

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

May 2022



50p*

www.kerseychurch.org
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 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: Peter Martin 01473 828361

Secretary: Philippa Harris 01473 827079

Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth 01473 827805

School – Acting Head Teacher: Claire Donnelly Paley 01473 823397

Kersey Playingfield Assoc. (Glebe) – Mark Pertwee 01473 810227

Kersey Community Website www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

Hadleigh Health Practice 01473 822961

West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds) 01284 713000

Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust 01473 712233

Police The non-emergency number to call if you want to contact the local police is 101 (when it's less urgent than 999).

Please let us know of any changes.

Defibrillators – *There are two AEDs located within the parish at The Bell Inn, Kersey IP7 6DY and Kersey Mill IP7 6DP.*

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Clergy:

Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby.
01473 657349 rev@kind.church

Church Wardens:

Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230.
and vacant position.

Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact the Benefice administrator 07706 188842 weekday mornings.

CHURCH CLEANING

Weeks beginning 2nd May – Bridget Allen and daughters.

Weeks beginning 16th May – Marvin Kuzamba and Esme Chapman.

Weeks beginning 30th May – Sue Jones and Lynn English.

NEWSLETTER COPY DATES

Please note the copy date for June's newsletter will be 19th May – somewhat earlier than usual. Similarly the July/August copy date will be 21st June.

VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

An outing to Bressingham Gardens has been arranged for 16th July. More details in next newsletter.

BELL RINGING

A quarter peal of plain bob was rung for Evensong on the 20th March by Pauline Brown 1, Richard Finch 2, Kathleen Banks 3, Kevin Ward 4, Neville Whittlell 5, Robert Howe 6, and conducted by Neville Whittlell.

SYMPATHY

We send our sympathy to Andrea Sargeant and family on the sad passing of Mark. For many years we have been grateful to Mark for keeping the church hedge neat and tidy.

INVALIDS

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

WEATHER (for March)

Rainfall 21mm (0.8")

Maximum temperature 18°C (64°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.



PARISH NEWS



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TUESDAY CLUB

At the April meeting members were joined by Jenny Antill from Waldingfield who came and gave a very interesting talk about a novel she has written. The book "Small Acts of Kindness", set in Russia, will be published later in the year. Slides accompanied the talk. Competition for "Something red" was won by Jenny Partridge with a dog blanket. The club meet again on the 3rd May for our annual meal this year at Groton Fox. 6.30pm. Competition is "Something edible beginning with B".

FOSM RAISES £680 FOR ST. MARY'S CHURCH

A fabulously fun day for all of the family helped to raise £680 for St. Mary's Church. Chris and Sarah Partridge very kindly opened Bridges Farm for the day with all proceeds going towards the church repairs and renovations. Afternoon cream teas, Easter treats, BBQ, farm trails, fun games as well as a wonderful opportunity for our young ones to interact with the farm animals, learning how life evolves from one year to the next. One of the highlights was a 60 year old farm tractor alongside its modern day equivalent, demonstrating how engineering has developed along with productivity and price! A fascinating and fun day for all. Our thanks to Chris, Sarah, Simon and all the family as well as FoSM trustees and PCC members for all of their usual hard work and support.

For details on how to become a Friend of St. Mary's or how to have a go at the monthly 500 Club lottery please go to www.kerseychurch.org or call Mark Pertwee on 07919 166782 or Mark Rigby on 07484649235 or email fosmkersey@gmail.com

'Save the date' for forthcoming FoSM events:

1. Live jazz is back with the Derek Nash Trio! On Friday 2nd September at St. Mary's Church, this famously popular trio will play in an iconic setting. Tickets will be available shortly through the usual channels.
2. Friday 2nd December the Christmas Supper Dance is back! With the swing top singer, Chris James and the ever popular American cocktail bar! Tables are limited so please watch this space for further booking details.

PARISH ASSEMBLY

The annual parish assembly was held on the 11th April. Present were chairman, seven members of the public, Babergh district councillor and clerk. The chair welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

Apologies were received and the **Minutes** of previous parish assembly were confirmed as correct.

Reports: *County councillor Robert Lindsay.* Highways have given the go ahead for a school sign at the bottom of Mill Lane. Suffolk Biodiversity Recommendations were approved in February. The cycling plan for Suffolk is starting to come to fruition. Work desperately needed for planning better bus services has not been done.

District councillor Leigh Jamieson. The council has faced a number of major topics over the last twelve months. Most disappointing was the delay to the Joint Local Plan. The council still has more than the required five year housing land supply. Another big debate is the form of Governance that the council uses, whether it is a cabinet or



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PARISH NEWS

committee system. It has been agreed to stay with the cabinet model. The council agreed to an increase in the pay of the senior management team. This will be looked at later in the year. Also reported on was the budget review and environmental which have been put in place. Local walking and cycling infrastructure plan, virtual high street and considerable constructor scheme have been passed. The council has also signed up to become a Council of Sanctuary.

