

THE STREET



RENDHAM VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Clocks
go
forward
Sunday
28th
March.



FEBRUARY / MARCH 2021

Read it in colour ONLINE at: <http://rendham.onesuffolk.net>



**WINTRY
SCENES**



Supported by Rendham Village Amenity Fund
Reports, editing, distribution by volunteers. Printers: Leiston Press

Editors: Helen Greenburgh & Judith Mellor



JUNIPER BARN NEWS



February and March, signs of spring and signs of hope. Thanks as always to all those who keep supporting us and welcome to all those newcomers to the village – we look forward to getting to know you. After a difficult January, we're still here, serving takeaway drinks and snacks with a shop full of lovely things to tempt you including a varied selection of fresh fruit and veg, goodies and treats for all, and we're supporting lots of local businesses too. Come and find special treats for Mothering Sunday, Valentine's Day and Easter. The café will open again as soon as we are able too – please keep an eye on our website.

Keeping our staff and customers safe is our priority, following Government COVID-19 guidance. www.juniperbarnsuffolk.co.uk

Geoffrey and Katie Boulton

In Memory of Colin Hart

It is with the greatest sadness that we report the death of Colin Hart, of Garden House, Rendham, on 6th January 2021. Colin had been District Councillor of this Ward and later Councillor for the Framlingham Division. In addition, he played a great role in Rendham life and was the voice of Rendham Fete for so many years. Our thoughts and condolences go to Anji, and their two daughters. Due to Covid restrictions, later in the year when circumstances permit, there will be a celebration of Colin's life for all those who knew him. *Your Rendham Street Editors*

ALDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPRING FLOWER SHOW



The ACC announced last month its intention to hold its Spring Flower Show in early April. The intention is undiminished and it is still envisaged that it will go ahead, either in Sweffling village hut, or on Sweffling town field. The precise date and venue for the show depends on the COVID regulations which will be in force in April. We can hope that is long enough for the rules to be significantly relaxed, remembering the saying back in September, "it will surely be over by Christmas".

Even so, there is much to be said positively about the show. First and foremost, participation is not limited to ACC members. Secondly, it is intended to be enjoyable for the growers, spectators and all participants.

There is a broad format to the show to give it some order: 1) All entries have to be at the site by 10am. 2) No entry after that time. 3) Judging will begin at 10am, no-one except the judge will be present. 4) The show will open at 2pm. 5) Prize giving at 3pm followed by raffle.

There are a wide variety of classes for entries covering seasonal flowers, displays and arrangements, with special sections for young exhibitors (up to 10, and up to 15). Further updates will be given as the information becomes available.

Lynda Newson

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, RENDHAM - CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

It is with great sadness that we received the news of Colin Hart's death after a long illness. He did so much for Rendham over so many years, and we offer our deepest sympathy to Anji and her family.

We had a service of Holy Communion on 20 December but unfortunately no Christmas Day Service due to the pandemic. The Christmas Market, which was set for 5 December, also had to be cancelled, but amazingly, Lesley and her team created and sold no less than 30 wreaths, raising a total of £337 for Church funds. Very many thanks to them and to the owners of the gardens which supplied much of the foliage.

We have appreciated the Pastoral Letters which our Rector has sent every week, and even more, the video he sent to mark The Baptism of Christ, which was in the form of a service, together with an illuminating address.

Charles & Frances

RENDHAM PARISH / PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Wishing everyone a better 2021

Parish Council Meeting - The Parish Council meeting for January 2021 was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. A short meeting had been held in December.

Parish Precept - In view of the hardships caused from Covid-19 the Parish Council will not be increasing the precept for the coming year and it will remain at £2,800.

Sizewell C - Relevant representations were made re Sizewell C. It included reductions in HGVs, concerns about increase in traffic, concerns about increase in the ozone levels, about the changes to the junction of the B1119 and the A12. One area of concern was also the beach landings at Sizewell.

