

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2019/January 2020



Candlelit Carol Service
St. Mary's Church – 15th December 4.00pm

50p*

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

* **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

Forgetmenots – Organiser: Veronica Partridge

Tuesday Club – Rachel Wells

Table Tennis Club – Adrian Blyth

Parish Council –

Chairman: John Hume	01473 810098
Clerk to the Council: Sarah Partridge	01787 210859

Footpaths – Kevin Pratt

Kersey Community Playground Committee –

Jonathan Marsh

Millennium Book Fund – Sarah Partridge

Neighbourhood Watch – vacant

Village Hall –

Chairman: Veronica Partridge	01473 823188
Bookings: Norah Orriss	01473 827513

VPA (Village Produce Association) –

Chairman: Peter Partridge	01473 827231
Secretary: Rachel Wells	01473 822230

The Lewis Mowles Trust Fund –

Secretary: Rachel Wells

Grays Trust –

Chairman: John Robinson	01473 823247
Secretary: Philippa Harris	01473 827079

Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth

School – Interim Head Teacher: Ian Belham

Kersey Playingfield Assoc. (Glebe) – Mark Pertwee

Kersey Community Website

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

Hadleigh Health Practice

West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds)

Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust

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.

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.

SWEEP AND DUST

We would be grateful if everyone could come to help clean the church ready for Christmas on Saturday 14th from 10.00am

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes to Lynn English and daughters Katharine and Jo on the death of John on 1st November 2019.

Also to the family of James Frost from Boxford whose ashes have been interred in the churchyard.

JOHN ENGLISH

Lynn, Katharine and Jo would like to say a big thank you to everyone in the village who either wrote or sent sympathy cards to us at this very sad time. We have been deeply touched and would like you to know that they have been a great comfort to us. John would have been very moved.

THANK YOU

To Kevin, Viv, Joe and Gerald for cutting the church bank etc. and Derek who looks after the grass around the seat and the bank leading to Vale Lane.

THANKS

To Neville for scouring the area to make up a team to ring our half muffled bells for Remembrance Sunday. One ringer came from Bramford.

2020 KERSEY CALENDAR

There are still calendars featuring views of Kersey for sale in the church Price £4 Makes an ideal gift.



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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

CHRISTMAS BUFFET SUPPER

Tickets are still available for the Christmas buffet supper being held on the 7th December in the Village Hall 7-10pm price £12.50 Proceeds for St Mary's Church. During the evening carols will be sung and a collection taken for EACH.

Tickets available from Linda Newbigging 01787 210137 or 07905 731431 or lindanewbigging@btinternet.com or Rachel Wells 01473 822230

KERSEY SHRINE UPDATE

The countdown continues. On Sunday 8th March Bishop Martin will rehallow the Kersey shrine space and so the north chancel will regain its purpose as a unique and inspiring place to meet with God.

Our church and its shrine was a pilgrimage destination for hundreds of years and places that have known prayer for many years are given a holiness, it's called the numinous, a sense that we are not alone, that there is more to life and that we are in the presence of one who is greater than us. Fortunately not everything in life can be explained; love, faith, courage, creativity and the numinous - all of them step outside the rigid boundaries of what can be quantified and measured - and thank God that they do.

As well as the rehallowing of the shrine space, the 8th March will begin a year of art, sculpture, poems, storytelling and music on the themes of Pietà and Pilgrimage. A range of innovative and inspiring temporary installations will come and go. Those on the theme of Pietà will reveal truths about compassion, loyalty and courage; and those on the theme of pilgrimage will explore the journeys that feed our soul. The PCC will be hosting these interactive exhibitions in the shrine space whilst we make a few changes to the permanent installation that you've already seen the designs for.

Keep up to date via the monthly updates in the parish magazine and from January 8th in the countdown to the rehallowing at www.kind.church/shrine

KERSEY COMMUNITY WEBSITE

Remember to check www.kersey.suffolk.cloud regularly for latest news, information and updates. The Kersey Parish Newsletter newsletter is now available to download from this site too. Back issues and the latest issue can be viewed, downloaded and printed.

<http://www.kersey.suffolk.cloud/our-community/newsletter/>.

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PARISH NEWS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE BELL

The Kersey Bell's annual carol singing evening takes place this year on Monday 16th December starting at 8pm. It is always one of the highlights of the festive season.

Everybody welcome.
Please come and join in.