Chair's report: The Parish Council aims to represent the best interests of our 360 residents. He thanked the councillors who had resigned during the year, also the current councillors for their continuing contributions to our community.

Finances remain strong.

During the year the council considered eighteen planning applications of which fifteen were supported.

The council's website access was improved.

Plans were made to go ahead with the Jubilee Street Party supported by a successful application to the National Lottery Community Fund.

In spring 2021 Kersey was the focal point for the filming of Magpie Murders.

There are currently two councillor vacancies and I urge the next generation to take an active role in our community affairs.

On behalf of the Parish Council I thank the clerk for her organisational flair and knowledge and her ability to keep us on track.

Council contacts and the budget can be found on the parish website.

Footpath Working Group: *Kevin Pratt.* Another difficult year the COVID restrictions and some exceptional weather changes created many challenges for the volunteers. Thanks go to all the volunteers and landowners. A number of posts and signs were repaired or replaced.

KCPC. *Jonathan Marsh.* The playground has been available all the year. The new basket swing was installed. The ROSPA report highlighted a number of issues that have been addressed. The gate has been replaced and a new bench installed. The grass cutting rota was maintained and the mower survived another season. Due to COVID rates our quiz night was cancelled. Thank you to all for the support I have received over the past year.

Kersey Volunteer Group: *John Hume.* KVG exists to make Kersey a pleasant, safe and attractive place to work, live and visit. Local volunteers are allocated roads where they collect litter, report potholes and other hazards.

Jubilee Working Group: *John Hume.* The street party is being organised. Entertainment is being provided by Suffolk Concert Band and Border Morris Dancers.

Forget me Nots: *Veronica Partridge.* Activities have resumed with lunch and coffee mornings twice a month. The group travel to several eateries particularly those that have various shops where members can browse.

Franey Rand and Pest House Charities: *Rachael Rogers.* The trust gave grants to individuals and groups including Hadleigh Elderly Peoples Welfare, Shelley Riding for the Disabled and Surviving Winter in Hadleigh which could also benefit people from Kersey.

Friends of the Bells: *Neville Whittle.* Ringing resumed in August. Numbers are low because not all ringers have returned since lockdown. We plan to ring for a wedding in

cont./

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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

June and the Jubilee Street Party.

Friends of St Mary's: *Mark Rigby.* The events calendar reopened with an American Supper Dance in December. Further events are planned. One grant was paid to the church during the year.

Grays Trust: *Philippa Harris.* The Grays Trust continues to fulfill its purpose in supporting residents in further education. Eleven university students, two year 12 and 13 students received grants. Leaving presents were given to five leavers at the school a grant was also given to the school itself. A new chairman was elected to take the place of John Robinson who has retired.

Kersey Primary School: *Sarah Stirling.* The school is now a fully signed up member of the Tilian Academy Trust. Rev. Jackson continues to support the collective worship. During the year they had a visit from a Wattisham based Apache helicopter. There were also trips to the Wolsey theatre, the Science museum in London, Bridges Farm and the School Farm and Country Fair. The school nativity was a live performance held around the farm trail at Hollow Trees. The friends continue to support the school in many ways.

Kersey Playing Field Association: *Mark Pertwee.* The Glebe continues to provide a large open space for village and school use.

Kersey Projects: *Suzie Rudkin.* When restrictions were lifted we hosted a village picnic. A very simple affair but a much needed and enjoyable event.

Lewis Mowles Trust: *Norah Orriss.* The LM trust had a quiet year with no income or expenses.

Nightingale Trust: *Mark Rigby.* The trust had another good year with all allotments allocated and standards very high. Hedges have been cut back. Winter payments were made to some residents and the local food bank. Transport is available to the doctors or hospital through the Community Taxi Scheme.

St Mary's Church: *Linda Newbigging.* During the year it was clear that keeping our church doors open was an important focus especially for those seeking comfort and peace. Work started on items from the Quinquennial report. The cost of running the church continues to be a focus for the PCC. We benefited greatly from the filming of Magpie Murders.

Table Tennis Club: *Adrian Blyth.* Play started again in September and attendance has been good. The purpose of the club is social and recreational.

Tuesday Club: *Rachel Wells.* Only two meetings were held in 2021. We continue to support Tilly at the Riding School. A full programme has been arranged for this year.

Village Hall: *Veronica Partridge.* Bookings have been resumed after a long stretch of inactivity. The hall and grounds are in excellent order. Still looking at quotes for upgrading the disabled access.

Village Produce Association: *Rachel Wells.* The marquees were let 9 times in 2021. No outing was arranged but the flower show went ahead in September. Donations were made to help newsletter, floodlights and churchyard.

