

the

Stetchworth & Dullingham Newsletter

June 2026



St. Peter's Church, Stetchworth and St. Mary's Church, Dullingham

If you wish to book a baptism, wedding, or funeral, or if you need the services of a priest, please contact the Rev'd Virginia or one of the churchwardens, details below:

Rev'd Virginia Moggridge
Tel: 01638 383110 / 07963 515777
e-mail: Rector.raddesley@gmail.com

STETCHWORTH CHURCHWARDENS:

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For information about the Benefice, please see our website www.raddesley.com

What a busy time of year! There is so much happening in the villages and round about, as we all emerge from the (somewhat cool) early Spring. Here in Dullingham I've been enjoying watching the swifts and swallows overhead, a wonderful sight, and hearing the cricketers playing across in the sports field. The recent plant sale in Stetchworth, together with the huge success of Open Gardens, were a reminder of the joys of nature, God's incredible world all around us, as we are so fortunate to live in this lovely area.

Celebration in this season is mirrored in the church year too; as we come to the end of Eastertide we have celebrated the mystery and wonder of Christ's Ascension, and this week marks Pentecost, when God sent the Holy Spirit to enable those early Christians to share the amazing news of the Gospel. Although we don't 'speak in tongues' as the Bible puts it, we still share that good news with those around us, and it's always a great privilege to do so.

The Holy Spirit was sent 2,000 years ago to enable people to connect, and that sense of connection is so vital in our world, more so today than ever as a failure to communicate well can have such dreadful consequences, globally, nationally and of course within our own lives. As the days continue to lengthen, perhaps you might like to share time with others, keep connected, however that works best for you. Pick up the phone, call in to see someone, send a text or a Whats App – I keep in touch with my sister in Australia partly through Whats App voice notes, often done as I am walking round the garden!

For Christians the coming of the Holy Spirit was and remains a vital part of our relationship with God, through His Son Jesus Christ. I pray that you will find that same sense of connection and relationship in your lives, and that the glory of God and his creation will abound for you.

With my prayers and blessings

Reverend Virginia Moggridge
Rector.raddesley@gmail.com

01638 383110 / 07963 515777

A Note from the Editor

The next edition of the Newsletter will be published in July. If you would like to share any items of interest, news, or information please e-mail me at stetchworthnews@gmail.com. The deadline for articles is **20th June**. Note, I cannot guarantee that content received after this date will be included in the next issue.

Newsletter content does not reflect the editor's views.—Harrison Ling, Editor

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The Boot is a friendly, local village pub that offers a wide variety of popular lagers, real ales, spirits and wines, and lunchtime food which includes several pub classics.

We frequently have food vans for the community to enjoy!

We also have several events throughout the year which includes beer festivals and live music events where people can come and enjoy a warm and friendly atmosphere!

Our Hours:

Monday: 5pm - 11pm
Tuesday: 12pm - 2.30pm/5pm - 11pm
Wednesday: 12pm - 11pm
(Fish and Chips available every Wednesday 5pm - 7.30pm)
Thursday: 12pm - 2.30pm/5pm - 11pm
Friday & Saturday: 12pm - 11pm
Sunday: 12pm - 6pm
Lunchtime food offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

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St. Peter's Church, Stetchworth

SERVICES FOR JUNE 2026:

14th June— 9.00am : Communion service

28th June— 6.00pm : Evensong

We enjoyed providing refreshments at the successful plant sale and we were busy the following day providing teas for the Open Gardens day when lots of visitors came to visit the various gardens that were open. The last event happening in May is the concert with the Kitchen choir and Kitchenettes which will be held at Taylor Hall, Dullingham on May 30 th at 7.30 pm. We then move on to the Village Show which will be on Sunday 6 th July. We will be having our usual stalls – preserves and cakes, tombola, and St. Peter's Challenge. We will also be arranging a draw combined with the Garden Club. Donations of prizes or items suitable for the tombola would be gratefully received.

Lily Whymer – Tel: 01638 507576 / lilywhymer@gmail.com

Ellesmere Garden Club



We hope everyone enjoyed the busy plant sale, which was great fun and raised valuable funds for the club, helping to pay for hall hire and speakers. These indoor sessions will start up again in September, but for the next few months we take advantage of the lovely long days, with hopefully decent weather for visits . On **Wednesday 10th June** we have a visit to **Columbine Hall Gardens at Stowupland**. The gardens of Columbine Hall have been extensively featured in The English Garden, Country Life and Gardens Illustrated. They have also been awarded a star by the Good Gardens Guide. The beautiful 14th century moated manor has been lovingly restored over the past 30-plus years.