QUIZ

A quiz with fish and chip supper was held on the 1st November. Ten teams took part. The winners of the trophy were Dead in a ditch with 107 points. 2nd The Outside Flankers 97 points. 3rd Running late 91 points. Other teams were Kersey Konquizardors 90 points. Eddies finishers 87 points. Not on the High street 81 points. Quizzically impaired 80 points. Chaos 58 points. Can't hear at the back 56 points. Sextet 45 points who were the winners of the wooden spoons. The best named team was Dead in a ditch. All money raised will go towards the Community Playground.

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S TRUST

Hi everyone,

First and foremost a huge thank you to all of the very generous people who supported the Jazz and Jackets event on November 16th, which was a great success raising just under a thousand pounds. A special thank you to all the wonderful helpers who made the evening such a success. Well done everyone!

It is our first year of running the Friends of St. Mary's Trust, having had the set up meeting in January and already we have raised £3,628.68 including a very kind donation from Kersey Projects team after an amazing flower festival.

We are just weeks away from opening our bank account for donors and sponsors to become directly involved and this was possible only after sorting out all of the legal bits and pieces with the charities commission and registering the Trust formally. Thank you to Mary Pearce and Bruce Newbigging in their roles of Secretary and Treasurer respectively for sorting that mammoth task out.

So, 2020 is set to be an even better year for fundraising and protecting our special church for generations to come. Thank you for your help and support through the year and to our sponsor **BGA Print** in Hadleigh.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.
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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

An open meeting is being held on the 20th January Village Hall 7.30 This is to arrange the show schedule and outing venue. Please come along if you can or alternatively let me have any suggestions you may have for show classes.

TUESDAY CLUB

At the November meeting we welcomed back Graham Hart from Hadleigh who came to talk about his *Coast to Coast* walk which he completed in 1997. Along with his wife they had planned the walk together but circumstances changed and instead he walked on his own with his wife travelling each day to the next intended bed and breakfast stop for the night.

He took the exact route which Alfred Wainwright had described starting at St Bees, Cumbria travelling across the Lake District, The Pennines, Yorkshire moors and dales finishing at Robin Hood's Bay on the North Sea coast. Although they were both travelling alone they visited some interesting places and met very hospitable people. The talk was accompanied by lovely pictures.

Competition for "Something Orange or Sparkling" was won by **Rita Griggs**.

Our next meeting is on the 3rd December which will be the Christmas party in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

No competition but there will be a picture quiz. We were low on members at our last meeting so if possible could you please let me know in advance if you are unable to attend as I need an idea of numbers for the refreshments.

20's PLENTY

Please watch your speed when travelling up and down Vale Lane. Be aware there are people reversing from gateways, elderly residents, children and animals.

PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

FOR SALE

Super-ser heater with gas bottle – £20 each. Phone 01787 210366.

WEATHER

Rainfall for October:96mm (3¾")

Maximum temperature:19°C (66°F)

Minimum temperature:2°C (36°F)

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Praise the Lord and pass the brussels

Now look, I could spend a whole page listing all the things about the Christmas festivities that are wrong but I'd never list all our gripes and moans. M&S selling Christmas stuff in October; over priced and under fed turkeys; traffic jams in Hadleigh; late deliveries from Ocado. That's just for starters.

We all love a good moan and Christmas is an easy target. But crickey it's a cracker of a festival. Just as it gets really dark at 3pm we light up the village with displays; and there is an attempt to spend time together with family.

The school children have the prospect of a visit from a DBS checked Santa Claus to the grotto in St Mary's, with cheery words, presents and some welcome morality about being nicer to your Mummy. The adults get to throw caution to the wind and buy two bottles of Baileys – one and a half of which will get donated to someone's party in July, even the animals get themed Christmas nosh and a rubber chicken toy.

And at several points during the festive fortnight we are about to launch into a right have-a-go at someone and then say to ourselves, oh what the heck, leave it, it's Christmas.

And a couple of times over the festival we'll most likely find ourselves in church singing carols that make us feel warm inside and sitting near children mesmerised by the story of the baby born to save the world.

So I know it's a pain sometimes and I know the only time any sane person would do the food shopping is 3am in order to beat the queues; but when else does the whole nation manage to stop talking about B***** and hang another bauble?

