

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

September 2024



PHOTO: PETER CUTTS

50p*

www.kerseyparish.gov.uk

* **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 –

Vicar: Rev. Geoffrey Clement revgclement@gmail.com or 01473 657316

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 07765 916162

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: Mary Pearce 07947 079422

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.kerseyparish.gov.uk

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 three cPAD (Community Public Access Defibrillators)*

accessible 24/7 in the parish at: 1)The Bell Inn, Kersey IP7 6DY;

2)West Sampsons Hall Farm, Uplands, Kersey IP7 6EN; & 3)Kersey Mill IP7 6DP.

(There's also one at Kersey School, IP7 6EG – available when the school is open.)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Clergy:

Rev. Geoffrey Clement
01473 657316, revgclement@gmail.com

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.

The parochial church council met in church on 16th July with Rev Geoffrey Clement chairman. Four other members were present.

A Church Near You has all the correct contact details.

Rev Geoffrey is up to date with safeguarding.

Church matters: The Faculty for the shrine and windows is still being reviewed by the Chancellor.

A Faculty for lighting is still being considered by the PCC.

Service times have been changed to 11am for 1st and 2nd Sunday. Evensong no change.

Finance and quota were discussed. Quota split between the Benefice to remain as they are.

Fund raising: During July a small group had come for coffee and a church visit also a lunchtime buffet was provided for a U3A group who visited the church and village.

Newsletter: A new editor is still needed.

Fabric: Churchyard and Health and Safety were all discussed.

FOSM: Next event is 6th October with afternoon tea and The Three Chordettes.

Update from school: OFSTED inspection has been carried out and the report awaited. The 150th anniversary tea was well attended.

From September Rev Geoffrey is intending to hold collective worship every Tuesday.

Ringers: Suitable heating is needed for the bell tower.

AOB: Cricket match 8th September at Rockalls, Polstead 1.00pm.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Rebecca Leeks and Stephen Pattle who were married at St. Mary's at the end of June. We wish them every happiness together.

INVALIDS

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

SYMPATHY

We send our sympathy to the family of the Kenny Gleed who died in July. Kenny was born in the village and lived here all his life. For the past few years he had suffered with ill health which restricted him doing what he was passionate about. He never married but had many friends and acquaintances from his love of sport and shooting. At his funeral St Mary's church was full with standing room only. Internment took place in the churchyard.



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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

WELCOME

To Adam and Ellie who have recently moved into 11 Vale Lane.

TUESDAY CLUB

In July the club welcomed back Lynn Mortimer and her husband James who came to talk about their mayoral year. Lynn was mayor of Ipswich with James her consort from May 23-24. They spoke about the history of Ipswich and the mayor before embarking on the wide variety of events they had attended during the year. One of the last events was climbing the stairs on the open top bus when the town were promoted to the premiership. The enthusiasm mixed with laughter and sometimes sad times during the year was infectious and members and friends thoroughly enjoyed a very entertaining talk. Competition for "A necklace" was won by Natalie Blyth.

We meet again on the 3rd September Village Hall 7.30pm when we are having something different from the normal meeting. Phoebe Chew from Pheeb's Bakes will be joining us for a cupcake decorating evening. Everything will be supplied. Anyone welcome male or female but please let me know if you are coming so we know how much preparation needs doing. It should be a fun evening.

I have bought a kneeler/seat plus the inevitable plant with the money you gave me at the meal. Although I can't kneel on it, it's great for sitting and weeding.

Rachel Wells

CALLING ALL CRICKETERS

The ASHES is back and Kersey Casuals NEEDS YOU!

Kersey vs. Hintlesham & Chattisham Annual (sometimes) cricket match.

Sunday 8th September at Rockhalls, Polstead. Play starts at 2pm (gather at 1pm).

Please get in touch with Bruce Newbigging by 31st August on bnewbigg@gmail.com to register your interest in playing, umpiring or scoring.

It's a lovely day, and everyone is welcome along. Please bring a plate for a sharing tea with spectators and players and if you are able, please let Linda know what you may like to bring so we don't double up too much on food: lindanewbigging@btinternet.com.

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 2nd Sept – Janet Covell and Rachael Rogers
16th Sept – Susannah Marsh and Annie Delmar
30th Sept – Linda Newbigging and Gillian Sacker

KERSEY CALENDAR ON-LINE

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

www.kerseyparish.gov.uk/events/

If you are planning an event in Kersey please email the information to Sarah Partridge at clerk@kerseyparish.gov.uk so it can be included.