Meet at the Ellesmere Centre at 6pm to share lifts. Entry will be £12 which includes tea/coffee and a guided tour by Kate Elliott, head gardener who turned the mud and a moat into a five-acre garden surrounding the hall. Please book with Pat on 07810 430804. Unfortunately lack of numbers has meant the planned coach trip to Gardeners World at the NEC has been cancelled. But looking ahead, the **34th Annual Flower and Craft Show** takes place on **Sunday 5th July**. Make sure you have your schedules and get ready for action – remember the Show is open to members and non-members alike, and we'd love to have a good turnout. Schedules are available at the Ellesmere Centre, and more details next month. Later, on **Wednesday 15th July** we have a visit to **Bustlers Cottage, Duxford** owned by Jenny Marks, Cambridgeshire County Organiser of the National Gardens Scheme. This is a traditional cottage garden with some formal features extending over an acre, with herbaceous borders, old roses, perennial wildflowers and a vegetable garden. Also many trees, including several old fruit trees, as well as more recently planted specimens. More details about timings and booking next month.

Any general questions about the Garden Club call Sandie on 07903 584676.

Stetchworth and Cheveley United Reformed Church

Services and Events

Sunday 7th June, 11.00am: Mrs Wendy Roe

Sunday 14th June, 11.00am: Mrs Pat Stevens

Sunday 21st June, 11.00am: Mr Alistair France

Sunday 28th June, 11.00am: Sunday Fellowship

Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday, 13th June 10.30 - 12.00m, and will be in aid of Christian Aid. All welcome. This will include a **Jigsaw Swap** - bring a jigsaw you have finished with and take a different one home.



Summer Show

Sunday 5th July

12 noon onward

Live music from Around Midnite, Footplant & Kettlefields School Choir

Bar & BBQ

Irish Dancing Performance

Pony Rides, Classic Car Show, Craft & Produce Show

Side stalls, **PLUS MUCH MORE!**

Summer Activities

As you may be aware, Prestige Sports will not longer be holding sports camps at the centre during the holidays. In light of this we are working hard to arrange some new and exciting activities for your children to attend including junk modelling, bug box making, miniature gardens, soft play, roller skating, and stay and play. These will be approx. 2 hours fun sessions. Watch this space for more details.

Digital Champion

Does the online world feel scary to you? Would you like to be able to access essential services but don't know where to start?

We now have a Digital Champion at the centre who can help you with getting the confidence to engage in the online world. We can offer direct support working one-on-one or in small group training sessions. We can give you the confidence to access services such as online banking, healthcare apps, contacting family members and help with online shopping.

Please speak to the office if you would like some help.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Summer Show—Sunday 5th July at 12 noon

Outdoor Live Music Event— Saturday 11th July 4-8pm

Pudding Club—September 26th

Christmas Market—Sunday 15th November

More details to follow in the coming months

Website: www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk / e-mail: office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk / or alternatively call us on 01638 508212

Dullingham Community Lunch

Every first Tuesday of the month, 12 - 2pm,
at the Taylor Hall, Dullingham.

This is a free lunch, although we do ask for
donations.

Come along and meet your neighbours.

Mobile Library

The mobile library visits on the third Thursday
of every month, and is at Jubilee Court,
Stetchworth from 2.25pm - 3.00pm,
and at Kettlefields School,
Dullingham from 3.10pm - 3.40pm.

**Fiction, non-fiction, large print and children's
books available, and hearing aid batteries too!**

Cambridgeshire County Council Report

I've been attending Annual Parish Meetings across the Woodditton division over the past month, supporting my 12 amazing and hardworking parish councils as they engage their local communities in what we have all been doing over the past year. This has been my first full year representing you, and while demanding, it has been both rewarding and a privilege. I have now settled into balancing my (now part-time) day job with my local responsibilities. Thank you to everyone who has engaged with me this year—I look forward to meeting and supporting more of you in the year ahead.

HIGHWAYS

Over the past month, we've begun to see surface treatments and local road improvements, with some completed and others in preparation. The same work is starting on some footways. This marks the beginning of a year-on-year improvement to our highways, but it won't happen overnight. With a historic budget backlog, work must be carefully managed and prioritised across Cambridgeshire. As a result, some roads will still need reactive pothole repairs for a few years to come, although we are moving towards a more preventative approach. Brinkley Road in Dullingham (from the King's Head to Eagle) was not included in the April/May schedule. However, this is positive: campaign efforts from myself and residents led to the council agreeing the original surface would not last, so a more durable treatment is now planned for later this year. Work will take place in two stages, starting with preparation. I will share dates as they become clearer and am pushing to bring the first stage forward given current conditions. Over the coming months, I'd like us to focus locally on two areas:

1. Footways

2. Signs and lines

Many of you already support our highways teams by reporting potholes, which is vital—please don't assume someone else will report an issue you've noticed. Across our area, I've been pressing the council to improve more footways. Last year, this was difficult due to low reporting levels, despite known issues. The council has also been too slow to respond to footway repairs, and I will continue to hold them to account. Recently, two older residents were hospitalised in separate incidents, which must not happen again.

