

Your Rushmere

Winter 2020 Newsletter

Inside this issue...

Favourites such as
Young Zone, Rushmere Readers, Children's Competition, Nature Notes & Local History.

Articles on
Rushmere St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan, Dogs, Rushmere Commoners, New Hobbies & more...

Local updates on what your Parish Council has been up to!

A big thank you to everyone for your incredible efforts over the last year.

Here's to a better 2021. Happy Christmas & Stay Safe.

www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net





LOCKDOWN RULES

Help stop the spread of COVID-19 

-  **Stay at home** – only go out for specific reasons including childcare, education, work (if you cannot work from home), medical reasons, shopping for essential items, care for others, or to exercise outside.
-  Schools, universities and colleges remain **open**. Some workplaces will stay **open** if people cannot work from home, including critical national infrastructure, construction and manufacturing. Children can move between homes if their parents are separated.
-  Households are **not** allowed to mix with other people indoors, nor in private gardens (unless they are in your support bubble) But, individuals can meet **one** person from outside their household in an outside public space.
-  Single adults living alone, or single parents whose children are under 18, can form a **support bubble** with one other household. You can go inside each other's homes and stay overnight. Once in a bubble with one household, you can't switch and start another with a different household.
-  Whenever you are out of your home, remember 'Hands, Face, Space':
Hands – wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds
Face – wear a face covering over nose and mouth in indoor settings
Space – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible.
-  If the impact of Covid-19 has left you worrying about your bills, your job or your home, call the Suffolk Advice and Support Service free: 0800 068 3131. Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm.
 If you are clinically extremely vulnerable and in urgent need of support or advice, call Home But Not Alone free: 0800 876 6926, Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm.

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Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas & a positive start to 2021

- David Bean

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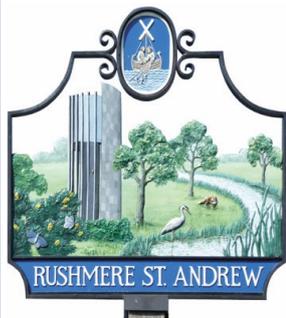
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Email: kaye@kayesouterflowers.co.uk
www.kayesouterflowers.co.uk

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 Rushmere St. Andrew, Ipswich IP5 1DF

Large portfolio available to view





Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council



Hello, I am currently writing this in November in the midst of a new lockdown. By the time you read this I am hoping that the pandemic will be over and we are all mixing households and looking forward to our usual Christmas parties. This text is likely to age quite badly.

In all seriousness I expect there's a lot of residents struggling right now - with the short days and cancelled events that we would traditionally attend on top of current restrictions, I'm sure this is all getting a bit much for some of you.

Please don't feel alone, I know I mentioned this in the last edition of 'Your Rushmere', but please call the NHS Voluntary Responders on 0808 196 3646 should you need any medication, supplies or even just a chat. I do hope that by the time I write for the next edition the climate will be more positive for everyone.



In the meantime, I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2021.