PARISH NEWS

THE KERSEY WEBSITE HAS MOVED!

The Kersey website can now be found at www.kerseyparish.gov.uk

The Kersey website has a wealth of information about Kersey, its community organisations, events, Parish Council information, local history and more. From the home page you can click through to see all the sub pages.

The Parish Council also has a new contact email address and telephone number: clerk@kerseyparish.gov.uk & 07765 916162

If you are planning an event please email the Clerk on the above email address and your event can be added to the Kersey community google calendar and information put on the events page of the website.

KERSEY VILLAGE HALL – AUTUMN BUFFET

Saturday 19th October, 7pm to 9.30pm - £15 per person.

We invite you to the annual Autumn Buffet in your beautiful Village Hall on Saturday 19th October – note the new times – 7pm to 9.30pm Come and enjoy delicious home cooked food, wine, soft drinks, quiz, raffle and great company. This event is our only fund-raising event, raising valuable funds to keep your hall in 'tip-top' condition. Tickets are £15 per person, available from Veronica Partridge, Norah Orris, Natalie Blyth, Pete Partridge, Phillipa Harris and Frances Whymark. We look forward to welcoming you all.

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

KERSEY VILLAGE HALL 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SAVE THE DATE – Friday 17th January 2025, 6pm to 8pm.

The Village Hall was opened on 16th January 1935. The committee would like to invite all Parishioners to attend a celebration evening on Friday 17th January 2025, 6pm to 8pm. Come and view memorabilia from its 90-year history, whilst enjoying a free drink and canapés. More information to follow.

KERSEY TABLE TENNIS CLUB

We are a small and friendly club and welcome players of all abilities. The purpose of the club is social and recreational. We do not play competition.

We operate from Kersey village hall on Thursday evenings between 7:30pm and 9:00pm. Our fees are: Adults £2.00 for one hour or £3.00 for the full session. Juniors (under 18) £2.00 irrespective of duration.

Our next season commences on 5th September 2024 and ends 26th June 2025.

Contact Adrian Blyth 01473827805 (amblyth1@gmail.com).

RIDE AND STRIDE

Saturday 14th September, 9am–5pm.

Get your bikes in good order! Sponsor forms in the church. If you would like to spend an hour in the church on the day to sign sponsor forms please contact Frances on 01473 827302 or 0787320279 to arrange a convenient time.

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

14th September is coming up quickly to get your entries ready for the annual show. Every household has been given a schedule of classes and rules, there is something for everyone from vegetables, flowers, household, handwork, floral art and photography. Entries by Tuesday 10th preferably but no later than Thursday 12th. Late entries will not be accepted. Recipes can be sent by email or paper copies are available. If you have any spare cakes which can be sold for refreshments or any items for the tombola the committee would be grateful.

Rachel Wells

VPA OUTING

On the 13th July VPA members and friends enjoyed an outing to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cambridge. The weather was good not too hot and no gales this year. The gardens are extensive and well laid out with plenty of bee friendly flowers, beautiful trees and immaculate lawns. There were lots of seats where you could sit, rest weary feet and enjoy the views. The outing was organised by the Village Producer Association.

Rachel Wells



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THE GOOD GUIDE

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

KERSEY CRIME REVIEW 19/6/24 – 19/8/24



Within the time period above, there has been one reported crime in Kersey, which was a domestic harassment matter with a historic assault reported at the same time.

All community officers within Suffolk Police have recently been required to assist with a serious incident in Brantham, that coupled with a protest at RAF Lakenheath, then the national protests followed by some other serious incidents in Ipswich has meant the time spent in my normal role has been limited. This is unusual and all officers within Suffolk Constabulary have been stepping up and putting more time into work, in these unprecedented times everyone understands we all need to pull together with either a single county or country focus.

From a crime prevention point of view this month, I will mention hare coursing. It is an illegal blood sport where dog or dogs are set loose on open fields to chase and kill a hare, gambling is involved when there are competing dogs. The Hunting Act 2004 made hare coursing illegal and anyone convicted of the offence can be fined up to £5,000 by a Magistrates' Court. This type of offence is more likely to take place at dawn or dusk, but can also take place in broad daylight. The most obvious sign this offence is taking place is a group of vehicles parked in a rural area perhaps by a gateway to farmland, on a grass verge, on a farm track or bridle path, these are typically estate cars or four wheel drive vehicles or vans. If you suspect this offence is taking place, do not approach the participants but call us on 999. This is treated as requiring an emergency response when called into Suffolk Police.

