

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

April 2022



Happy Easter!

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

<p>Church Clergy: Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby. 01473 657349 rev@kind.church</p>	<p>Church Wardens: Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230. and vacant position.</p>
<p>Elder: Mrs Julie Boast 01787 249511.</p>	
<p>Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact the Benefice administrator 07706 188842 weekday mornings.</p>	

CHURCH CLEANING

Weeks beginning 4th Apr – Linda Newbigging and Gillian Sacker.
 Weeks beginning 18th Apr – Sarah Partridge and Jenny Partridge.
 Weeks beginning 2nd May – Bridget Allen and daughters.
 Saturday 16th all hands to spring clean the church and decorate for Easter.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met in church on the 9th March.

Matters arising from the previous meeting: It was agreed to purchase new carpet runners. Two new flags have been purchased. An additional speaker is required for the sound system. New seat cushions have been provided by Eleventh Hour Productions. The light over the steps has been replaced.

Annual meeting: Paperwork has been finalised.

Sidespersons: Individuals are being asked to join a team to help at services.

Five year plan: It was proposed that each year a new “touch point” would be added to the church to draw people to it. A magpie trail was proposed.

Jubilee: A short service would be held at the start of the street party.

Jubilee garden: It was agreed to go ahead with the the first bench which would be placed on the south side.

Easter garden service with the school on the 3rd April.

Fire extinguisher service has been completed.

Quinquennial: Windows repairs to be done soon.

Financial report was given and discussed.

Newsletter printing prices have increased.

AOB: South door Perspex was shattered in the gales. Investigate how to make improvements.

Extra metal brackets to be added to west door.



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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

Benefice cricket match to return in September.

Annual meeting: All welcome to attend the Annual Parochial Church meeting on the 6th April in church 7.30.

INVALIDS

We send our best wishes to those who have been in hospital, attending for treatment or unwell at home with Covid and other ailments.

PARISH NEWS

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Due to unforeseen circumstances the VPA annual meeting was called off. This will now be held on the 4th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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.

TUESDAY CLUB

At the February meeting members enjoyed a beetle drive. Winner of the prize for the most points was Norah Orriss.

Our next meeting is the 5th April 2.30pm in the Village Hall. We will be joined by Jenny Antill from Waldingfield whose title is "St Petersburg and Peter the Great". Some of you may remember Jenny when she was our County Councillor. Competition is for "Something red". Anyone is welcome to attend.

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

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 28th April 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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Tuesday 19th April at 2pm.

MARATHON! – The Battle that “Decided the Future of Human Civilisation”

Why remember a battle which took place 2,500 years ago? John Stuart Mills, the English philosopher, stated that “it was more important than the Battle of Hastings” in the various ways in which the influence of ancient Athens impacted on Arts & Culture, thus Marathon was indeed the battle which saved “Western Culture”. Bandy the name of Pheidippides with the best of them!

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- *New 3 course Sunday lunch menu!*
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or 07768 795981

Tree garden work and driveways also undertaken

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

KERSEY PARISH – QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE GIFT

Enclosed in your newsletter this month is an envelope containing 4 grams of seed – 12 Native Wildflower and 7 Native Grass varieties. This is enough to cover an area of 1m². It is hoped that these will be sown to re-wild an area in your garden to provide a welcome food source for insects/bees etc. and boost Kersey’s, and therefore the nation’s biodiversity, a matter very close to our Queen’s heart.

SOWING GUIDE – Dig over area, removing all weeds and grass. Rake to a firm and fine tilth. Scatter the seed and firm onto soil surface. Sow either March to May or July to early October. Cut once all flower and grass seed has dropped onto the ground – early to late Autumn. Clear away all cut vegetation as wildflowers prefer poor soil conditions to thrive. Seeds should then germinate again for years to come, although can take some time, so please be patient. Please let us know how you get on.

THE 500 CLUB

Help raise funds for our beautiful church and enjoy a little flutter at the same time. We are currently raising money for repairs to the stain glass windows as well as repairs to the roof leaks.

If you’d like to buy a number in the monthly lottery (50% of all sales is returned as prize money and 50% goes towards the renovations) then please contact Mark Pertwee on 07919 166782 or Jackie on 07721 625932 or go to www.Kerseychurch.org/FoSM where there are details of the lottery as well as how to become a friend of St. Mary’s church.

TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks? Walking in Suffolk <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/suffolk> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said ‘There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Suffolk (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you’.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk, john@walkinginengland.co.uk.



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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

AVIAN FLU

There has been another Avian Influenza outbreak, the 7th in Suffolk since the beginning of the year.

The closest outbreaks to Kersey are near Stowmarket and Woodbridge. 3km Protection Zones and 10km Surveillance Zones are put in place around the infected premises to help stop the spread of the disease, and Suffolk Trading Standards are working with APHA to contact all properties in the 3km zones to help establish where all poultry are housed.

Everyone in Suffolk is asked to play their part by continuing to follow Government guidance to keep all captive birds, including chickens, geese and ducks, indoors. Doing so will protect your much-loved pet birds from being killed by the disease and stop you receiving a fine for breaking the rules.

You can also help by sharing bird flu updates from Trading Standards on your Twitter or Facebook accounts and with any local community groups that you're a member of.

If you are out and about and see any sick or dead birds, please do not touch them as they may be carrying bird flu. Instead, report dead swans, geese, ducks, gulls or birds of prey to Defra by calling 03459 335577.

WEATHER (for February)

Rainfall	61mm (2.4")
Maximum temperature.....	14°C (57°F)
Minimum temperature	0°C (32°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.

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

From the Vicar

Priti Patel, our beloved Home Secretary was born in the UK after her parents emigrated to London in the 1960's. Her parents are dynamic entrepreneurial people who have added a lot to the country they have made their home.

Rishi Sunak's parents also arrived in this country in the 1960's and are both committed health workers qualified and experienced in community medical fields. They have added to the wisdom and compassion of their adopted country.

Boris Johnson also moved to the UK as a baby in the 1960's having been born in New York. He has made something of an impact.

Those are three of the most powerful members of our government and all three have said "thank you" for the opportunities that this great country has given them; whilst hauling up the drawbridge behind them to make it as difficult as possible for anyone else to follow. Currently there are about four million refugees who have escaped Ukraine, they don't all want to move to the UK, but some of them do want to escape here and all they need is a temporary home whilst Putin's army is removed from their country. They want to go home to Ukraine, but they can't. They've left brothers, sisters, fathers, daughters and sons at home to fight for their country's freedom. And they've also had to leave grandparents, too old to travel and determined to face down their oppressors. Most of the refugees are mothers with young children, they need temporary homes. 160,000 great British families have opened their homes for refugees but our government seems determined to play the nativity innkeeper and keep the door closed. Oh don't get me wrong, there will be some people who manage to find the right forms in a locked filing cabinet in a disused office with a sign on the door saying "Beware of the Leopard" (sorry, gratuitous Douglas Adams quote). And those few families who arrive will be paraded in front of the media to show how wonderfully open hearted our government is being.

But it's a lie and we know it's a lie. Whilst Putin destroys Mariupol and its children die in cinema basements from dehydration and starvation; our people, the wonderful, beautiful British people, have spare rooms and granny flats, holiday homes and attic bedrooms that remain empty because our senior politicians want all the benefits of living in this country, whilst making it as difficult as possible for anyone else to – temporarily – share it with them.

Shame on them. And thank God for the compassion of ordinary people who have called them out. Those 160,000 families – about a million people – have lived the story of the Good Samaritan and not crossed over to the other side. Not everyone can accommodate a refugee, there are many millions who have given support in so many other ways and will continue to do so; and communities would rally round and those whose spare rooms which were being used for refugees would be supported by an army of other villagers. We know this is true. We live in those villages.

And sure, maybe some would never make it back to Ukraine, that's inevitable. And

ST. MARY'S CHURCH (cont.)

their children would grow up here and take their place in our compassionate and welcoming society. And one day their children would take their place, perhaps one of them would become Home Secretary...

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

3 Apr	11.00	Easter garden service with school	
10 Apr	9.00	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Jackson
17 Apr	11.00	Easter Day Holy Communion	Adrian Waller
24 Apr	11.00	Aldham No service in Kersey	
1 May	9.00	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Jackson

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

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

- 1st Prize – Joan Hutton
- 2nd Prize – Linda Newbigging
- 3rd Prize – Chris Partridge

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 the 7th March.

