

MENDLESHAM NEWSLETTER



Issue 471

February 2023

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We produce 12 issues per year which are delivered to every household in the location of Mendlesham.

Deadline for March Issue

6th February 2023

Front Cover

Meg Clarke

Don't forget the Parish Church & URC from page 45

50/50 shop open -
Every Tuesday & Friday
see page 5 & 7 for further details

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Editorial

Welcome to the February issue. Nobody can deny there are challenges this month with rising costs, pay deal unrest and challenging weather patterns. Yet on the positive side we are still here and fighting. Stay positive and hang on for Spring is on its way as the flowering Crocus and Hellebores prove.

Best Wishes
Gemma

THE PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Clerk: Sharon Jones, Honeysuckle, Hockey Hill,
Wetheringsett, Suffolk IP14 5PL

Tel 01449 766139

Email: parishclerk@mendleshampc.org

Web site: <https://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud>

Your Councillors are:

- Paul Allen tel 766543
- Andy Davey tel 01449 768862 (Chairperson)
- Mike Exley tel 766246 (Emergency Planning Co ordinator for Mendlesham)
- Denise Foster tel 768978
- Norman Foster tel 768978
- Brian Gardiner tel 766648
- Sandie Judd tel 0333 006 2706
- Daniel Lummis 07584630988
- David Nunn (Emergency Planning Co ordinator for Mendlesham Green, Tan Office and outlying properties) tel 767158
- Helen Orton tel 767741
- Liz Ward tel 766562

Wednesday 8 February 2023 Ordinary meeting 7pm,
Old School Room, Mendlesham

Wednesday 8 March 2023 Ordinary meeting 7pm,
Old School Room, Mendlesham

Agendas for formal meetings for Mendlesham Parish Council, Mendlesham Community Centre Charity and Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity are published via E News and Parish Notice Boards. Please note any Extraordinary meetings may not be able to be published in this newsletter.

Mendlesham Community Café – formerly SatCaf

As we welcome in the New Year we have to say 'goodbye' and a very big 'thank you' to our longtime treasurer John Player who has decided to hang up his spreadsheets and retire from this post as well as all the other tasks that he has undertaken with great efficiency and boundless cheerfulness over the past 11 years. John was involved with the Internet Clubs for young people and adults before SatCaf came into being. As some of you will know the SatCaf came along as a way of raising funds for the Internet Clubs and in 2016 we started to donate to village organisations and other charitable causes - approximately £10,000 has been given. The club for young people finished sometime ago and the Adult Club is now self supporting but we continue to operate to raise funds for village organisations and because we enjoy providing an important service to our friends and neighbours. So we have decided to change our name to Mendlesham Community Café to reflect what is our main function. We have an amazing team of committed volunteers who all enjoy providing coffee, cakes and very reasonably priced lunches to our regulars and new customers. All the food is home cooked and served in what is always a happy and lively atmosphere.

We are back on Saturday 4th February at the Old School Rooms. We look forward to seeing you then and any first Saturday of each month.

Helen Orton

Parish Council:

Mendlesham Community Centre: Sale and New Build

Further to previous communications, Mendlesham Parish Council as trustee for Mendlesham Community Centre Charity and Mendlesham Memorial Playing Fields Charity are now able to provide residents with an update further to the proposal to sell the parts of Mendlesham Community Centre owned by Mendlesham Community Centre Charity and build a new community building on land owned by Mendlesham Memorial Playing fields Charity to the rear of the Wheeled Sports Area.

You may recall that in early 2021, Suffolk County Council approached the Community Centre Trustee with an offer to purchase the areas of the Community Centre owned by the Charity. This was to facilitate the much-needed SEND unit now located in what was the Small Hall and welcomed by the Trustees and after consultation the community, as a one off opportunity to sell the Charity areas and use the sale proceeds towards the cost of a new standalone building, fit for community purposes, which would be available to users more often rather than solely outside school times.

Continued on page 4.....

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One of the first requirements was to obtain permission from Fields in Trust to sell the building and build new. This has taken much of last year, but we have now obtained that permission.

We now need to obtain permission from the Charity Commission. After seeking legal advice, our plan is to:

1. Request to merge the Mendlesham Community Centre and Mendlesham Memorial Playing Fields charities, which will simplify the administration of both charities including the legal/financial processes to enable the new build.
2. Request permission to sell the existing Charity owned parts of Mendlesham Community Centre building to provide sale proceeds towards the costs of a new building.

At the time of writing, we are waiting confirmation of the details, but understand the two separate consultations will need to cover a two month period, at the end of which, a public meeting will be held to ask for residents to vote on both questions.