Chris Griggs - Chairman of the Newsletter & Website Advisory Panel



Rushmere St Andrew Parish Councillors & Officers

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| BEECH WARD | | |
| Mr. C Griggs | 65 The Street, IP5 1DE | 07921 821869 |
| Ms. C Evans | 9 Blackdown Avenue, IP5 1AZ | 01473 617535 |
| VILLAGE WARD | | |
| Miss. A Cracknell | 148 The Street, IP5 1DH | 01473 719746 |
| Mrs. B Richardson-Todd (Vice-Chair) | 57 Playford Road, IP4 5RJ | 07801 736067 |
| Mr. R E Whiting | 105 Playford Road, IP4 5RQ | 07714 598155 |
| TOWER WARD | | |
| Mrs A Bridger | c/o Parish Council Office | 07759 272526 |
| Mrs. M Brown | 15 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED | 01473 725720 |
| Mr. D J Francis | 14 Clovelly Close, IP4 5UF | 01473 723453 |
| Mr. M Newton | 11 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED | 07788 456641 |
| Mr R Nunn | c/o Parish Council Office | 01473 711509 |
| Mr. P M Richings (Chairman) | 29 The Pastures, IP4 5UQ | 01473 436688 |
| Mr K Driver | (New Councillor) 6 Butterfly Gardens, IP4 5TF | 07748 488206 |
| Mr. B Ward | 12 Playford Road, IP4 5RH | 01473 622272 |
| Mr. J Westrup | 9 Holly Lane, IP5 1DN | 01473 272257 |
| Mr J Wright | 4 Bodiam Close, Ipswich, IP3 8QR | 07494 447391 |
| Clerk to the Parish Council & Responsible Financial Officer | | |
| Mrs S Stannard | | 01473 711509 |
| Email: sylvia.stannard@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk | | |
| Assistant Clerk | | |
| Mrs S Jenkins | | 07568 632110 |
| Email: sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk | | |
| Parish Office | | |
| Tower Hall, 5 Broadlands Way, IP4 5SU | | 01473 711509 |
| Website www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net | | |
| Allotment Manager | | |
| Mr John Westrup | | 01473 272257 |
| 9 Holly Lane, IP5 1DN | | |
| Registrar to the Burial Authority (Lawn Cemetery Enquiries) | | |
| Mr A Duncan | | 01473 727389 |
| 8 Crofton Close, IP4 4QR | | |
| Advertising Enquiries to Sarah Jenkins, see above | | |
| Safer Neighbourhood Teams | | |
| Tower Ward & Beech Ward: To speak with an officer at Ipswich East SNT – telephone 101 | | |
| Email: IpswichEast.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk | | |
| Village Ward: To speak with an officer at Woodbridge SNT – telephone 101 | | |
| Email: Woodbridge.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk | | |
| Please note PCSO 3357 Eleanor Miles is our new Partnership Funded PCSO and covers all 3 wards | | |
| Telephone 101 Email: Eleanor.Miles@Suffolk.pnn.police.uk | | |
| Further information about Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) including Team Members; Priorities; Campaigns and Meetings can be found on www.Suffolk.Police.UK | | |

Parish Council Meetings

All meetings are open to members of the public, and agendas are published on notice boards around the parish and our website.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions no face to face meetings are being held. However, the Parish Council are holding virtual online meetings including Planning and Development Committee meetings through ZOOM. Details of when these meetings are being held and how to access them can be found on the Parish Noticeboards and on the Parish Council Website at: www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/agendas-and-minutes/

If you wish to join a meeting as a member of the public please advise the Parish Clerk, Mrs Sylvia Stannard by emailing: sylvia.stannard@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Planning and Development Meetings

These meetings are arranged as and when we receive planning applications for discussion. Notice of meetings and agendas will be placed on Noticeboards and the Parish Website.

The Parish Office will be Closed until Further Notice

If you need to contact us please use the details below:

Telephone: 01473 711509

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sylvia Stannard

Email: sylvia.stannard@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Assistant Parish Clerk: Mrs Sarah Jenkins

Email: sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

News from the Allotments

We in Rushmere are fortunate that we have along with many other amenities, an area of land that has been made over to Allotments, these are located just off the Street in old Rushmere Village between Chestnut Pond and the Old Forge.

An allotment plot is a piece of land about 250 square metres in size, which can be rented for growing fruit and vegetables for you and your family. Allotment gardening can be a very rewarding pastime and can make a valuable contribution to the quality of peoples' lives.

Vegetable growing is more satisfying and certainly more productive than a visit to a gym and the reward for your efforts is a tasty meal with organic home grown vegetables.

Cultivating an allotment provides an affordable source of fruit and vegetables, an essential part of a healthy diet. If they are organically grown, you will reduce your exposure to pesticides, herbicides and fungicides.

Now as winter is upon us it's the traditional time to take on or relinquish a plot, and to pay the annual rental charge. It's also a good time to do some manuring and digging and generally cleaning up of the plot, most rubbish can go to the compost heap for use next year. Broad Beans can be sown now ready for an early crop next May/June, the best of the over wintering types are Aquaduce Claudia which is less susceptible to blackfly than other varieties. Also over wintering onion sets and garlic cloves can be planted now ready for an early crop next year.