Present were Chairman John Hume, two councillors and prospective councillor. Also present were the clerk, four members of the public and DC Leigh Jamieson for part of the meeting.

Apologies were received from three councillors and CC Robert Lindsay.

Co-option to fill vacancy: An interest had been shown by Esme Chapman. She spoke to introduce herself and why she wished to become a Parish Councillor. Following a vote Esme was co-opted onto the council.

Planning: Orchard House, The Street. Erection of garden home office. The applicants outlined their proposal. A member of the public spoke in objection as it would be visible to them. After discussion and concerns raised, councillors objected to this application.

Sampsons Hall. Construction of swimming pool and associated plant room. The pool is for family use and the plant room would be hidden behind a wall so would not impact on the listed house. Councillors fully supported this application.

Progress St Mary's Churchyard. Babergh had no objections to tree work.

Manor Farm. Babergh had granted permission for construction of tennis court.

3 Church Hill. Erection of part two storey and single storey rear extension. Babergh had granted permission.

Public forum and reports:

County councillor Robert Lindsay was pleased to report that Highways have agreed to liaise with him over putting up a Kersey school sign at the bottom of Mill Lane. He had been asked about a flashing speed sign at Wickerstreet Green. There is a set of criteria you have to meet before one can be installed. Also reported on was the Bus Recovery Grant for Covid which is set to end, Budget meeting and Warmer Homes Suffolk.

District councillor Leigh Jamieson reported on February's meeting when councillors discussed finance. The government is to provide funding for households in tax bands A-D. Babergh and Mid Suffolk have been awarded £324K to provide emergency accommodation for rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness. The council is to downsize on workspace at Endeavour House. Also mentioned in the report was Empty Homes funding and council's support to address violence against women and girls.

A concern was raised by the Parish Council about the Babergh Empty Homes funding. Many empty homes in the area are owned by landlords who own several properties. It was felt that this was potentially funding landlords who were able to renovate but choosing not to do so. The District councillor will raise the concern.

Minutes of meeting held in January were confirmed and signed as correct.

Clerk's report: Eleventh hour films and Screen Suffolk had put on a screening of the first two episodes of Magpie Murders. It was attended by nearly 100 residents.

cont./

PARISH COUNCIL (cont.)

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Correspondence: All correspondence had been circulated to councillors. Noted was that the Boundary Commission are holding a secondary consultation. The clerk would respond to Boxford Neighbourhood Plan consultation.

Finance: A copy of the accounts had been circulated to all councillors. Payments were approved.

The National Joint council for Local Government services had finally agreed on new rates of pay for the clerk. The council resolved to make this increase with immediate effect. Other financial items were discussed.

KCPC: The mowing rota will be started when the grass has grown.

Jubilee Working Group: A street party is being held on the 5th June. Suffolk Concert Band and Morris dancers will provide the entertainment. An invitation will be included in the April newsletter together with a packet of wildflower seeds.

The draft budget was reviewed and approved.

Review effectiveness of Internal audit and risk management Policies were reviewed.

Consider the results of the street lighting and upgrading Although responses had been low there was wide support for conversion to LED units. After discussion it was agreed to keep all existing lights and have them converted.

Update on progress with communication to help reduce nuisance parking Letters to be sent to all residents. The clerk had written to the church and school asking for their support in encouraging users to park in the car park.

Consider the proposal to replace the 30mph village signs with gateway signs The Parish council did not support this proposal. It was felt they would give a more urban feel to the area and not in keeping.

Consider the proposal to investigate boosting the mobile phone coverage near The Splash. There is a lack of mobile phone signal near The Splash and also other areas of Kersey including Wickerstreet Green. It is thought that a booster may be helpful.

Agree content for newsletter “Pride in our Parish”. It was agreed to include an item thanking all members of the parish who supported friends and neighbours during the recent power outages. This care and kindness is much appreciated and what helps to make the Kersey community so special.

Training: SALC continues to offer online training.

AOB: The Village Hall committee have offered the use of the hall for free for fundraising activities for Ukraine. A soup lunch is planned with money going to the Red Cross Fund.