We plan to hold the consultations for the months of February and March 2023, with the public meeting to vote on the two proposals to take place on Tuesday 18 April 2023 Mendlesham Main Hall, the same night as the planned Parish Meeting.

Please therefore look out for further information on the Parish Notice Boards and E News. We will also provide updates via the paper newsletter, subject to timescales of events and publication/delivery dates. More information will be shortly available and we would very much welcome your thoughts, support and the opportunity of discussing any questions you may have.

Once the consultations have been successfully concluded and permission obtained from the Charity Commission, we will then be able to appoint an Architect and plan the new building in more detail.

Please contact: The Parish Clerk as required.

MENDLESHAM 50/50 SHOP

OPEN TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS 2-4PM

Browse our range of clothing and shoes for all the family,
plus jewellery, accessories, homewares, books and more.

HALF PRICE SALE: 7-28 FEB

SATURDAY OPENING: 11 FEB 12.30-3PM

Find us in the green pavilion near the toddler play equipment on
Station Road, Mendlesham. What3words: ///novelist.thin.tint.

Monday Morning meet-up



We are now open again!

**Every Monday morning
in the Old Schoolroom
10am-12pm**

EVERYBODY welcome. If you are on your own, retired, widow,
widower, new mum/dad, looking for work or whatever your
situation...

Come on down and enjoy free tea, coffee, cake and sausage rolls, plus
good friendly company.

There is also a selection of jigsaws, books and magazines to take away
free of charge.

Funded through Suffolk community foundation through the East of
England Co-op lunch club/warm hub fund.

Thank
you

What a lovely parish we live in. Following my request for volunteers to deliver newsletters last month I would like to thank all the people who offered their services. I received a very good response and have hopefully replied to everyone. I am still in the process of finalising details of routes and awaiting replies from existing volunteers and will be in touch with you all again in the New Year.

It does just prove that the Newsletter is read!

Wishing everyone in Mendlesham Parish a very Happy New Year.

Lorraine Shelton



***** Soup-er Friday *****

Every Friday in the Old Schoolroom 12-2pm Lunch

*Choice of soup with buttered bread roll

*Sausage roll

* Cake

* Endless tea and coffee

£2.50

* Everyone welcome *

**Books and magazines
free to take away too**



The rent of the Old Schoolroom is covered by a grant from Babergh and Mid Suffolk council under there Warm Spaces scheme

Are you on Facebook? If so have a look for
‘Spotted in Mendlesham’

&

‘Spotted in Mendlesham Green’
pages to keep up to date with what’s
going on in the villages.



Mendlesham Carpet Bowls Club

(and short mat bowls) 2023 season



Weekly indoor meetings are held 7.30pm – 10.00pm at Mendlesham School Hall every Tuesday until April.

Old-timers and New-comers of any ability are always very welcome to join the fun at our friendly social local club

Annual subs £5.00, all players. Adult weekly playing fee £3.00
(includes tea/coffee drinks and biscuits)

Mendleshamcarpetbowlsclub@gmail.com

News from “The 50/50 Shop” - dates for your diary

Our shop is bursting at the seams with clothing and footwear for men, women and children plus we have a wide range of homeware, books and accessories.

Half Price Sale: 7 - 28 February

Our popular half price sale is returning, offering 50% off all clothing and footwear.

Saturday Open Event: 11 February 12.30 - 3pm

If you're unable to visit us during our usual opening hours please come along to our special Saturday open event.

About us:

- Open Tuesdays and Fridays from 2pm - 4pm.
- Head to the toddler play equipment and you'll find us in the green pavilion facing the main field. For users of What3Words just type in: novelist.thin.tint.
- Cash only.
- Find us on Facebook, search “Mendlesham 50/50 Shop”.

We hope to see you soon and don't forget your purchases support the Mendlesham Community Charity.

Mendlesham Community Charity (MCC)

Charity No: 282391

February 2023 update

Are you in the village tote?

If not, you are missing out on the chance to win a first prize of £35, a second prize of £25, a third prize of £15 or a 4th prize of £10.00 every two weeks. You have to be in it to win it!!

It is just £10 a year to join the tote, so please contact Angela Pickup on 01449 766483 or angiepickup@btinternet.com Good Luck!

Have you visited the 50/50 shop?

If you have had a New Year clear out and have good quality clothing, shoes, jewellery, accessories, homewares or books, take them to the 50/50 shop. You will get 50% of the sale price of clothing and Mendlesham Community Charity receive the other 50% towards funding activities and events for the village.

You will probably end up buying something too as the quality, amount and variety of their stock is amazing. Open Tuesday and Friday afternoons 2.00 to 4.00pm.

Mendlesham Street Fayre is on May 1st, are you one of the many talented crafters/makers we have in and around our community? How about booking a stall for the craft fair. Are you a village organisation or charity needing to raise funds? If so, apply for a stall!