PC 1293 Niall Johnson – Hadleigh Community Police Officer.

THE NIGHTINGALE TRUST – ALLOTMENTS

The Nightingale Trust are members of Kings Seeds Allotment and Horticultural Societies and Gardening Seeds Scheme. Once again, last year was another successful year, and we managed to obtain a 50% discount on our total seed order. I'm sure you will agree, it's a big saving and well worth having. In order to receive this 50% discount, the total order value for seeds needs to be £200 or more. We managed this easily last year with orders totalling just over £800 on only 15 orders! (NOTE - 50% discount only available on seed orders, excludes seed potatoes, onion sets, ancillary items etc.) With this discount, why not try something new for next year's growing season?

If you would like to take advantage of this great offer and for more information, please contact me. I have a small supply of brochures, or you can browse online then contact me – 01473 827805, 07487 816966 or email nablyth1@gmail.com. Orders need to be in by 10th November. I look forward to hearing from you.

Natalie Blyth.

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S EVENTS

Sunday 6th October – Afternoon Tea with Jazz Vocal Trio

Our next event at St Mary's will be 'an afternoon tea and glass of fizz' with the wonderful vintage swing and jazz vocal trio, The Three Chordettes. Come and listen to fabulous harmonies and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. Tickets are £20 or £17.50 for FoSM members. Please email fosmkersey@gmail.com or phone 07721 625932 for more details and to book tickets.

Friday 6th December – Christmas Supper Dance

'Save the date' in your diaries for this popular candlelit dinner dance at St Mary's with live swing top music and dancing until midnight. Full details will follow in next month's newsletter but to register your interest early, please email fosmkersey@gmail.com.

STAY AND PLAY AT KERSEY SCHOOL

We are very excited to announce that from September we will be hosting a stay and play session for pre school children on a Friday afternoon. Children and parents will have the opportunity to join our reception class for play and a story.

FOOTPATHS

On behalf of myself and many other Kersey residents, I would like to thank Kevin Pratt and the Footpath Team for working so hard keeping so many green paths and brambles cut back.

Frances.

HADLEIGH CHORAL SOCIETY

Hadleigh Choral Society begins our Autumn term on Tuesday September 10th, and as always, we welcome new singers. We'll be performing Bach Christmas Oratorio (parts 1 & 2) and Handel's Coronation Anthems (The King Shall Rejoice and Zadok the Priest). Why not join us for our free singing exploration morning? Saturday 14th September 9:15-12:30 as we learn all about these glorious choral works. Music and refreshments will be provided, and there is a special offer for new choir members. For more information visit our website www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk.

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.kerseyparish.gov.uk/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.kerseyparish.gov.uk

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Dear Friends,

I was at a recent clergy get-together and amongst other topics, the discussion eventually came round to the growth in AI – Artificial Intelligence.

I won't bore you with all the details, but basically it was felt to have both good and bad things going for it. I am sure you can name most of the good and bad yourselves without my help: Efficiency, accuracy, possibility to work with large volumes of data quickly. Downsides being deepfakes, misinformation, security risks, job displacement...

However, what was interesting was the subsequent discussion on getting AI to write sermons! Oh yes, that aspect was not lost on some of the clergy. But don't get me wrong, the overall opinion was that whilst AI can write convincing essays on any given subject, when it came to sermons it failed quite miserably, they were almost laughable. The other day just to give myself a little amusement I asked Chat gpt AI to write a sermon on the subject of Aaron's Beard. The result was indeed quite amusing and ended by saying "Let us strive to live our lives like Aaron's beard...". That said, I think the funniest "sermon" I have ever heard was by Alan Bennett in Beyond the Fringe almost 60 years ago. Somehow, he manages to compare life to a tin of sardines: We are all looking for the key to open it and there's always some difficult bit stuck in the corners. Then he says: I wonder, is there a little bit in the corner of your life? I know there is in mine...".

All of this leaves me asking the question, what makes a good sermon? The late Duke of Edinburgh expressed the opinion that a good sermon was one that was no more than 8 minutes long. I think the longest sermon I ever had to endure was almost 90 minutes long, I seem to recall the preacher working through the points he was making by saying Firstly followed by secondly and towards the end saying "and seventeenthly". But a good sermon should have clarity and structure, with a clear main point, and a clear conclusion. Should be relevant to those listening to it. Be delivered with engagement. Offer some spiritual inspiration and be long enough to develop the central message, but short enough to maintain one's attention.