Christmas comes from the truth of a distant land, the birth of a saviour in a smelly stable, the message of love and hope where there was none and the only eternal future that's worth thinking about. And if that message of love means that you invite grumpy Aunt Fanny to dinner and even let her at the Brussels, despite the well documented side effects, well good on you. Pour me a Baileys, pass me a sprout and count me in.

Put that light on

An announcement about the church floodlights is coming in next month's issue. Meanwhile the altar seems to have acquired an ephemeral hue. It's like this, you pop into church on a cold and dark winter afternoon and there's no lights on, nothing to say "You're welcome here" or "Come in, visitors are expected". We shamelessly stole the idea from those upstarts in Lavenham who have the second most pretty parish church in Suffolk. Our altar is now lit by a gently undulating LED light to (hopefully) communicate on a dark day that the church is jolly well open and you're jolly welcome. It costs 6p a week to run and I donated £3 via the fabulous new contactless machine; so someone tell me when that runs out and I'll put another shilling in the meter.

See you on the 15th for the parish Carol Service at 4pm.

Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby.

Vicar of Kersey, Elmsett, Aldham, Hintlesham & Chattisham

Telephone: 01473 657349

Email: rev@kind.church

All our Sunday services and other events are at www.kind.church

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 1 Dec	1st of Advent 9.00am	Said BCP Communion Rev Jackson
Tues 3 Dec	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 8 Dec	2nd of Advent 11.00am	CW Holy Communion Rev Jackson
Tues 10 Dec	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 15 Dec	3rd of Advent 4.00pm	CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE – Rev Jackson
Tues 17 Dec	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 22 Dec	4th of Advent 4.00pm	Evensong Mrs Julie Boast
Tuesday 24 Dec	CHRISTMAS EVE 10.00pm	HOLY COMMUNION Rev Jackson
Sunday 29 Dec	1st of Christmas 10.30am	DEANERY SERVICE Stoke by Nayland Church
Tuesday	31 Dec	NO SERVICE
Sunday 5 Jan	2nd of Christmas 9.00am	Said BCP Communion Rev Jackson
Tues 7 Jan	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 12 Jan	1st of Epiphany 11.00am	CW Holy Communion Rev Jackson
Tues 14 Jan	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 19 Jan	2nd of Epiphany 11.00am	Cafe Church tba
Tues 21 Jan	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led
Sunday 26 Jan	3rd of Epiphany 4.00pm	Evensong Mrs Julie Boast
Tues 28 Jan	9.30am	Morning Prayer – Lay led

Kersey Community Website

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

The Kersey Bell

Christmas 2019 at The Bell!

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NEWS FROM KERSEY SCHOOL

Squirrels (Reception):

Squirrels have been busy retelling and acting out *The Three Little Pigs*. They are working really hard to use their phonics when reading and writing. Our topic this half term is houses and homes so we have been for a walk around the village to spot lots of different types of homes. We also looked at the different materials used to build houses. In maths the children have been using 2D shapes to create pictures.



Hedgehogs (Years 1 and 2):

In Hedgehogs we have been reading the story of *Three Little Pigs* linked to our topic on houses and homes. We have retold the story using story language and also invented our own version of the story using new characters and new building materials. We have been working hard to ensure we use punctuation in our writing.

Badgers (Years 3 and 4):

Badger's have been busy learning about Christmas in both the past and around the world. We focused on the Tudors this week and learnt all of the things they would do on Christmas Day. Did you know their Christmas dinner had 24 courses! We then created our own 12 days of Christmas filled with all the things we would like to receive. In English we are reading Phillip Pullman's *Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp*. So far the children have written character descriptions, a diary as Aladdin and created art work on what they think the garden looks like that holds the enchanted lamp. We also enjoyed making our origami poppies ready to put on our wreath for the remembrance service on Monday.

Owls (Years 5 and 6):

Owls have continued their learning about the environment this half term; they asked to conduct a litter pick around the school and some of the surrounding roads and hedgerows, which they completed with great enjoyment! As part of our learning about humility in collective worship, we made some art work from rubbish. The children enjoyed serving their community and are keen to have another litter pick later on in the year.



Come and visit!

If you missed our open days at the start of November but would still like to visit please get in touch and we will make an appointment for you.

OUR WHOLE SCHOOL NATIVITY will be taking place on **Wednesday 18th December** at 1:30pm in St Mary's Church, Kersey – get into the festive spirit and come along if you can.