Talking of events; do you have any ideas on celebrations for the Coronation Weekend on 6th to 8th May 2023? If so Denise and Norman Foster are the people to contact on 01449 768978 as they have offered to oversee events.

If you, your organisation or group provide a service or support for the people of Mendlesham the MCC may be able to help with funding so please contact one of the trustees or complete and return the event support form available on our website mendleshamcommunitycharity.com

MCC Trustees

Teresa Mills (Chair) 01449 766582 teresa.mills@mendleshamcommunitycharity.com Letitia Goode (Secretary) 01449 768861 letitia.goode@mendleshamcommunitycharity.com	Sally Lovatt (Treasurer) 01449 54172 sally.lovatt@mendleshamcommunitycharity.com Nathalie Crisp 07795 491781 natalie.crisp@mendleshamcommunitycharity.com	Andrew Cullum 01449 767877 andrew.cullum@mendleshamcommunitycharity.com Judith Howard-Rees 01449 766327 judith@milllodge.co.uk (Co-opted Trustee for specific events/projects)
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Mendlesham Writers Group

Back in action

FREE !!

First visit
Intro Guidance Pack
Advice and encouragement
Guest speakers
Refreshments

2nd Tuesday Every Month
Old School Room
Mendlesham
7.30pm

Contact: Noel on 01449 766968
Or Just pop in
Bring a friend if you wish

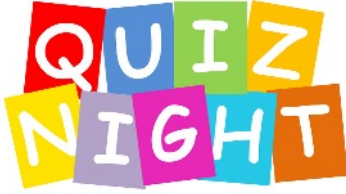
Create something worthwhile in your own special way
No previous writing experience necessary

The Friends of St. Mary's Church

Invite everyone to their coffee mornings in the church
every Tuesday between 1030 am and 1230 pm



MENDLESHAM URC CHAPEL



With Kenny Abbott

Friday 10th February at
7.30pm

Teams of up to 4
£4.00 per head to include
light refreshments

Wooo Hooo!!

**What wonderfully kind generous people you are.
Together we made -
102 shoeboxes!!**



(71 for people and 31 for dogs)

A huge big thank you to everyone for their donations of shoeboxes, items and money. Every single item was used.

The shoeboxes were taken to Ipswich where they were distributed to the soup kitchens and hostels where they spread some lovely Christmas cheer to people and their four legged friends.

You are good people xxx

Mendlesham Walking Group

Saturday 11th February 2023

Meet at

Community Centre Car Park 10.00a.m.

2-hour walk led by Keith & Lorraine

AND

Walking on a Wednesday

Shorter, slower walk of about 1½ hours led by Alan

Wednesday 15th February 2023

Meet at

Community Centre Car Park 10.30a.m.

PLEASE WEAR STURDY WATERPROOF BOOTS

Dogs on leads welcome



Come and join us

Stay safe and keep walking

For more information please contact

Angela - 01449 766483

Alan - 07790 124 509



If you would like to join Mendlesham Walking Group, please e-mail Angela :

angiepickup@btinternet.com

The **Mobile Library** calls at Mendlesham & Mendlesham Green every 4 weeks on Thursday afternoon at the following times:

Mendlesham Fish & Chip Shop 15.15 - 15.30

Mendlesham Playing Field 15.35 - 15.50

Mendlesham The Green 16.00 - 16.20

The van's next visit is **Thursday 9th February 2023**

Madagascar Marine Mishap

Noel K Fletcher

Whilst on detachment in Madagascar, my mate, an experienced yachtsman, invited to go sailing with him and in my naivety, I thought it might be fun. Dressed in just our swimming short, shirts and sandals we headed to the yacht club and boarded a 20ft catamaran.

Mark explained and demonstrated the fundamentals of yachting such as coming about, tacking, boom, mainstay and rudder (I knew that one - aeroplanes have them!)

We were soon gliding towards the open sea. It was an ideal day for yachting with a warm light offshore wind. We turned to starboard past the end of the mole and began a run 100 yards out along the mile-long beach towards a wide river mouth at the other end.

After about an hour we were in the process of coming about adjacent to the river mouth when, with a crack like a gunshot, the starboard mainstay snapped and disappeared over the side, taking with it the mast, sail and everything connected to it.

We grabbed the port mainstay in an attempt to pull the wreckage aboard but the sail was acting like an anchor and the tangled mass was slowly sinking.

"No worries" shouted Mark, "I'll get it" and promptly dived over the side into the sea which in that part of the world hosts a number of rather large bity and stingy things – so there was no way I was going to join him.

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Eventually we managed to haul the wreckage aboard and I was pleased to see that Mark was still in one piece. However, the wind had blown us about 400 yards off shore and into the outflow from the river, exacerbating our problem.