In general preaching is based on a particular passage of scripture and should help both the congregation as well as the preacher explore and understand the context and meaning of the passage of scripture. This should lead to a better understanding of how God wants us to live out our lives. This last point is where AI fails to cut the mustard. AI or Artificial Intelligence is, as the name suggests artificial. When it comes to the pulpit, we need something authentic: "Authentic Intelligence". The Bible is not so much a book full of answers, more a book full of questions, questions about how to live lives that reflect the love of God. In the church we believe that we are called to be authentic, we don't always get it right, but that is part of our authenticity.

Every blessing
Geoffrey

Rev. Geoffrey Clement

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

1st Sept 11am	Holy Communion	Rev Geoffrey Clement
8th Sept 11am	Parish service	Rev Geoffrey Clement
15th Sept 6.30pm	Evensong	Rev Adrian Waller
22nd Sept	No service in Kersey – Aldham 11am	
29th Sept 10am	Benefice service Hintlesham	Rev Geoffrey Clement
6th Oct 11am	Harvest festival	Rev Geoffrey Clement

There is a short Celtic prayer service on Tuesday mornings at 9.30am.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

Latest **500 Club** draw results:

	July	August
1st Prize –	Neil Hutton	Nick Hamblen
2nd Prize –	Martin & Juliet Lynch	Bruce Newbigging
3rd Prize –	Linda Newbigging	Mary Pearce







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

For details of the **500 Club** monthly lottery and FoSM membership information please contact either **Mark Rigby** on **07484 649235** or **Mark Pertwee** on **07919 166782** or email **fosmkersey@gmail.com**.



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PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on 1st July. Present were chair John Hume and four councillors. In attendance was the clerk and Babergh District Councillor for part of the meeting. Apologies were received from two councillors and one member of the public.

Declaration of Interest: Two councillors declared an interest in matters on the agenda.

Minutes from May meeting were confirmed as correct and signed.

Reports: Babergh District Councillor Leigh Jamieson gave his report. There is a new leader at the council, Deborah Saw from the Green Party who has outlined her ambitions what she would like to see done. Throughout Babergh and Mid Suffolk car parks more electric car charging points have been installed.

Planning progress: Babergh have given consent for works at Water cottage, The Street. Councillors considered proposal for solar panels on barn at Curtis Farm. They gave their full support.

Clerk's report: All information from Kersey which is published on the Babergh website is correct. Verge cutting will take place this week. County councillor to remind Highways to cut Cherry Hill and No Through Roads. Defibrillator training evening had been arranged.

Correspondence: All correspondence has been circulated. A resident had sent some observations about the beer festival. Councillors said it is important for organisers to consider the community when planning an event. The clerk had received several complaints about the scruffy state of several green areas in the village. The council would like to know if there are any volunteers who would like to help with tidying up these areas.

Finance: Financial statement was shown and all other financial items were discussed.

Footpath Working Group: The council thanked volunteers who cut the paths. It makes walking in Kersey very enjoyable. It has been agreed to purchase a new wheeled trimmer.

KCPC Working Group: The swings have been repaired and replacement grips fitted on slide mound ramp. Date for quiz night – 22nd November.

Consider feedback about The Bell Inn beer festival and parking. A draft plan on parking had been drawn up and this seemed to work well during the event. A resident had purchased parking management signs. Councillors agreed to purchase these signs from the resident.

Review of parish assets and insurance cover. All assets had been checked, generally they are all in good condition.

Pride in our Parish: A councillor will draft an article for the newsletter to encourage residents in helping maintain some of the green public areas.

The Community Organisation: The chair will meet with a representative from the Nightingale Trust for September issue of newsletter and The Table Tennis for October.

Training: SALC continues to offer training on the website.

Next meeting 2nd September. A full report can be found on the website.