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

FARMING NOTES

Arable:

As you will all know too well, the weather in November has continued in a similar vein to the preceding month, allowing only a limited amount of work on the land to be completed and then only in very poor conditions. As I write, on the 24th November, we are still waiting for a prolonged dry, windy period to complete the autumn work, although it may well be a vain hope. We are continuing with building repairs in the meantime.



Drier, happier times – Jimmy ploughing back in August



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FARMING NOTES (cont.)

As the roads around the farm are not wide enough to accommodate a ‘maus’ sugar beet loading system – loading direct from field to lorry, I am hoping to source for hire, a ‘chaser wagon’ – a trailer that transfers the beet from harvester to waiting trailers in order to keep the trailers on the road to negate the usual muddy roads. Failing this we will be forced to carry on as usual and clear the road afterwards as we normally do.

Cattle:

With the last group housed in early November all of the cattle are now settled into their winter routine at Bridges Farm. The cows have all been pregnancy scanned with very acceptable results. About 70 of the 90 breeding females are in calf and due to calve from February onwards. One small group were not run with a bull during the summer; these are empty and being lined up to receive pedigree British Blue embryos in a few weeks time. A second small group which were implanted with embryos in February are due to calve in December. These different groups have to be housed in separate yards and fed differently, complicating the whole issue, however higher returns for the calves from these cattle should help to compensate for that.

TB (Bovine Tuberculosis) :

TB is a big problem for farmers in the West of the country and Wales. On farms or in areas where there is an outbreak of TB, movements of cattle are restricted and farmers have to test their cattle every year or in some cases more often than that. Badgers are often blamed for spreading TB with badger culling a very contentious issue. Fortunately here in the East there is not too much of a problem and our badger population is believed to be TB free. Consequently we are only required by government to test for TB once every four years. Our vet did our annual TB test recently, this involves running the entire adult portion of the herd through the cattle handling facilities on two occasions three days apart which is a logistical challenge, but with help from Sarah, Jimmy and Ryan we managed this and were pleased to be found to be clear of TB again. Whilst handling the cattle we also took blood samples from them which will be tested as part of our herd high health program for other cattle diseases: Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD), Johnes Disease and Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR). You can probably see why we use abbreviations for these horrible sounding cattle diseases. We have not had the results back yet so fingers crossed!

Sheep:

The borrowed ram was returned to his home farm recently, we will find out if he has done his job when we pregnancy scan the ewes just before Christmas.

PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 18th. November.

Present were Chairman John Hume, six councillors, clerk, District councillor and two members of the public.

Apologies were received from County Councillor Robert Lindsay who was unable to attend because of illness. The chairman would like good wishes from the meeting passed on to him for a speedy recovery.

Babergh District Councillor Leigh Jamieson spoke about the Babergh name change. The meeting to discuss this was cancelled as it was unlikely to get the majority vote needed. This could still be brought up at a later date. Digital first. Senior staff and councillors are being challenged to go paperless for council and committee papers. Distributing hard copies cost £50,000 a year. Parking in the district is being reviewed. With the housing growth planned additional parking will be needed. Some councillors felt this was the wrong way forward and they should be looking at alternative transport to cars. The district CIL money has been distributed. There will be free swimming in the district for under 17's over the Christmas holidays.

Report from County Councillor Robert Lindsay: There had been a cabinet reshuffle. An apology had been given over the way the school travel policy was handled. Suffolk health visitors are concerned that their numbers are being cut due to a new In house contract.

Previous minutes were confirmed and signed as correct.

Clerk's report: The hedge in Vale Lane had been cut. An appeal had been made against refusal for a grit bin on Church Hill. The verges on Cherry Hill were eventually cut although it was noted none of the verges in the village had been cut up to standard. Some potholes had been reported, the clerk urged everyone to use the online tool. The VETS grant had been approved.

Correspondence: The council had been asked if they would contribute towards keeping the local buses running. As they were not supported by villagers the councillors were sceptical about donating. A reminder had been given about the change of days for waste disposal over the Christmas and New Year. Other items included the SALC AGM and Babergh name change.

Finance: Bank balances were noted and expenditure agreed. The insurance had been paid.

Internal audit: All was in order.

Planning progress: Outline planning application for dwellings on land west of Vale Lane had been refused by Babergh council.

Footpaths: All paths were walkable. The dog bins are being well used.

KCPC: £644 was raised from the recent quiz night. A maintenance day had been held. The committee are looking into the cost of a swing for disabled children. The ROSPA report had been received.