The incoming tide was creating 3ft high waves along the steeply sloping shore and we now had less than an hour of daylight left. We had no life jackets, flares or radio, just a pair of oars but no rowlocks in which to secure them – so much for experience.

With all our strength, much urgency, a surfeit of adrenalin and a considerable amount of swearing we paddled out stricken vessel towards the far bank of the river. Then grabbed the mooring rope and set off to cross the mouth of the river that was now back flowing with the incoming tide.

Wading chest deep across the 150-yard wide, flowing river mouth, hauling a heavy wooden catamaran with a mind of its own was not funny; we eventually pulled the stricken craft up onto the beach where we collapsed just as the sun dipped into the horizon.

We then battled to drag the boat out of the water, bobbing and weaving in the crashing waves. With one last massive effort and fortunately, the generous help of a couple of local guys, we heaved the catamaran up above the high-water mark and secured it to the sea wall.

We slept well that night and returned the following morning. We collected the club's motor launch and towed the catamaran back to its original mooring for essential repairs.

What an introduction to yachting that was - never again!

Quiz Night



Saturday 4th February
7pm (doors open 6.30pm)
Mendlesham Community Centre

£5 per person Max.8 per team

Bring your own drinks and snacks

Raffle and Heads and Tails Game

Book your table in advance by emailing
mendleshamscoutsfundraising@hotmail.com
or call Lil on 07545 322087

All proceeds towards our scout hut project

Mendlesham Community Charity TOTE RESULTS

Mendlesham Lottery December 2022			
8th December 2022		22nd December 2022	
Drawn at Mead Way		Drawn at Mead Way	
Mr. J. Downie	£35.00	Mr. M. Irving	£35.00
Miss R. Ager	£25.00	Mrs. B. Juby	£25.00
Mrs. A. Gammage	£15.00	Mr. J. Juby	£15.00
Mr. G. Harvey	£10.00	Mrs. H. Spalding	£10.00

If you would like to purchase Tote Tickets,
please contact Angela Pickup on
01449 766483 or angiepickup@btinternet.com

United Reformed Church

MURCies Coffee Bar

Friday - 10th February 2023 10am - 12pm

Knit and Natter

Monday - 13th & 27th February 2023 2pm - 4pm

MENDLESHAM CAMERA CLUB



The next meeting will be on
Tuesday 7th February - in the
Old School Room at 1930 when
we will review the table top images in miniature taken at the
December meet.

The club is a small group of mixed photography ability and new
members are always welcome.

For details please log onto the
website: <http://www.mendleshamcameraclub.co.uk/> or contact
mike@favager.co.uk

Although attendance at the December meeting was well below average due to illness and the change of date we enjoyed a 'hands on' session learning how to dress our Christmas table. Ribbons, baubles, glitter and glue – and much chatter - all lead to a table decoration to take home. We also decorated the orange we had taken along with ribbons and cloves to make a pomander. Our thanks to Maria for guiding us along.

We wished one of our members a very happy 90th birthday with some flowers and signed a card with our love for a member in hospital. One generous member had made Christmas table decorations to sell in aid of the Moses basket project. A card had been received from the King acknowledging the handmade condolences card sent on the death of the Queen.

A Christmas card and sweets were distributed to all members with seasons greetings. Festive refreshments and the raffle concluded the meeting.

Our calendar for February:-

1st 10am – 12 noon knit, stitch and yarn, Old School Room.

21st: 7.30pm in the U.R.C. our monthly meeting. Speaker: to be arranged.

If you are interested in joining us please contact president Anita (766902). You will be made welcome.

MENDESHAM OVER 60s CLUB – December 7th 2022

Twenty-six members came to our Christmas meeting. We had several apologies as people are very busy at this time of year.

We were entertained by “The Old Codgers”. We sang along with Christmas songs and lots of the old songs we all know. The accordions kept us in time and it was a very enjoyable afternoon.

We had sausage rolls and mince pies with our tea and The Old Codgers carried on playing after our tea. We all went home in the mood for Christmas.

Our next meeting:

February 22nd – Wendy Smith – a “Wimbledon line judge”.

Competition: A short verse about tennis.

DISCLAIMER

All adverts are placed in good faith and the publishers cannot undertake responsibility for work carried out. Please note that the opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Mendlesham Newsletter committee or the Community Charity. We cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of material submitted for publication, however we reserve the right to include, edit or amend as we think appropriate. Mendlesham Newsletter is produced in good faith but errors and omissions may occur during the process of production. Please let us know if this is the case so that these errors may be corrected in future editions.

Mendlesham Community Charity (MCC) Street Fayre 2023

We are now taking bookings for stall holders and entertainers!