We have 13 full size plots and 34 half size plots none of which are vacant at the moment and we have a waiting list.

We are fortunate in that we have first class soil for growing our crops, a light loam with an underlay of gravel perfect for drainage, because the soil is so fertile it also encourages weeds which love to flourish faster it seems than your crops!

Having an allotment can be hard work at times and if you are new to it then we strongly recommend that you start off with a half plot, and the saying a little work but often is the right approach.



The Tenants of our allotments are a friendly bunch from all walks of life both young and old, working and retired, we have male and female tenants all doing a very good job of cultivating their plots.

We have a healthy waiting list so if you would like to be added please contact us sooner rather than later:

The Allotment Manager John Westrup on 07768 350313 Email: johnwestrup@mac.com

Parish Clerk Sylvia Stannard on 01473 711509 Email sylvia.stannard@rushmere-st-andrews.org.uk

Councillor John Westrup , Allotment Manager

Trees

I often receive enquiries about trees. We live in a parish where trees and hedgerows have a significant impact on our environment. Many individual trees as well as several large patches of the parish are subject to T.P.O's – that's Tree Preservation Orders in full.

Anyone wishing to carry out any work on TPO trees must seek permission. In the case of Rushmere St Andrew the process is to complete a form similar to a planning application. This is done via the East Suffolk Council website.

The application will then go before the parish council planning committee who

will make a recommendation to East Suffolk.

Typically, removing broken or dead branches, reducing the crown by up to 30%, removing lower branches for safety etc are likely to be qualifying reasons as to why the application might be successful. On the other hand the desire to fell a mature tree "to prevent squirrels running across the patio" is less likely to meet with a successful application!

I also receive many enquiries about what to do with overhanging trees and hedges. We do have a general "issue" in Rushmere in that, throughout the parish,

the trees are many years bigger, taller and wider than when most properties were built and people are often looking to reduce the cover, stop leaf fall and so on. However, it's the very presence of these trees which makes Rushmere St Andrew such a lovely place to live.

I'm always willing to visit to advise on issues on trees and hedges.

Councillor James Wright
Parish Council Tree Warden

Tel: 07494447391



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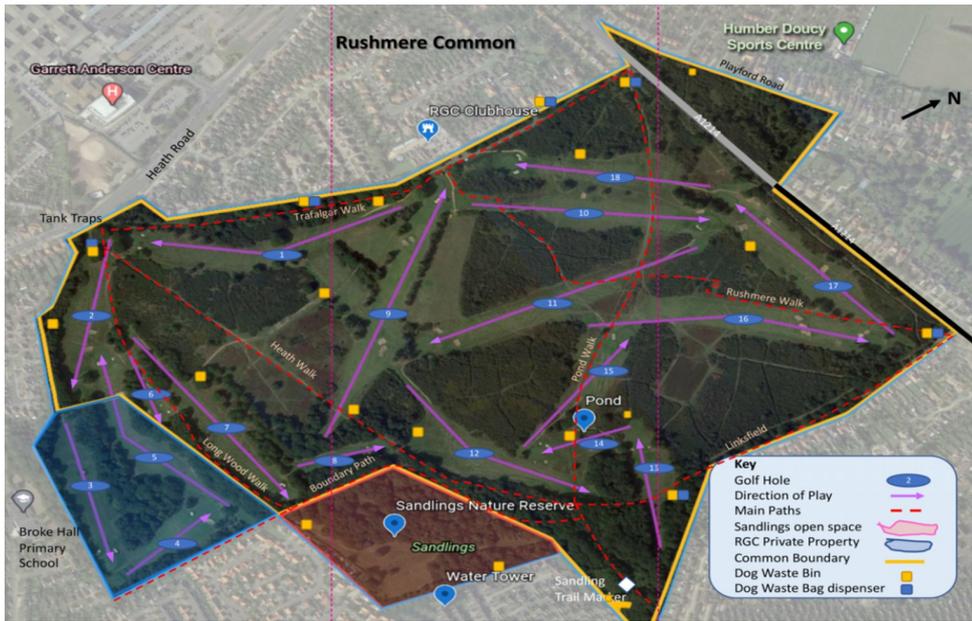
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Rushmere Common Commoners



on the common and is happy to help any of the users of the common.