How you can help:

Over the next month, please report any unsafe footways—especially where tarmac has broken up or roots are pushing through. I'll provide an update next month before we shift focus to signs and lines. This is the best approach:

📷 Take a few photos on your mobile phone as you walk around the village

📍 Note the exact location (e.g. using what3words)

📧 Report it at: <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/en-gb>

FOREST CITY

I have deliberately avoided writing about Forest City, as the group behind the proposal is essentially a “think tank” seeking to disrupt national development thinking, regardless of the location, and giving it credibility is not in our local interests. However, I recognise that many residents feel anxious, so please be reassured that we are monitoring developments closely. If the proposals become a genuine risk, we will challenge them robustly and keep you informed.

KINGSWAY

Kingsway were due to have submitted their full solar farm application but are currently delayed. When it is submitted, I will continue to represent the interests of the local community. There will be a 28-day period to respond to the application submission. **Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141 / jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

East Cambridgeshire District Council Report

This month there are just updates on ongoing news and issues.

Waste Services

The start of the new waste collection service is nearly here.

From 1 st June, the way that waste is collected changes.

Black Bins replace black bags and will be collected fortnightly. Food waste will be collected weekly in separate food caddies.

This change has been previously communicated to residents last Autumn and the new bins have been delivered.

You should have already started using the bins ready for collection in that first week of June.

Highways

If you believe there is a pothole or road defect that requires work, please contact me and I will raise this with highways.

Council Reorganisation

We still await the decision from Government.

The Ellesmere Centre Post Office

The likely outcome for the Post Office is one of a community Post Office. The work on achieving this continues, and as I mentioned last month, this requires a considerable amount of work for the working group of trustees of the Centre.

I will update each month with news of the progress.

Forest City

This proposal that has been floated across social media of a new city of 400,000 houses between Newmarket and Haverhill continues to cause concern amongst some residents.

The two individuals behind the proposal have recently published an 85-page document, which has many illogical plans within it.

I will continue to oppose this opportunistic proposal and will update residents with any news that I receive.

Please contact me if there is any issue concerning you.

I have not done surgeries previously, because I am able to visit residents or meet them, wherever is suitable for them, rather than making residents come to me. I am available to all.

Alan Sharp

East Cambridgeshire District Councillor – Woodditton Ward

E-Mail: alan.sharp@eastcambhs.gov.uk

Telephone: 07794292941

Alan Sharp, East Cambridgeshire District Councillor – Woodditton Ward

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SERVICES FOR MAY:

14th June—10.30am: Morning Prayer

28th June—9.00am: Communion

CHURCH CLEANING:

Dod and Wilf Wakefield

FLOWERS:

Pauline Baldwin

Avril Matthews



OPEN GARDEN

Brinkley House

Brinkley Road, CB8 0RB

Sunday 12th July 2026

11.00 am—4.00 pm

3 acres, walled garden, herbaceous borders, stunning planting, topiary, espaliers, pleached trees, variety of sculptures, water feature and an amazing beehive.

Refreshments

Admission: £5.00

Children free

Parking in field by the house

This is the first opening of this private garden

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Our community newsletter * Village Voice *
and St Mary's Church Brinkley

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SJP Approved 22/04/2026



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You are invited to

DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

Thursday 11 June 2026

8pm

The Taylor Hall, Church Close,
Dullingham CB8 9XE

Come and enjoy a fun evening with a Demonstration by

Bernice Rhodes entitled 'Blooming Project'

Admission £8

(includes tea/coffee and biscuits)

Raffle

The raffle will include all the arrangements that are made on the evening

PLEASE CONTACT LESLEY BIRD

Tel: 01638 507658 or 07786 817154

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Next Meeting:

Thursday 9th July

Demonstration by

Crystal Dyball

On 29 April, Parliament was prorogued, bringing the first parliamentary session since the 2024 General Election to a close. As we begin the new session, the King's Speech has set out the Government's priorities for the year ahead.

Among the measures announced were plans my Lib Dem colleagues and I have been pushing for: to break the link between gas and electricity prices to bring prices down; to invest in homegrown renewable energy; to tackle sewage pollution and water company failures; and to end unfair residential leaseholds for new properties. While these steps are welcome, we urgently need to see more ambition and action from the Government, particularly on protecting consumers, cleaning up our waterways, and extending leasehold reform to existing homeowners.