Rachel Wells

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FARMING NOTES

Arable

Harvest 24 has passed quite quickly and has been made much less stressful by our combine purchase. The used Claas Lexin 760 with its 35-foot-wide cutter bar is a serious upgrade on the previous machine and has dramatically decreased the time we have spent harvesting. This allows us to only cut crops when they are fully dry thus avoiding drying costs. However, no two harvests are ever the same and there's usually a '*problem of the year*' that appears. As I have often mentioned, we are obliged to market our grain to the buyer's specification (spec). Some years we have grain to sell that has a higher moisture content than the spec of 15%, some years it is a screenings (small grain) problem, other years it can be a protein or nitrogen content issue. The overriding 2024 stumbling block is Ergot. The spec states one ergot in a lorry load and the whole load is rejected. This year we have seen more ergot in our harvested sample than ever before and it is causing a major problem, and we are not alone. It seems that the excess rainfall we had during wheat flowering (end of May) is to blame, perhaps not helped by the absence of ploughing. Ergot is a fungal disease of cereal and grass crops that infects a specific grain site and results in an ugly deformation of that grain and there is currently no chemical treatment to avoid this. Ergot is poisonous, unpleasant, and is known to have a hallucinogenic effect. The only ways of removing it are by 'magic eye' processing involving multi-colour cameras and mini air jets, or a system known as a gravity separation that relies

FARMING NOTES (cont.)

on Ergot's relative lightness, but is less thorough. Of course, there is always manual removal relying on human sight and dexterity and this may be what we will try.

Rob Partridge

Cattle

The good grass growth earlier in the season is still providing keep for the cattle even though we have had a lovely prolonged warm, dry spell of weather. Often at this time of year we have to feed straw to the grazing cows to supplement the grass. Recently I took a big round bale out to Parks (the field closest to the village) but they have hardly touched it, so they can't be hungry. Both of the stock bulls, Novak and Supernova, have been removed so hopefully most, if not all, of the cows are now in calf.

One of the main buildings here at Bridges is a fifty-ish year old large timber framed cattle shed which was built to house commercial fattening cattle. Over the years the wooden legs have gradually rotted at the point where they meet the ground and our builder brother, Pete, has, bit by bit, underpinned them with steel posts to prolong the life of the building. Earlier this year we made the decision to continue this work and also to fit six pairs of new gates, dividing kerb stones and drinkers to bring part of the building up to date and make it more suitable. Pete has very kindly taken on the task, and has spent a good bit of the summer working here turning the plan into practice. Now almost completed, we are looking forward to weaning the young pedigree bulls and heifers and housing them in their new state-of-the-art yards. Thanks Pete!

Sheep

Our flock of 50 Suffolk ewes require one or two stock rams to get them all pregnant during the mating season which is during the autumn. When selecting a new stock ram I look for one with genetic traits which will complement the flock and hopefully move forward the potential of the rams and ewes which we are producing. Since we performance record the flock I am always looking to use rams with proven high-performance figures and it can be a challenge to find such rams which are not too closely related to our ewes. A recent trip to a sale in East Sussex gave me the chance to buy just such a boy. The ram which we have named Premier was my first choice from those at the sale. He combines the correct physical attributes of length, flesh and correct legs with performance figures in the top 1% of the breed. We look forward to seeing his lambs next spring.



Chris Partridge

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Community Organisation Spotlight:

THE NIGHTINGALE TRUST – with Natalie Blyth

How did the Trust start?

In 1580, Robert Nightingale left land in his will to be used for “...the benefit of the poor and needy of Kersey.”

Very generous. How does that work over 400 years later?

Our main role is still generating income for distribution to local causes. For example, we have made donations to individuals, Hadleigh Food Bank, Kersey School, and support the Hospital Appointments Scheme. We also have to allocate some funds for maintenance of the allotments site, such as hedging, gates and in previous years installed a much-needed water pump.

Where does the money come from?

Our main activity is running the allotments in Kedges Lane, Kersey. This supplements other investment income.

Sounds busy. What is your role and how did you get involved?

I'm the secretary, one of the, Kersey based, small group of Trustees. We have an annual meeting each October, mostly addressing items concerning the allotments. We do a biannual inspection of the plots. I took an allotment some time ago and love being out in the open air with the opportunity to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables. It's a beautiful spot, a wonderful village amenity. There is a great community spirit, and everyone is very generous in sharing expertise, tips and plants.

Does it get a bit competitive?

There is sometimes friendly, good natured rivalry and we have the opportunity to compete for a prize at the Village Produce Association Show in September, where the standard is very high. The main competition comes from some of the wildlife! We often get deer, rabbits, foxes, badgers and especially pigeons, so most of the allotments are well protected.

How many plots are there in the allotments and how much is it?

There are 21, one of which is run as managed wildlife area. The fee is £35pa for a full plot and £25 for a half. They are all currently occupied.

Are there any rules?

Not many. Use nothing toxic, keep things in control, smaller trees allowed, some limits on poultry and avoid using noisy machinery at specified times.

What are the main challenges?