There are defibrillators (AED) at the golf clubhouse and Tower Hall near the water tower. The RCC provides Dog Waste bags and bins at various positions across the common and at most entrances. This common land is on the East side of Ipswich, joining two areas of Rushmere St Andrew. The first Commoners Committee (RCC) was formed in 1881, mainly to resist the claims of the Marquis of Bristol.

The Common is a mixture of heath and woodland. It is also the home to numerous species of flora and fauna, some unique to the area.

The Sandlings walk starts at the tank traps by the Heath Road entrance, ending in Southwold and has a board to mark this. The Common also has a Sandlings Bird Trail Marker on the main path to/from Brendon Drive. The Sandlings Nature reserve also adjoins the common.

The Rushmere Common Commoners (RCC) work with the Rushmere Golf Club (RGC) to ensure the common can be shared harmoniously. Golf has been played on the common since 1895 where Ipswich Golf Club was established (now at Purdis Heath) and latterly Rushmere Golf Club (RGC) since 1927. The golf club own some land and pay rent to the RCC for use of the common. RGC maintain various areas of the land including emptying of the dog waste bins.

With increase usage of the common the RCC and RGC would like to help raise awareness of the potential dangers. If there are any issues they should be reported to RGC clubhouse and RCC Clerk clerkrushcommoners@gmail.com

All common users should respect the wildlife and avoid walking on sensitive habitat such as heather, which provides cover for birds and insects. The RCC provides a warden, who can be regularly seen

The RCC's aims are to promote and preserve the wildlife indigenous to the common enticing back species such as skylarks that have been lost in recent years.

Rushmere Common is a lovely space for all to enjoy and help preserve nature.

www.rushmerecommonerstrustrees.org
nesuffolk.net

Thinking About Getting a Dog?



As a dog walker, I'm always out and about. It's been really lovely seeing people rediscovering the great outdoors over on the Heath since Covid, and lots of people have used this opportunity to get a dog.

Dog ownership is a huge commitment and should never be taken lightly, so here are a few pointers.

The average lifespan for a dog is between 12-15 years, so they will require long term commitment - if you have a busy lifestyle it may not be the right choice for you. Dogs are very much a part of your family and require daily exercise and enrichment, and they will require exercise come rain or shine, even if you're not well. If you're buying a bigger breed, you may need to change your car.

The biggest factor to consider when buying or adopting a dog is cost. Apart from the initial outlay there will be vets bills, insurance, neutering, feeding, grooming, flea/worm treatments, training classes, basic equipment

and the costs of kennels or dog boarding when you go on holiday.

Dogs are very sociable animals and whilst most people have been working from home in recent times, you will need to think about what you will do if you have to return to work full time, as they should not be left all day on their own. Luckily, there has been an increase in dog walkers/pet care specialists in recent years, so there are always options to consider when looking for part time pet care. It is also very important to research the right breed for you and your family. Whether you get a puppy or a rescue dog, certain breeds require much more exercise and can be more difficult to train. Other factors, like the size of your house and garden will also need to be taken into consideration. Do plenty of research: there are plenty of online sites that can help you decide which breed will be best suited to you.

If you decide on a puppy you will need to find a breeder - you should always see the mum and preferably with the litter mates when viewing a dog. Ask lots of questions about both parents and their health, and make sure the puppies all look healthy and are living in a clean environment. Be prepared for the breeder to ask you questions about your suitability. When I bought my last dog I was told in no uncertain terms "if we don't think you're

suitable we won't sell you one!". Ask to see any paperwork regarding vaccinations, flea/worm treatment and microchipping, and remember you should never get a puppy before it is 8 weeks old.