This year we are having a Food Market as well as a Craft Market and catering and entertainment areas. The entertainment will include an area for children on the playing fields and, on stage in Old Market Street, musical performances – bands and solo singers. Catering will have a designated area down near the Kings Head. If you would like to be included, please contact the people below to obtain a booking form (alternatively you can print off one from the Parish Website – just Google Mendlesham Community Charity and follow the links to Events)

Food Market and Catering: Norman Foster

fosters@fostermail.co.uk 07532 242292

General Stalls: Rachael Hopkins rachaelhopkins@hotmail.co.uk

07971 910279

Craft Stalls: Julie Williams (neil.williams38@btinternet.com)

01449 766006

Entertainment: Francesca Cresswell Chescacowling@hotmail.co.uk

07746 622199

This is great opportunity to be part of this community event and raise funds for your own group or organisation. We hope to see village organisations nestled amongst some new and exciting stall holders. There will be a procession as in the past and all we pray for is good weather!

If you would like to volunteer for **Car Parking or Marshalling** duties, complete the **Thank You for Volunteering form** (see Parish Website) and contact Alan Chattell thetallcanal@gmail.com 07790 124509

For further general information contact Judith Howard-Rees, Event Coordinator judith@milllodge.co.uk 01449 766327 or 07770 746619

Friends of Debenham Library

Suffolk
Libraries

Warm Spaces: Debenham Library are offering free hot drinks on a self-service basis, funded by Suffolk Libraries. Come and make yourself a drink while you browse the books, read or use the computers!

Books, DVDs, WiFi, Computers, Printing/photocopying/scanning, CDs and audiobooks, downloadable films/music/audiobooks/ebooks, free reservations. The room is available for hire outside opening hours.

School Corner, Debenham IP14 6PL (next to the Primary School).

Opening hours:

Tuesday: 0930 am – 1300 pm

Wednesday 1500 pm – 1930 pm

Saturday: 0900 am – 1300 pm

Sunday: 1200 pm – 1600 pm

Tel: 01728 861940

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/debenham-library

Facebook: DebenhamLibraryAndFriends

Email: debenham.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk

Did you know....?

Why spend money on Kindle or Audible when you can download ebooks and audiobooks free on your smartphone, tablet or computer? Learn more at www.suffolklibraries.co.uk or ask at the library about Libby and Borrowbox.



The coach is coming out of the depot of Braybrook Coaches which is now Braybrook Close next to the Kings Head pub. Photo courtesy of Andrew Cullum

As the weather has turned colder, I've noticed mould and damp in our flat. It's mainly in our bedroom, including some black mould on the carpet. I've been chasing our letting agency, who say they'll speak to our landlord. I'm really worried about how this might affect our health. Our tenancy agreement isn't up for eight months, what can I do?

It's good that you've already raised the issue with your letting agency. Unfortunately, it isn't always easy to work out the cause of mould or damp. This can make it difficult to work out if your landlord is responsible, unless there's an obvious cause, like a leaking roof.

There are many causes of damp that properties can get. The most common are rising, penetrating, construction and condensation damp. On our website there is information that may help you work out what type of damp you have, who is responsible and what you can do. Check your tenancy agreement too for mentions of repairs and damp, and reach out to Citizens Advice on anything you're unsure about.

A landlord will have to act in relation to damp if it makes the property unsafe for someone to live in. This could be for example, if it is making the tenant or a member of their family ill. The landlord will also be responsible if the damp is related to repairs they should have carried out, like if heaters are broken. If the damp has damaged items that the landlord is responsible for, such as carpets and window frames, they'll likely have to cover the cost of repairs.

One of the most common causes of damp is condensation. To prevent this, it's important to keep homes well-heated and well-ventilated, but for a lot of people this will be trickier to do given the colder weather and higher heating costs. You may be eligible for help to insulate and heat your home, and should visit our website to find out more.

On our website we also have advice on things that can make damp worse and may impact the landlord taking responsibility for repairs. These include drying clothes on heaters or blocking air vents.