PARISH COUNCIL

Glebe: Councillors had been asked whether they would consider any payment towards cutting of the Glebe field during the school holidays. County Council to be reminded of the original agreement on the grass cutting.

Speeding and road safety: A letter from a resident had been received on concerns about speeding. One councillor felt that the important part was near the church/school entrance and whether the limit could be reduced to 20mph. The clerk said this area wouldn't meet with the CC criteria for a reduction and that we didn't wish for any infrastructure. Lindsey parish council would support a letter being sent to the Highways department concerning the Crossroads. Work to the right of the junction would be undertaken in the winter months. The landowner to be asked to cut the tree back on the left side.

PIIP: There had not been a great response to the questionnaire which had been delivered round the village. Some suggestions were for a car park, disabled entrance and solar panels at Village Hall, tennis court, footpath from Vale Lane and under grounding of wires. Update will be given at a later meeting.

Housing needs survey: Progress will be discussed at December meeting.

Dates for 2020 meetings were given. (See below.)

Clerk's job appraisal: The chairman said she was invaluable to the council and they were very fortunate to have her.

Emails: Councillors would receive agendas by email but as at present boards in the parish would continue to display them.

Budget and precept: This was discussed and provisional precept was set.

Boundary review: Councillors were happy with Suffolk CC boundary review.

Training: Three councillors had booked to attend a training session. The clerk had attended a Shaping Suffolk meeting.

AOB: Litter was becoming a problem again. Volunteers are to be given a designated area in which to litter pick. The school children had litter picked around the school and church. A drone had been seen in the vicinity of the church.

Next extraordinary meeting on the 16th December.

PARISH COUNCIL DATES for 2020

3rd February	– Parish Council meeting
2nd March	– Parish Council meeting
6th April	– Annual Parish Assembly plus short Parish Council meeting
11th May	– Parish Council Annual meeting
6th July	– Parish Council meeting
6th September	– Parish Council meeting
16th November	– Parish Council meeting

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BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council News

At the October Council meeting a motion was put forward for cabinet to review car parking across the district, but particularly in Sudbury and Hadleigh. With increases in housing across the district the review will be looking at all aspects of car parking. Unfortunately the focus of the motion put forward was extra capacity. We, along with other members of the council from all parties, feel that taking extra capacity as the default position is wrong. We feel that we need to provide people with alternatives first, to reduce traffic on our roads and in our villages. We were successful in amending the motion so that it considers other options before deciding on the correct level of parking required.

However, with Suffolk County Council already looking to cut bus subsidies and with the bus companies reviewing some of their commercial routes increasing public transport will be difficult. Looking nationwide other councils across the country are already trying novel ideas. For example Bristol's plans to ban Diesel cars from the city centre or Nottingham putting a parking levy on business that is ring fenced for public transport. While these may not work for Babergh we do need to perhaps think outside of the box.

Sporting Memories

The Sporting Memories project, run by the national charity *The Sporting Memories Foundation*, helps fight rural isolation and supports those living with dementia, brings together anyone over the age of 50 to talk about sport and their recollections of great sporting occasions. By using a collection of iconic images, newsletter, film and memorabilia to engage people in conversation, reminiscence, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and if suitable enjoy a little gentle exercise at the end of the session.

The memories discussed can range from the international, such as England's World Cup heroes of '66, to the exploits of the local cricket club.

Details can be found at:

www.sportingmemoriesnetwork.com/suffolk-clubs.

At the moment there is a club at –

Hadleigh Leisure Centre, Stonehouse Road, Ipswich, IP7 5BH
Monthly, on a Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00.

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr)

Can you help secure and manage newsletter advertising?

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

DIARY DATES

3 Dec	– Tuesday Club Christmas Party.....	Village Hall	19.30
7 Dec	– Christmas Buffet Supper.....	Village Hall	20.00-22.00
15 Dec	– Candlelit Carol Service	St Mary's church.....	16.00
16 Dec	– Extraordinary Parish Council mtg. . .	Village Hall	19.30
18 Dec	– School Nativity.....	St Mary's church.....	13.30
24 Dec	– Christmas Eve Communion	St Mary's church.....	22.00
20 Jan	– VPA meeting.....	Village Hall	19.30



Full moon rising behind the big oak at the top of Vale Lane.

The next issue will cover **February 2020**.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 20th 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:

Colin Grannell at hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

¼ page – £6.00 per issue, ½ page – £11.00 per issue