Never buy a dog that's isn't with its mum or arrange to meet away from its home, sadly there are many unscrupulous breeders and puppy farms that will happily sell you an unhealthy dog.

There is always the option of rehoming through a rescue site or centres. A good reputable rescue centre would do all the relevant home checks to make sure you end up with a suitable dog, and it is quite often a great opportunity to provide a dog with a second chance.

Owning a dog can be one of the most rewarding experiences you will ever have, it's great for your physical and mental well-being. I have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful people whilst out and can safely say I have the best job in the world.

All the hard work is certainly worth it!

Take my Lead

Tina Skinner

<https://www.facebook.com/Take-My-Lead>

Ramblings in Rushmere



Chestnut Tree at village Pond in May 2020

Over the past seven months we have all experienced a different way of life but one of the things most of us have been able to hold on to, is being able to enjoy the outdoors.

In Rushmere, we are fortunate to have open spaces such as Rushmere Common, play areas, footpaths and bridleways, allotments and ponds almost on our doorstep.

Over the past few months, I have walked most of the footpaths in the area and it is reassuring to reflect that a lot of these paths have been in existence for a very long time. It is even possible to walk from one side of the parish to the other with just one main road to cross. For instance from Tower Hall across the heath to Woodbridge Road and with some careful manoeuvring and use of the crossing at Beech Road Junction you could continue through to the Fynn Valley.

Some of the footpaths are bridleways, and one of my favourites is Playford Lane which starts as a road and then continues as a bridleway for pedestrians and horse riders and goes through to the Tuddenham Fountain. Alternatively you could take the route via Holly Lane which used to be known as Holly Hill and again turns into a bridleway with the most breathtaking view of the Fynn Valley as you emerge from the tunnel under the East Suffolk Railway Line.

There are so many variations for walks, and in 1981 Wilfred George published a series of local footpath maps covering rural areas including Rushmere and Nacton. His maps are annotated with some local names, such as Pope's Path leading from the allotments to the former Falcon Inn. It is refreshing to think that

allotment holders in days gone by, could, after two hours toil, walk across the field to the local pub to quench their thirst. He also names the footpath running parallel to Seven Cottages lane, adjacent to the Rugby Club pitch as the Maple Land Path, Lamberts Lane as Crooked Lane or Zig Zag Lane and the other footpath from the Chestnut Pond leading to Bealings as the Straight Path. As far as I am aware it is still possible to purchase his maps at selected outlets.

At the turn of the 19th/20th centuries there were walks around the boundary that had names with a lovely ring to them including the Trafalgar Lands, presumably in honour of Lord Nelson who had a house at Roundwood, where St John's school now stands, and the Lattice lands in the Lattice Barn area.

Beating the Bounds was a church tradition whereby the boundaries of the church parish were walked once a year, usually on Ascension Day or during Rogation Week, by parishioners to maintain the ecclesiastical parish boundaries. It was taken quite seriously with men and boys walking with sticks to beat the bounds and some being pushed through windows where a boundary line went through a property! There are vestry reports of these activities from St Helen's Church, Ipswich and an agreement reached in 1843 between St Helen's and St Andrew's over a disputed boundary.

From St Andrew's church there are two paths, one opposite the church leading to Playford Road, and Church Lane adjacent to the churchyard and joining Lamberts Lane or Seven Cottages Lane. In years gone by most of the congregation would either have walked to church for Sunday services and weddings or travelled by pony and trap.

On the other side of the Parish is a way marked footpath called the Jubilee Walk which encompasses the two nature

reserves Mill Stream and Sandlings. <http://rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net/information/local-nature-reserves/jubilee-walk/>

Rushmere Heath is also one of two starting points for the Sandlings Long Distance Path, a 60 mile long distance path between Ipswich and Southwold, as well as a circular route around Rushmere Heath and Purdis Farm. www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/visiting/visitor-guides/walk-guides/

I hope you feel inspired to seek out some of the local paths, if you have not already done so. In the next issue I hope to include an article on local Sports fields and Rushmere Common.

