we can minimise the issue of blackgrass including: Rolling after drilling to reduce clod size and allow the herbicides to do a more thorough job; Rotation of crops helps especially where we grow a spring crop that allows us to use a spray to kill this weed in the autumn and again before drilling in the new year; Delaying drilling and using the 'stale seedbed' tactic to kill another generation of weed seed. We are using this method in our last field to be drilled. It was cultivated a couple of times immediately after harvest to encourage weed germination which we sprayed off 10 days ago. The recent rains have caused more germination and we cultivated again today (16/10/23) to kill these last few seedlings and hope to sow the field tomorrow to complete the job. The first of 3 fields of sugar beet has been lifted and hauled to Bury beet factory with pleasing results: 891 tons from 9.8 ha yielding 90.92 tons/ha (36.8 tons/acre) and 16.8 sugar percentage. A small quantity of fodder beet was also lifted ready to feed to the cattle.

Rob Partridge

Livestock

Although I mentioned in the last farming notes that we would be housing the cattle soon, in fact at the time of writing they are all still out at grass. However, they are now catching up with the amazing grass growth and with cold and wet weather forecast, housing time is nigh. If we leave the cattle out for too long they stamp up or poach what is left of the grass and could potentially reduce production for next year. There are lots of tasks which need to be carried out on the cattle for which ideally they need to be in the buildings – weaning, pregnancy scanning and health and TB testing being the main ones. We will also do faecal egg counts on the dung of the weaned calves to ascertain whether they need to be wormed.

When able, we like to improve some of the buildings while the cattle are out of the way. Some of the barns have chalk floors which are functional and cheap but areas at the fronts of the yards which we like to scrape out regularly are much better concreted. We took the opportunity to lay eight cubic metres of ready mix (delivered by a lorry with a loaded weight of 35 tonnes). This load costs about £1100 but when spread out in pre-prepared areas at a depth of 150mm (6 inches) it covers about 50 square metres. It is important when the lorry arrives to offload the concrete quickly and level it before it sets, so it was all hands on deck with 6 of us shovelling away and then tamping down or levelling – hard work but quite satisfying. Thanks to Jimmy, Ryan Adam, Sarah and Josie.

Chris Partridge

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Dementia Connect is a personalised dementia support service for anyone with dementia, their carers, families, friends, or anyone concerned about their memory. Dementia Connect is free, easy to access and puts you in touch with our expert Dementia Advisers who will provide person-centred support, information and advice. They will offer the support you need from local help to telephone and online



advice. Alzheimer's Society will keep in touch with you to make sure you keep getting the support you need. And because it's never easy to tell your story, you'll only ever need to tell it once.

- **Face-to-face support:** Dementia Advisers in Suffolk will offer pre-assessment and post-diagnosis support to help people with dementia come to terms with their diagnosis and navigate the maze of health and social care services. They will also provide crucial emotional and practical support so that individuals feel empowered to take control of their condition and live well with dementia.
- **Telephone support:** Dementia Advisers will offer information provision, advice and signposting in a timely manner over the phone. Our regular Keeping in Touch calls ensure that individuals can be easily referred into the face-to-face service if more support is needed.
- **Online support:** People with dementia or memory concerns, their family and carers will be able to access a range of online support available 24/7. This includes a library of digital information booklets, peer support communities (Talking Point) and a directory of dementia friendly services across Suffolk.
- Alzheimer's Society will deliver the service together with Suffolk Family Carers who will undertake Carers Assessments and Carers Emergency Plans.

Self-referrals into Dementia Connect can be made via telephone, email or our online referral portal for professionals. The Memory Assessment Service and GPs can also refer individuals into the service with their consent.

Operational Hours:

Telephone support will be available between 9 am – 8 pm Monday to Wednesday, 9am – 5 pm Thursday to Friday, and 10am – 4 pm weekends. Face - to - face support will be available am 9 – 5pm weekdays.

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DIARY DATES

3 Nov – Jazz Night St Mary's 19.30
7 Nov – Tuesday Club Village Hall 2.30
10 Nov – Kersey Playground Quiz Night Village Hall 19.00
15 Nov – PCC Quiet Waters 19.00
20 Nov – Parish Council Village Hall 19.30
1 Dec – Lighting of the Christmas Tree The Splash, Kersey 18.00
5 Dec – Tuesday club party Village Hall 14.30
8 Dec – Christmas Supper Dance St Mary's 19.00

The next issue is **December 2023**.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 27th November to:

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

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 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**

KERSEY HEALTH TRAVEL

**In conjunction with Hadleigh, Boxford
Community Car Scheme**

The Nightingale Trust was originally set up in 1583 with a remit to help the poor and needy of Kersey. Times have changed and with them, so have peoples needs. Today, we help those in need with their winter fuel bills, in a small way, and we also make donations to the local food bank in the hope this covers Kersey too. We are always looking for new ways to help each other and those with a genuine need.

To this end, we have managed to include Kersey in the existing **Hadleigh and Boxford Community Car Scheme** which has been running for some years and is organised by Jen Eastwood, a resident in Boxford.

If you are a patient, registered at Hadleigh Health Centre, Boxford Surgery, or Bildeston surgery in need of a lift to medical appointments including Doctors, Consultants, Physiotherapists, Opticians, Dentists etc. we will be happy to help. We have a number of volunteer drivers who are available to take you to your appointment, wait for you and then bring you home. There is a charge of 45p per mile for this service to cover the petrol and depreciation costs which I hope you find acceptable.

For Kersey residents using this service and in genuine need, the Trustees of the Nightingale Trust would like to contribute £5 towards your taxi costs each month to a limit of £20 per year.

If you need help in getting to a medical appointment then please contact:

Jen Eastwood on 01787 211853, Matt Smith 07918 670024 or Mark Rigby on 07484 649235 who will arrange a driver for you.

Kersey Projects – Forthcoming Events



Join us for a glass of mulled wine and mince pies at the

Lighting of the Kersey Christmas Tree

on:

Friday 1 December
6.00pm at the Splash

We look forward to seeing you there!

Burns Supper

Following the success of last year, we would like to offer you another opportunity to enjoy an evening of Scottish fayre and entertainment to celebrate the life and work of Robert Burns on:

Friday, 26 January 2024

at 6.45pm prompt

in Kersey Village Hall

With music from The Hosepipe Band

Cost: £30* per head to include a welcome drink and a three-course meal with Ceilidh dancing afterwards. Please feel free to bring your own additional drinks.

We will be serving a traditional meal of haggis, neeps and tatties. If you require a vegetarian option, this must be booked in advance.

Spaces are limited so please reserve your ticket by emailing us on: kerseyprojects@gmail.com

*Profits will go to support future community activities and events.