District Councillor Maurice Cook - Sent the following report (Full report on website)

- Financial support available for businesses
- Residents urged to shop local
- East Suffolk leisure centres have re-opened
- New Environmental Guidance Note approved
- Further funding available to tackle social isolation
- Melton Hill case dismissed

County Councillor Stephen Burroughes - Sent the following report (Full report on website)

- Pressure on County's Hospitals
- Great news for Lowestoft's Gull Wing Bridge which gets Government approval
- Help us to heal you this winter
- Report about send services during Covid-19 pandemic following Ofsted and CQC visits
- Investing in Suffolk Trade as UK exits EU
- Suffolk Schools & Businesses scoop national awards
- Council delivers its largest digital care support project in record time
- New County Council's Chairman's call to 'Stay active'
- Home but not alone – phone line goes live
- Suffolk's send service celebrates winning national award

NATURE NOTES FEB - MAR 2021



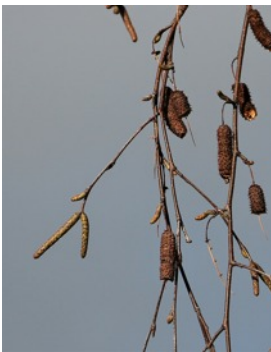
For the last few winters our bird feeders have attracted the small finches called Redpolls. They use the feeders which are designed to hold the tiny black Nyger seeds and to dispense these to birds with small, pointed beaks. We installed them a few years ago in the hope of attracting Goldfinches, which they did within a few hours, but in subsequent winters also numbers of Redpolls and the other small winter-visiting finch, the

Siskin. Both these finches are mostly seen in the winter, but in East Anglia they are also found as breeding birds, particularly in areas of Birch or Pine. But so far this year, up to the time of writing, both finches have been completely absent from the garden. The stock answers to this are usually that for some reason the birds have not migrated here from the continent, or that there is so much natural food in the district that they have no need yet of visiting gardens. In fact, I have seen flocks of Redpolls already feeding in the tops of local Birch trees.

Have a look at the twigs of the Birch, and you will see what is their attraction. The new catkins, which are the male flowers, will soon ripen and shed their pollen. The bigger catkins are the females, whose seeds ripened in the autumn, and are still available into the winter. These seeds are tiny, each equipped with wings, and are produced in large numbers along the length of the catkin. Thus there is a lot of food for birds available here, but only for those which have small,



delicate beaks and are very light and acrobatic – in practice the tits and smaller finches. This year's female catkins develop later. By the river, look for the same thing on the Alder trees. The large male catkins will be producing their pollen soon. The familiar woody fruits, which look like miniature Pinecones, are the female 'catkins' and are ripening about now. Next year's female catkins can be seen as tiny buds at the tip of some of the twigs. Again, their seeds are suitable food for tits and small finches, which can get their beaks into the 'cones'. Traditionally, these seeds are over by mid-February, which is when the Siskins in particular tend to visit garden bird feeders.



In this rather wet winter, the River Alde has risen onto the low floodplain meadows for much of the time. This has attracted a few ducks, mainly Mallard, and a few gulls. The gulls, mainly Black-headed Gulls (look for them starting to get their black heads anytime from February), but also a few Common Gulls and Herring Gulls. They seem to be feeding mostly around the edges of the floodwater, where I presume they are taking creatures such as earthworms, displaced by the water.

Often there has also been a Heron, usually an immature bird, greyer and with less of the striking black and white of the adult on its head and neck. When we first came to Sweffling there were Herons nesting high in a tree by the river, but the tree has since died and fallen, and I have not seen signs of nesting since.



Along the river this winter I have on a couple of occasions seen a Kingfisher, on the stretch above the Benhall bridge. My impression is that there are only low numbers of small fish here, and I would not expect Kingfishers to be common, but some people disagree with me, so keep your eyes open. The Kingfisher makes a loud, shrill piping call when it flies, giving you a good warning that one is about. Another favourite thing of mine is the Kingcup, or Marsh Marigold, which grows in early spring along the river Alde and some its ditches. Look out for its large, bright yellow, buttercup flowers from March onwards.

Geoffrey Abbott

SAXMUNDHAM FOOD BANK DONATION Happy New Year everyone.

Circumstances remain dire, and for many, unimaginable. We made a fantastic effort in the lead up to Christmas, donating food and money to the Saxmundham food bank. Can we resume our weekly food bank donations, as many peoples' needs are still critical.

We'll collect donations on a Thursday, there'll be a box at our gate (Half Acre), or feel free to hang bags by the gate. Brigitte will take our donations down to the food bank on the Friday. Please help us to continue to help those in need of our support.

Gina & the Rendham Cares Team



RENDHAM CAROL CHOIR T'was a dark December night, when all through the village not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse, so the Rendham Mummies decided to put an end to that.....