There were also several areas I was disappointed not to see included in the King's Speech. In particular, I believe we urgently need action to address the social care crisis, and a Good Food Bill to strengthen food security and back British farmers.

As the new parliamentary session begins, I am continuing to press for the improvements our area urgently needs: fairer funding for Cambridgeshire's SEND provision, rural policing and highways (especially those affected by peat soil as we see here in our region), and long-overdue investment in Ely Junction which would drive national growth.

In the last session of Parliament, I opposed a number of Government decisions which I believe risk harming vulnerable people and local services, including reductions to winter fuel support, pressures on disability assistance, and tax and National Insurance changes affecting GPs, hospices and family farms. The concerns residents raise with me are often deeply personal: families struggling to secure support for children with special educational needs, older people unable to access care, tenants facing unacceptable housing conditions, and ongoing delays within the Home Office immigration system. My Liberal



Democrat colleagues in Parliament and I will continue holding the Government to account and pushing for action on the issues that matter most to people: tackling the cost-of-living crisis, protecting nature, rebuilding our NHS, and ensuring rural communities receive the attention and investment they deserve. If there's ever anything I can help you with, please do get in touch via charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or +44 20 7362 1601. I am always happy to assist wherever we can. You can also keep up to date with my work through my fortnightly newsletter - sign up here: www.bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

P.S. Have you signed my petition calling on Government to fund long-term fixes for our peat soil- affected roads? These roads are failing twice as fast and costing far more to maintain. Back my "Fix Our Soil-Affected Roads" campaign—please take 30 seconds to add your name





If there's ever anything I can help you with, please do get in touch via charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or +44 20 7362 1601. You can also keep up to date with my work through my fortnightly newsletter — sign up here: www.bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte


Charlotte Cane, MP for Ely & East Cambridgeshire / charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk | 020 7362 1601

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Raddesley Benefice Services for June ≈ All Welcome

<p>7th June 1st Sunday after Trinity (Green) Genesis 12: 1 – 9 Romans 4; 13 – end Matthew 9: 9 – 13, 18 – 36</p>	<p>9.00am Brinkley 10.30am Burrough Green</p>	<p>Communion (Josephine) Family Service (Josephine)</p>
<p>14th June 2nd Sunday after Trinity (Green) Genesis 18: 1 – 15 Romans 5: 1 – 8 Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 8</p>	<p>9.00am Stetchworth 10.30am Dullingham</p>	<p>Communion (Josephine) Morning Prayer (Josephine)</p>
<p>21st June 3rd Sunday after Trinity (Green) Genesis 121: 89 – 21 Romans 6: 1b – 11 Matthew 10: 24 – 39</p>	<p>9.00am Burrough Green 10.30am Brinkley</p>	<p>Communion (Josephine) Morning Prayer (Josephine)</p>
<p>28th June 4th Sunday after Trinity (Green) Genesis 22: 1 – 14 Romans 65: 12 – end Matthes 10: 40 – end</p>	<p>9.00am Dullingham 6.00pm Stetchworth</p>	<p>Communion (Josephine) Evensong (Josephine)</p>

Stetchworth WI

May WI Meeting: For our May meeting Dr Graham Wylde gave a talk about **The Maggie Letters**. Graham is a keen philatelist and bought a collection of letters for their stamps. It was only sometime later that he actually read the letters and realised what a wonderful insight they gave to life in England in the late nineteenth century. The letters covered the period from 1871 to 1878. They were written by a young girl (Louisa Margaret Gill) to her father.

Maggie was writing thirty years after the postal reforms of Rowland Hill. These reforms standardised the costs of posting a letter and meant that Maggie could afford to write regularly to her father. Maggie wrote to her father as he convalesced in Brighton and the Isle of Wight. She wrote from holiday destinations (Knole Park, Maidstone and Black Notley) and from her home in Dalston. We all commented on how beautiful Maggie's handwriting was in the early letters, although it deteriorated through her teenage years.

The letters are full of family and local news, recounting that a family friend had died in another letter describing how excited she is about an upcoming party and telling her father of her exam results. In one letter, Maggie recounts a holiday afternoon near Guildford and being caught in the rain. Her companions were able to send and receive two letters, explaining their situation, in the same afternoon! The letters show that Maggie had a great sense of humour and was up to date with current affairs. They are full of love for her father and her concerns about his illness. The next WI meeting on **Tuesday 2nd June** is our outing to Brinkley Church for bell ringing. Followed by drinks at the Red Lion if desired. **Meet at Brinkley Church at 6.30pm. Please wear comfortable shoes to climb the tower. This event is only for WI members.**



For any other information contact Sue Durrant on 07740 591195 or visit our website.
stetchworthwi.weebly.com