Not many, The usual garden pests and in other years, lack of rain. The soil is fertile, a mix of chalk, sand and clay. It can get very dry, although not so much of a problem this year! There was some very bad flooding and run off in the Autumn storms. It was surprising as the plots are quite high on a south facing elevated slope. Planning and preparing the plot is important for successful harvests. Vehicle access is not easy, and we have to maintain the lane.

And the benefits?

Obviously, a good supply of things to eat, the exercise in the fresh air and the companionship. We also have a 50% discount bulk buying scheme with Kings of Kelvedon, open to all allotment holders and Kersey residents. If you are interested in this or in taking up an allotment, please contact me, Natalie Blyth on 01473 827805

What does the future hold?

There will always be a demand for quality produce and self-sufficiency. Growing your own is satisfying, cost effective, healthier and tastes better! We are thinking of ways we can share the expertise and knowledge of our allotment holders by giving expert advice to the wider community.

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Listed Building Energy improvements.

It was good to see that both Babergh and Mid-Suffolk District Councils will become the first councils in the country to introduce an ambitious package of measures to make sensitive improvements to listed properties, quicker and easier. The districts have thousands of listed properties, but these often suffer from poor energy performance due to factors such as poorly fitting windows and single glazing.

The poor energy performance of listed properties leads to high bills for homeowners and is costly for the environment. Historic England, who have been working closely with the councils, has stated that retrofitting historic buildings will be fundamental in achieving net zero. The councils will continue to have dialogue with them in order to draw up the details of the orders.

The first of these is a Local Listed Building Consent Order, allowing Grade II listed property owners to upgrade or replace windows without having to make individual applications, subject to conditions.

The second is a Local Development Order, allowing solar PV and other renewable technologies to be installed on unlisted buildings within the curtilage of a Grade II listed properties.

Further work will be undertaken to see what else is achievable.

Car Parking Charges

On the 2nd of August, the Cabinet finally ended the long and controversial debate over car parking charges. The decision was returned to cabinet to ask them to consider an hour’s free parking.

However, it was decided that if a free hour were allowed it would leave the Council needing to make additional savings modelled as £266,863 per annum by 2026/27 from other services to compensate not selecting the recommended tariff.

Consequently the council decided to go with Tariff A, below.

Tariff Bands	Tariff Option A	
	Short Stay	Long Stay
Up to 1 hour	£1.00	n/a
Up to 2 hours	£1.50	£1.00
Up to 3 hours	£2.00	£1.50
Up to 4 hours	£2.50	£2.00
All Day	n/a	£2.50

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr), Green Party
Babergh District Councillor – South East Cosford
Leader Babergh Green Group
Mobile: 07825 290605, leigh.jamieson@babergh.gov.uk
Websites: www.babergh.gov.uk www.midsuffolk.gov.uk
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX

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DIARY DATES

2 Sept – Parish Council.....	Village Hall	19.30
3 Sept – Tuesday Club.....	Village Hall	19.30
5 Sept – Table tennis starts	Village Hall	19.30
8 Sept – Cricket match	Rockalls	13.00
11 Sept – PCC.....	St Mary's	19.00
14 Oct – Flower and Vegetable show.....	Village Hall ..	14.15- 17.00
2 Oct – School harvest service	St Mary's	14.30
6 Oct – Harvest festival.....	St Mary's	11.00
6 Oct – FOSM Afternoon tea and Three Chorquettes .	St Mary's	14.30
19 Oct – Autumn Buffet.....	Village Hall ..	19.00- 21.30

Kersey Projects Dates for your Diary

We are looking forward to welcoming you to a variety of events in the coming months and **further details will be shared in future newsletters.**
We hope there will be something for you all to enjoy.

Christmas Floral Decoration Workshop*: Saturday, 30 November

Get creative with expert tuition to make your own floral decoration ready for Christmas. This will be from 10.00am - 1.00pm in the Village Hall and all materials will be provided for £30 per person.

Spaces will be limited so get in touch to reserve a place.



Christmas Tree Lighting: Sunday, 1 December

Join us for the annual lighting of the Christmas tree with mulled wine and mince pies at The Splash.

Burns Night Evening*: Friday, 24 January 2025

Back by ever popular demand, an evening of Scottish tradition in the Village Hall with haggis, bagpipes, a Ceilidh band and lots of dancing!



If you have any questions, please email us at: kerseyprojects@gmail.com.

*Fundraising to support future community activities/events.

The next issue is **October 2024.**

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

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