Without a play this year the Mummies wanted to do their bit to help out the less fortunate and so, for one night only, the Rendham Carol Choir was formed. With a socially distanced set up, even Father Christmas had an extending net to accept donations, led by a modern-day sleigh (a Land Rover), they toured the village bringing tears of joy (or at least we think they were) with their own unique versions of the Christmas classics. With the generous donations from the villagers, including mince pies and mulled wine (thank you Howard and Jackie, and Paul and Lisa respectively), they managed to raise a magnificent £450, including monies raised separately by Gina and Viv, which went to the Chapman Centre for the Homeless based in Ipswich. On receiving the donation from the choir master Paul Jackson, Evelyn the manager stated that we must be a magnificent choir, Paul put her right..... and pointed out there was no must about it. A big thanks to all who braved the cold and all those that had to listen, and especially to Paul Jackson, for whom without his organising and cajoling it wouldn't have happened. We hope to be back next year as the Rendham Mummies, so save the date Monday 21 June, 7.30pm at the Sweffling White Horse, however in the meantime stay safe and well. (Particular thanks for the singing of Happy Birthday to the Editor who was feeling a bit glum that day until the choir magically appeared.)

Herne the Hunter – Temporary baritone base of the Rendham Carol Choir

UPDATE: COVID-19 - ADVICE FROM THE NHS

Get the latest NHS information and advice about COVID-19 - www.nhs.uk

COVID-19 Vaccination in Suffolk Please do not contact your GP Practice regarding the COVID vaccination. Invitation letters are being sent out each week. The vaccine is currently available in the following order to:

- People aged 80 or over
- People aged 70 or over
- People who are high risk (clinically vulnerable)

The nearest vaccination centre is at Saxmundham Health - for more information visit www.sneevaccine.org.uk

GET A FREE NHS CORONAVIRUS TEST

If you are concerned you may have COVID-19 you can get a free NHS test if any of the following apply:

- You have a high temperature
- You have a new, continuous cough
- You've lost your sense of smell or taste
- You've been asked to get a test by a local council
- You're taking part in a government pilot project
- You've been asked to get a test to confirm a positive result

Book a free test by visiting www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call NHS 119.

WHERE TO GET TESTED IN SUFFOLK

1. Book an appointment at the Regional Testing Site at Copdock, near Ipswich
2. Book an appointment at the Local Testing Site in Ipswich (Portman Road car park)
3. Book an appointment at a Mobile Testing Unit (visit www.suffolk.gov.uk for full details of all locations)
4. Request a Home Testing Kit
To book a test visit www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call NHS 119.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ADVICE

The Suffolk County Council's COVID-19 page is www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19. Find the latest information about testing in Suffolk, changes to local services and how to get help.

Home, But Not Alone

Supporting vulnerable people in Suffolk

Coronavirus Emergency Phonenumber

0800 876 6926



You can call the Home, But Not Alone phonenumber if you live in Suffolk and need urgent help during the coronavirus pandemic. The emergency phonenumber is for people who:

- do not have support available from friends, family or neighbours
- are struggling for food, medicines or other essential supplies
- are feeling lonely and isolated



VIRTUAL GARDEN VISITS

During 2020 garden owners created films of their gardens so that the National Open Garden Scheme could keep the garden gates open online. Visit over 180 gardens virtually at www.ngs.org.uk

SUFFOLK LIBRARY SERVICES

Free with your library card get access to the PressReader app and website which allows you to read or download full digital editions of major newspaper and magazine titles from around the world! Your

library card also gives you access to another app which allows you to download eBooks and eAudio to your phone or tablet. Or click and collect from a selection of hundreds of thousands of titles with something for readers of all ages! Find out more, or apply for your library card, at

www.suffolk.libraries.co.uk



CHRISTMAS MARKET Sadly, we weren't able to hold our Christmas Market this year, but, many thanks to everyone who bought Christmas wreaths, enabling £337 to be donated to St. Michael's Church funds. We hope our Christmas Market will return in 2021, but, anyway, we will be taking orders for wreaths in November. Please note, don't throw the wreaths away in January. They can be left outside our garage for recycling. *Lesley Bennion*

Albert's Woodturning introductory courses are on hold due to Government COVID-19 restrictions. He hopes to resume as soon as rules are relaxed. In the meantime enquiries are welcome at made@finewoodfurniture.co.uk and 01728 663567.



LAPTOPS NEEDED We have become aware that some families are struggling to provide all the children in their households with laptops to enable them to work remotely now that schools have been closed. Schools are providing some support but have limited supplies. In order to boost supplies the IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme is collecting second hand, unwanted laptops which they are having checked by a tech expert at Alde Valley to check they are suitable before being distributed. The laptops will be shared out between schools - a lot depends on the number of laptops collected.