If your landlord is responsible for the damp in your property but doesn't act, there are steps you can take, such as reporting them to the local authority. If you're in social housing you might also be able to use the landlord's formal complaints procedure. There is more information about this on our website. If it reaches the point where you want to get out of a fixed term tenancy agreement early, speak to Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk first, as there might be better ways to approach the issue. You may also find helpful information on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-privately/during-your-tenancy/dealing-with-repairs/>

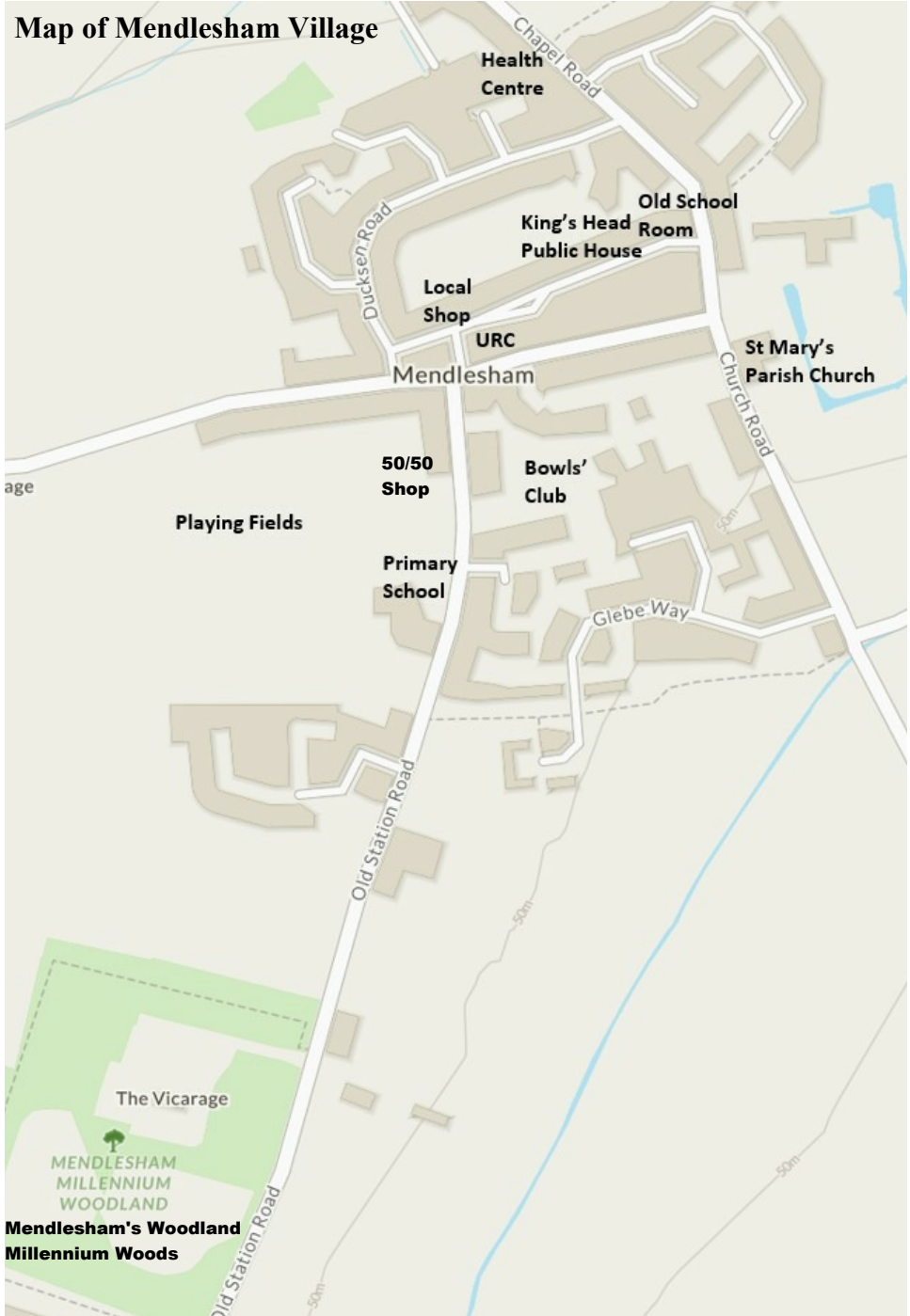
Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this and other issues, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. More information and our opening hours can also be found at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us.