A concern was raised again about speeding in Wickerstreet Green and other areas of the parish.

Next meeting: 11th April.

FARMING NOTES



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Arable

As March draws to a close it is remarkable to note the dry weather we have had over the last few weeks, and it seems we are following a pattern that has been forming over recent years. Although we could now do with some rain, this spell of warm days and cold nights has enabled us to complete spring sowing of barley, sugar and fodder beet into good but rather dry seedbeds in timely fashion. We have also been able to apply all the urea nitrogen we could afford – this is now at an all-time high price, at least treble the cost of last year! It would seem we are entering a new era of much higher prices for all of the inputs and some of our outputs, but as usual the latter are struggling to catch up.

A spell of warm wet weather would be ideal for crop development now, but it looks as though we are due for a downturn in temperatures for the next few days.

Cattle

This month saw the arrival of the first calves of a new breed in Kersey! The Stabiliser breed of cattle is actually a composite of four other breeds namely Hereford, Angus, Simmental and Gelbveih. Originally developed in Nebraska (USA) the Stabiliser is purpose bred to be an ideal beef suckler cow. The most important traits of a maternal suckler cow breed include longevity, docility, fertility, good food conversion (especially of grass), the ability produce a good size calf each year and produce sufficient milk to rear it efficiently. Stabiliser cows are a little smaller than some of the other breeds which means that their maintenance (feed) costs are lower and in practice more cows will fit in the barn! Through our friends at Cogent I was able to acquire 20 doses of (female sexed) Stabiliser semen which I used to inseminate some of our commercial cows last year. The resulting calves have just started to arrive and so far we have 3 nice heifer calves with more due soon. Sexed semen is particularly beneficial in this case as we do not really want bull calves of this breed. Since we have achieved a high health status for our herd it is also a huge benefit to be able to breed our own replacement cows, thereby avoiding the risk and expense of buying in new breeding animals.



Recently born
Stabiliser calf with its
Simmental mum.

Sheep

Lambing is now almost complete and so far losses, although frustrating are within acceptable limits. There are still five ewes left to lamb which means that there will hopefully be some young lambs for people to see at our open day on 9 April. The lambed ewes and their lambs which are currently a picture of health and vitality will soon be turned out to grass.

Open Day

We are looking forward to welcoming visitors to the farm on Saturday 9 April between 12 and 5pm when we will be holding an open day (cancelled for the last two years). Bulls, cows and calves, ewes with their lambs, chickens, ducks and quail will all be on show along with some machinery and equipment. There will be a chance to touch and even to feed some of the animals. BBQ and cream teas available. Price £5 per person or £20 per family – cash only please! All proceeds will be added to the fund for the upkeep of the fabric of Kersey Church.

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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

An enormous thank you to everyone in the Parish for the support given following the disruption caused by Storm Eunice. While unsurprising it was still heartening to see the assistance given in clearing debris, donating food and checking-up on others. This care and kindness really is much appreciated and what helps to make the Kersey community so special.

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.

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.

DIARY DATES









4 Apr – VPA AGM.	Village Hall.	19.30
5 Apr – Tuesday Club	Village Hall.	14.30
6 Apr – Church APCM.	St Mary’s Church	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
25 Apr – Village Hall AGM.	Village Hall.	19.30
3 May – Tuesday Club Annual meal	Groton Fox	18.30
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.		12.45
7 Jun – Tuesday Club	Village Hall.	19.30

ST MARY’S FLOODLIGHTS

The lights on our church guided home lost aircraft in WW2 and continue to show our beautiful parish church at its best. Can you donate £8 a month to light up the church one night a month?

To have St Mary’s church lit up, please email Philippa at community@kind.church

- 5th of each month: Sarah, in memory of my father, Robert Visick
- 8th of each month: Helen, in memory of my brother Matthew
- 9th of each month: Meg, in memory of my father
- 12th of each month: The Anderson family, in memory of the L-B family
- 14th of each month: Michele, in memory of Anne Maltby
- 18th of each month: Jackson, in memory of my brother Mark
- 24th of each month: Sponsored by Ipswich Senior School
- 27th of each month: Michele, in memory of John Maltby

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