The only requirement is that the laptops need to be able to run zoom so need a working camera and microphone. Tablets are also suitable. Laptops can be dropped at the Town House, Station Approach, Saxmundham, IP17 1BW between 10-3. Many thanks Chiara Saunders, Chief Officer, Leiston, Saxmundham & District Citizens Advice 01728 832544



SAVE OUR HEDGEHOGS The hedgehog has been listed as vulnerable to extinction in the UK. Hedgehog Awareness Week runs from 2-8 May 2021 and is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. Sign the petition to help save hedgehogs and find out how you can help by creating your own hedgehog haven! www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

BEWARE! Police are urging people to security mark their tools after a number of thefts connected to tree surgeon equipment. Security marking your tools, will protect them against theft and assist the police to return your property to you if it is stolen and recovered. There are a number of ways of security marking your items, these include:

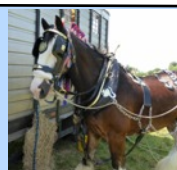
- Ultra violet (UV) or invisible marking - UV pens put an invisible mark on your property that can only be seen under UV light
- Engraving or etching - Both methods are suitable for many hard surfaces and can be done using an electric engraving tool or hand engraver
- Ceramic marking - Ceramic marking pens are designed to mark china, glass or glazed surfaces. They do not cut or scratch the surface but do leave a permanent mark
- Forensic marking solutions - These are harmless solutions that contain a unique forensic code (like a fingerprint), making it easy to identify marked items. Firms that provide these marking solutions include: Smartwater – www.smartwater.com
SelectaDNA – www.selectadna.co.uk · Applied DNA Sciences - www.adnas.com

Further advice can be found at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/roads-and-vehicles/tool-smart>



SAVE THE DATE FOR RENDHAM FETE!

Sadly Rendham was unable to hold its annual village fete in 2020 so please keep your fingers crossed and save the date for the 25th Rendham Fete on 3 July 2021. More news in later editions but if the Fete is able to go ahead and you would like to help please do contact pauljackson133@btinternet.com



Bring Colour To Your Garden With St Elizabeth Hospice.

Order your spring-flowering bulbs from the new Katie's Garden Plant Centre online shop and earn funds for St Elizabeth's Hospice. Go to www.katiesgarden.co.uk/home-delivery and click on the Hospice Supporter button. The Hospice will earn 10% on your order (but at no cost to you). Add colour to your garden this Spring and help with the vital fundraising.



If you also need ideas and resources to keep children busy then download activity sheets and pictures to colour from the St Elizabeth website. Visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk to find out more.

FRAMLINGHAM SURGERY 01728 723627

Dispensary: (01728) 723957 www.framlinghamsurgery.co.uk

SAXMUNDHAM SURGERY:

LAMBSALE MEADOW 01728 602022 www.saxquax.co.uk

If you have symptoms associated with coronavirus including a new continuous cough and/or high temperature (over 37.8) and or loss or change to sense of smell or taste please STAY HOME for 7 days. Do not book a GP appointment. If your symptoms are serious or worsen call 111.

DOWNLOAD THE NHS COVID-19 APP TODAY

It's the fastest way of knowing when you're at risk from coronavirus. Search for NHS Covid-19 in the App Store or Google Play.

RENDHAM VILLAGE WEBSITE Email Chris Salmon at rendham@btinternet.com to advertise items for sale / wanted / or for free on your village website.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH / VILLAGE HAPPENINGS EMAIL

If you wish to receive the Neighbourhood Watch / Village Happenings email please email Trev.salmon@btinternet.com

ADVICE FROM CAB The government have announced ways in which they are helping and the Citizen's Advice Bureau can help too. Find advice on:

- getting essential items and care if you're extremely vulnerable
- paying bills, including your rent
- getting paid if you can't work because of coronavirus
- getting an online isolation note if you need to prove you're sick
- postponing or cancelling travel arrangements

If you, or anyone you know, would be grateful for some assistance, please call 01728 832 193 between 10am and 2pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or email supervisor@leistoncab.cabnet.org.uk

DEADLINE FOR APRIL / MAY 2021 'STREET': 17 MARCH 2021

Email Helen Greenburgh: hpaygre@aol.com (07775 894146) AND Judith Mellor: rendhamstreet@gmail.com (hard copy can be sent to Gables Farm, Sandy Lane, Rendham)

PLEASE NOTE: IT IS ESSENTIAL TO EMAIL BOTH EDITORS. The Street welcomes items for publication, but we reserve the right to edit. It is the responsibility of contributors to provide accurate details, PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE. We are limited to 8 pages so may not be able to publish everything we receive for each issue. Priority is given to dated village events. All items submitted for publication must carry a name & contact no / email address.