MENDLESHAM DIRECTORY

1 st Mendlesham Guides	Emma Munday	01449 768843
3 rd Monday Book Club	Doug Williams	01449 766498
Ancient Order of Foresters	Beatrix Wrinch	07885 909869
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Martyn Bryant	01379 788998
Bowls Club	Peter Coleby	01449 766985
Brownies	Brenda Stannard	01449 766308
Camera Club	Mike Favager	01449 766007
Carpet Bowls Club	Roger Fouracre	01449 766229
Church and Town Estate	Mike Favager	01449 766007
Community Centre Hall	Becky Herbert	01449 672531
Computer Club	Giles Godart-Brown	07500 042836
District Councillor	Andrew Stringer	01449 780339
Explorer Unit	Jonathan Freeman	07756 761590
Football Club	George Yardley Angela Lockwood	07894 512712 07845 471154
F.O.M.S.A	C.P School	01449 766224
Friends of Mendlesham Health Centre	Phil Tucker	01379 678400
History Group	Sue Michell	01449 766434
Mendlesham Community Charity	Judith Howard-Rees	01449 766327
Mendlesham Education Foundation	Mike Favager	01449 766007
Old School Room Bookings	Daphne Lambert	01449 766320
Over 60's	Annette Taylor	01449 766552
Parish Council & Playing Field	Sharon Jones	01449 766139
Parish Party Committee	Rachel Roshier	07881 816622
Rainbows	Becky Froude	07774 581503
Saturday Cafe	Brenda Player	01449 768101
St Mary's Parish Church	Father Philip Gray	01449 766359
St Mary's Church Council	Chris Elstone	07530 769676
Toddler Group	Simona Pounds	07585 093311
United Reformed Church	Margaret Jackson	01449 766321
Village Recorder for Mendlesham	Geoff Clarke	01449 766447
Walking Group	Angela Pickup	01449 766483
Walking on Wednesdays	Alan	07790 124509
Woman's Institute	Anita Scruby	01449 766902
Writers Group	Noel Fletcher	01449 766968

If you have any amendments to the information on this page, please email the editor at gemma.green1202@gmail.com or call on 07733 333659 so they can be corrected. Thank you

Map of Mendlesham Village



Mendlesham's Woodland Millennium Woods



STONHAM ASPAL
PRE-SCHOOL

Where learning is FUN
For Children aged 2-5 years

We offer play-based provision in our purpose built premises. We have an outdoor area where we spend large parts of the day, with a big sandpit, slide, playhouse and a mud kitchen for messy play.

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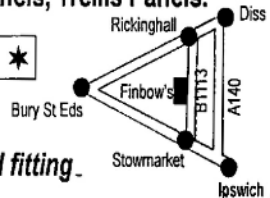
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
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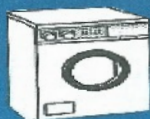
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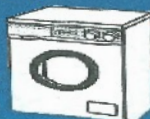
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Revelation 21: 1-2

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth disappeared, and the sea vanished. ²And I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared and ready, like a bride dressed to meet her husband.

Back at the beginning of January did you make a New Year's resolution? Have you kept to it? I have to admit that it's a long time since I made a New Year's resolution, but it is the only one I have kept and that was not to make any more New Year's resolutions!

New Year's resolutions are usually about making our life better, a new beginning. It could be to lose weight, not to eat so much chocolate, to do more exercise, to get a better Job..... but usually after a couple of weeks we give up, we give in to temptation and feel that we cannot restart what we were doing and fall back into our old ways.

Continued on page 46.....

....continued from page 45

I think that one reason we try New Year's resolutions is that at the being of a New Year we feel we should start something new. The old year may not have been the best, so the New Year should be something better, but how easily we can give up things when they stop being easy.

As Christians, we are always being called to begin again, if things don't go right. We can start again and make a new beginning, because we are called to be part of the kingdom of God. It is God who brings about the new beginnings so whatever time of year it is, we must put our trust and faith in God.

Robert

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Memorial Mendlesham Flower
Rota**



Sandra Exley
February



ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk



Vicar: Fr. Philip T Gray, BA, SSC, Mendlesham Vicarage Tel: 01449 766359
Churchwardens: Andrew Fleming 01449 711065; Chris Elstone 07530 769676

SUNDAYS: 9.30 a.m. Parish Mass

also LIVESTREAMED on

Facebook: [stmarysmendlesham](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmendlesham)

First Mass of Sunday: Saturdays - 10.00

Daily Mass: *see calendar on church website + porch notice*

Baptism (Christening), Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament and pastoral visits - contact Fr Philip

Enquirers' groups to learn about the Christian faith and our worship *see weekly bulletin.* Bishop Norman is coming to Confirm on Sun 2nd July at 9.30

Sacrament of Reconciliation: *see website*

EVERY TUESDAY

10.30 - 12.30

COFFEE & CAKE

+ SOUP

in a **WARM** church.

Thanks to a grant from the Babergh Mid Suffolk Winter Warmth Fund - **All welcome.**

No Charge, but donations welcome to Friends of St Mary's.



You are welcome to any of our services, as are your children.

- **Wed 1st Feb: CANDLEMASS EVE**
6.30 pm – Mass, Procession & bring & share party.
- **Monday 6th Feb: 2.30 pm**
MONTHLY HEALING SERVICE
followed by tea & cake
- **Wed 22nd Feb : ASH WEDNESDAY**
Mass & Ashing ceremony
9.30 (said) 6.30 pm (Sung)

Fr Philip Writes

Over the past couple of months, Mendlesham has suffered the loss of several parishioners. It seems to have been a time of one funeral after another and for the bereaved it has understandably been a harrowing time.