Progress with a solution to nuisance parking in the parish. Action has been agreed.

Progress on the Parish Action Plan can be viewed on the website.

AOB: The defibrillator is regularly checked to ensure it is available in an emergency.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The Jubilee

It would be tempting to allow the recent issues with Prince Andrew to colour, or in some way overshadow the upcoming Jubilee. But the Platinum Jubilee is absolutely not a celebration of the Royal Family, it is a celebration of the extraordinary life and service of Queen Elizabeth. Seventy years of faithful service. A life lived in the public eye and for the public good. She has stood for values that make our society a better place. She hasn't had the luxury of making her mistakes in private. Unlike us, if she puts a foot wrong or makes a decision she might later regret, the whole world sees it first, dissects it and judges her. Which of us could survive that level of judgement?

Seventy years ago Elizabeth became our Queen and the head of our National Church, the Church of England. She has often spoken about her faith and how it has sustained her. How her faith gives her both the motivation and the inspiration she has needed to become the person she is. And so when we celebrate the Jubilee, we mark an event that surely none of us will ever see again and we also celebrate the values that have been evident in her life.

Our street party and open air service mark a moment in time to reflect on the continuity of freedoms that we have enjoyed in her reign. Freedoms that many peoples around the world would love to have. We will mark the once in a lifetime point at which the threads of seven decades come together, and we pause and give thanks that God has sustained and enabled Elizabeth to be who she is, and the ways in which our lives can also be sustained and enriched by Him.

Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby

rev@kind.church

Vicar of Kersey

Assistant Deputy Chaplain to West Suffolk Coastal Rescue

www.kerseychurch.org 07706188842

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

Please send items for inclusion well before the **early** deadline of 19th May 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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Kersey Community Website

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

1 May	9.00	BCP Holy communion	Rev Jackson
8 May	11.00	Parish service	Rev Jackson
15 May	18.30	Evensong	Adrian Waller
22 May		No service at Kersey	11.00 Aldham

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

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

1st Prize – Viv Marsh

2nd Prize – Linda Newbigging

3rd Prize – Nick Hamblen

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.

PLEASE COME TO OUR
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Jackson Crompton-Battersby
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PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council meeting was held 12th April.

Present were three councillors, the clerk and one member of the public.

Apologies received from one councillor.

Co-option: There are currently two vacancies on the council. One can be filled by co-option.

Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed and signed as correct.

Planning progress: Babergh had granted permission for swimming pool at Sampsons Hall.

Planning applications to be considered. Erection of agricultural building for storage of plant and machinery on land adjacent to the Grain Store, Cox Hill, Wickerstreet Green. Councillors objected to this plan as do Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Little Pond Barn, Uplands. Erection of a cart house. Councillors supported this application.

Cosford Bridge House, Hadleigh. Conversion of outbuildings to form a holiday let. Councillors supported this.

Bridge House. Erection of shed. It is hoped this can be discussed at next meeting.

AOB: Pride in our Parish content was agreed. An article will be written on road safety and horses.

Next meeting 16th May.

DIARY DATES

- 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
(see details on back page) 19.30
- 5 Jun – Kersey Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Street Party 12.45
- 7 Jun – Tuesday Club Village Hall 19.30
- 4 Jul – Parish Council meeting Village Hall 19.30



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FARMING NOTES

Arable

Once again I find myself astonished by the lack of rainfall in April, and hope that making this thought public will result in me being wrong and the heavens will open as you read this! It seems that although the winter crops look well they are beginning to show signs of drought stress and potential yield is being jeopardised, while the spring barley and sugar beet are literally running on empty. As I write these comments it has an all too familiar ring to it as if I've said this before.....

The ongoing theme of rising costs is not improving and the latest figures on Agri-input inflation shows a 23.5% average increase in across the board purchases. Output prices are of course increasing but the marketing decisions are being influenced strongly by extreme volatility and we regularly read in the agricultural press that we are in 'uncharted territory'.

Cattle

I apologise in advance for the morose tone of the following item but things don't always go well and I like to be honest. Last week was a bad week in the calving shed... a very bad week. Things did not start well when on my routine daily round of the recently turned out cows and calves I found a dead calf. One day she was a picture of health, the next stone cold. A post mortem carried out by the vet has as yet proved inconclusive. The good news here is that it appears to be a one-off rather than the beginning of an outbreak of something. Two days later one of our surrogate mums who was carrying a pedigree British Blue calf began to calve, complications led me to call the vet, feeling that a caesarean was prudent, (it was a valuable calf). The vet advised that he thought we could calve the cow naturally, this we attempted, things deteriorated and the calf was stillborn. I am not blaming the vet entirely for this as I am the one with 30 years of experience of these cattle and I could and should have insisted on a C-section, (we try to learn from our mistakes). The next day a Pedigree Blue cow began calving, things progressed as planned and a lovely bull calf was soon delivered with a little help from Sarah and I. A few minutes after delivery however we saw that although initially breathing the calf was struggling and despite our best efforts to keep it going it too died. The margin between success and failure can be very fine in this job. We console ourselves with the thought that much worse and more serious things are happening in the world, and that we have got lots of lovely healthy calves and I for one am still after all these years always looking forward to the next calving! On a brighter note we sold a young bull to a breeder from Southend recently and while I was out Sarah oversaw the end of lambing, delivering a healthy set of triplets!