We are used to hearing the familiar words of the ancient prophet Isaiah at Christmass about the coming of a great light through the birth of a special child. The Church has always believed this child to be Jesus, who was proclaimed 40 days after his birth by the old man Simeon as the "Light of the World". I am often asked why people die despite the fact we have prayed for their healing. My mind goes back to the days I taught Religious Education at a Grammar School. I thought the boys should experience God's nearness and the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham (which, many years later, was voted

the nation's most favourite spiritual place by BBC Radio 4 listeners). I told the boys who were unable to go that we would offer prayers for anyone who was sick, as it is a shrine specially noted for healing. One boy in the third year said his mother had had a severe heart attack and I promised prayers for her healing. The day after we returned from Walsingham, where we had offered these prayers, the boy came to the staffroom door and told me his mother had died. I was devastated and wondered what I could say to a boy of his age. I need not have worried; he said to me that she had been healed. The doctor had told his family that the heart attack had been so severe that if she had come round from it she would have been in a vegetative state. God had healed her in the best way possible – a healing death.



As Lent approaches we need to consider exactly what prayer is. It is like plugging a lamp cord into an electrical socket. Plugging the cord into the socket doesn't create the electrical power: it simply makes contact with it to enable the current to flow from the outlet, through the cord, into the lamp. It is the same with prayer. Prayer doesn't create divine power but enables it to flow from Jesus, the Light of the World through us, into the lives of other people. Prayer is answered, but often not in the way we have wanted, as I learnt from that school pupil.

This following '**Prayer of an Unknown Soldier**' may help shed light on the mystery of prayer:

I asked for **strength** that I might **achieve**; I was made **weak** that I might **learn humbly to obey**.

I asked for **health** that I might do **greater things**; I was given **infirmity** that I might do **better things**.

I asked for **riches** that I might be **happy**; I was given **poverty** that I might be **wise**.

I asked for **power** that I might have the **praise of men**;

I was given **weakness** that I might **feel the need of God**.

I asked for **all things** that I might **enjoy life**; I was given **life** that I might **enjoy all things**.

I got **nothing** I had **asked** for, but **everything** I had **hoped** for.

Almost, **despite myself**, my **unspoken prayers were answered**.

I am, of all men, **most richly blessed!**

For more news, notices, photos, obituaries, parish registers and other information see:

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM - CHURCH CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2023				
Date	Church Festival	Mass	Intention (we pray especially for....)	Parish Intention
1	CANDLEMASS EVE	6.30 pm	the mission of the Church	Front Street / Old Orchard
2	CANDLEMASS [Presentation of Our Lord]	9.30	King and Government	Old Market St / Braybrooke Close
3	St Blaise	9.30	Persecuted Christians	Mill Road and Hobbies Lane
4		10.00	our vocations as lights for Christ	Chapel Road
5	SEPTUAGESIMA 5th SUN OF YR A	9.30	Parish and Congregation	Church Road / St Mary's Gardens
6	St Paul Miki & companions	2.30 pm	the sick: Healing ministry	Brockford Road
7		9.30	our stewardship of creation	Glebe Way
8		9.30	repentance and reconciliation	Freslands
9		9.30	the ministry of deliverance	Ducksen Road
10	St Scholastica	9.30	all with speech impediments	Horsefair Close
11	Our Lady of Lourdes	10.00	all pilgrims	Mason Court
12	SEXAGESIMA 6th SUN Yr A	9.30	Parish and Congregation	Mayfield Way
13		9.30	all in prison	Mead Way
14	Ss Cyril & Methodius	9.30	the people of Europe	Old Station Rd / Cuttings Close / Schools Close
15		9.30	the departed : February anniversaries	Middy Close / The Sidings
16		9.30	peace of the world	Wash Lane / Oak Farm Lane
17		9.30	those who are blind or partially sighted	Norwich Road / Bluehouse Lane
18		10.00	that we may learn to love our enemies	Mendlesham Green
19	QUINQUAGESIMA 7th SUN Yr A	9.30	Parish and Congregation	Tan Office
20		9.30	sick children	Outlying houses
21	Shrove Tuesday	9.30	all penitents	Farms in Mendlesham
22	ASH WEDNESDAY	9.30 (said) 6.30 pm (sung)	a good observance of Lent	Local industries
23	St Polycarp	9.30	Walsingham	Pub & places of recreation
24		9.30	our churchwardens	Mendlesham School
25		10.00	the Friends of St Mary's	SMF: Patrons of Mendlesham
26	LENT I	9.30	Parish and Congregation	Village Organisations
27		9.30	St Martin's Housing Trust, Norwich	Fr Philip
28		9.30	the Additional Curates Society	Other places of Worship
check times on weekly bulletin (available on church website)				



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