Open Day

Thank you to those of you who came to the farm for our open day. It was lovely to see families really enjoying their time on the farm seeing, touching and feeding the animals and learning a little about where their food comes from. This week we will be taking ewes and lambs to the 20th School Farm and Country Fair at the Suffolk Show ground. There will be 3,500 children aged 7-9, including some from Kersey School, all enjoying an educational day out learning about food and farming. We are also looking forward to the Hadleigh Show on 21 May.

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PRIDE IN OUR PARISH

Horse Riders are a regular sight on the roads in and around Kersey. Both riders and vehicle drivers should ensure they are familiar with their obligations under the Highway Code and that the relevant care and consideration be given to riders, for everyone’s safety.

Please be alert to the possibility of meeting a horse and rider **at any point** on your journey and

- Please be particularly careful when passing. **Always pass horses wide and slowly**
- Please be patient
- Please look out for horse riders’/horse drivers’ signals and politely heed a request to slow down or stop.
- Take great care and **treat all horses as a potential hazard**



Thank you for your understanding.

Kersey Jubilee Street Party – Sunday 5 June

You should all have received an invitation to the Jubilee Street Party, if not then please contact the Clerk, Sarah Partridge kerseypc@gmail.com

This will be a fun community celebration with a hog roast followed by strawberries and cream. As well as meeting friends and neighbours, there will be music and Morris dancing.

If you would like to come please send your reply straight away, as we need to know numbers for the catering.

Yours sincerely

John W. Hume.
Chair, Kersey Parish Council.

More information is on the Kersey website:
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The approximate production cost is 50p per copy (£5 per year). All contributions gratefully received – please pass via your distributor or to:

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Kersey St. Mary PCC, 30-13-52 00694777.

For further parish details and events, please see **www.kersey.suffolk.cloud**

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Babergh Cabinet Collapse

Just before Easter the “rainbow” cabinet that the administration has been so proud of has collapsed in on itself. After expelling one Independent Councillor from the Cabinet the other three Independents resigned followed by the one Lib Dem councillor. This left the Cabinet in the hands of a minority administration that was not a true democratic representation of our residents.

Only the previous week the Council had voted down a Green party motion to return the council to a more democratic committee based system.

Following a lot of negotiation between the group leaders a new cabinet was agreed. At the time of writing, and the way things are going this could change, the expected make-up of the cabinet for the last year of the council will be four Conservatives, three Independents, one Lib Dem and one Green.

Babergh Senior Manager Pay

In March, the Council agreed to an increase in the pay of the Senior Management team, except the CEO, which we will look at again later this year. Both Babergh and Mid Suffolk councillors approved the increase, which had initially been rejected back in the autumn, after receiving a full explanation that it is only a 2-3% increase and will open the door for a full pay review for all council staff. The increase will now align the council with other district councils in the East.

Councils join forces with GPs to keep residents fit

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have expanded their GP referral schemes to include Hadleigh, providing tailored support for residents to improve their health and wellbeing. In partnership with local health partners and the councils' leisure providers – Abbeycroft Leisure and Everyone Active – both councils are continuing to grow the number of GP referral programmes at their leisure centres.

Through the programmes, doctors refer patients with common medical conditions such as obesity, hypertension, or type 2 diabetes, to the councils' local gyms for a programme of tailored exercise over a set period. Once on the road to recovery, patients are then encouraged to continue their rehabilitation and improved health through a longer-term membership.

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr.)

leigh.jamieson@babergh.gov.uk – Mobile: 07548 156181

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.)



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Join Kersey Projects to launch the celebrations on:

Thursday 2 June 2022

From 7.30 pm onwards

at the Glebe (Recreation Ground)



- The event will take place in a marquee kindly lent by the VPA and seating will be available.
- There will be a complimentary welcome drink plus a glass of fizz and canapés. Please feel free to bring your own additional drinks.
- We will be welcoming back Dan Sharp who will be singing his way through the decades.
- The evening will end with the lighting of the Kersey version of a beacon.
- It would be helpful for the catering arrangements if you can let us know if you will be joining us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

RSVP: kerseyprojects@gmail.com