Ruth Silburn



Footpath to St Andrew's Church

Please contact Ruth with any Rushmere St Andrew local history information you have.

Ruth Silburn, Local History Recorder
Email: rsilburn@hotmail.com

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Nature Notes

What has six legs, one pair of wings and can inflict a nasty “bite”? Or, “Which animal is responsible for the death of approximately 750,000 humans per year?” Either way it’s the MOSQUITO which must own up to this dreadful reputation. A tiny INSECT carrying a powerful punch!

In more detail, it’s the female of the species whose “bite” is caused by puncturing the skin of its “victim” with a proboscis in order to locate a blood vessel. At the same time she injects saliva to stop the blood clotting and the blood drawn up helps the eggs of the parasite she is carrying to develop. In the case of the ANOPHELES MOSQUITO the exchange of saliva and blood is the interchange of the MALARIA parasite. Having bitten a previous victim carrying the disease, the next bite then “poisons” the next, and so on.

In the UK there are around 30 species of mosquito. Fortunately, they do not carry malaria. Of course, mosquitos are just one small part of the INSECT KINGDOM which consists of more than 25,000 species. A truly staggering number, of which most of us only ever

encounter a small fraction. We also tend to have a “love/hate” relationship with insects. From the beauty of our butterflies and moths to the annoyance and even fear of flies and wasps.

Whilst butterflies add a lovely touch of colour to our summers many of us receive a painful reminder as to how wasps protect their territory (as I know only too well!) “Just what is the point of wasps?” is a question often asked. In simple terms they are an essential part of nature’s clean up brigade.

We usually see these striped “pests” doing their best to drink your squash or beer in order to wash down the jam from the sandwich they’ve just licked. Actually, if you study wasps carefully you may well see them tucking into a slice of ham, chewing off a piece and flying off with it. Their form of fetching the groceries for their brood! The real purpose of wasps is to clear up the decaying bodies of other animals to keep the environment tidy.

I chose to write these nature notes about insects because they’ve had such a significant effect on us this year. In our

small patch we’ve encountered several species of bees, butterflies, dragon flies and damsel flies but the biggest impact on our garden has been the destruction of our fruit crops.

We managed to save a crop of pears from an invasion of caterpillars; we completely failed to spot the cause which wiped out the fruit on the plum tree and there was me thinking “those apples are looking good”. Not a bit of it every piece of fruit had been surreptitiously attacked by one sort of grub or another! “Oh! Well!, at least the hedgehogs had plenty of windfalls to eat! Is there a moral to this? I am passionate about preserving wildlife and encouraging the bees and other insects to pollinate our trees and hedges.

Perhaps we’re just going to have to learn to live with the idea that the fruit in our garden is destined for anything else bar humans!!

If you have any nature notes or photographs you would like to share please email them to: sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk



Some insects above seen in the garden this summer. Can you identify them? (Answers below)

WHEN YOU NEED HELP You Need a Good Neighbour

Rushmere Good Neighbour Scheme is a **FREE** service that can provide DBS checked volunteers from our local community to help you with small jobs.

- Shopping ■ Collecting Prescriptions
- Driving you to Appointments ■ Dog Walking
- Basic DIY ■ Light Gardening ■ Befriending

RUSHMERE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

Call for a chat **07833 194477**
E: rushmeregoodneighbour@gmail.com

The Rushmere Good Neighbour Scheme covers residents in Rushmere Estate, Rushmere St Andrew, Broke Hall and Bixley Farm
www.rushmeregoodneighbour.webs.com **Love Rushmere**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you love Rushmere and have a desire to help it's residents?
Would you be willing to help local residents with small jobs or befriending a resident who is feeling lonely?
If so we want to hear from you
Call for a chat: **07833 194477**
E: rushmeregoodneighbour@gmail.com

MESSAGE CASCADERS

FACE COVERINGS

Help stop the spread of COVID-19

Don't wear below the chin

Don't pull below the nose

Don't hang off one ear

Cover mouth and nose with no gaps between face and mask

Become a Covid-19 message cascader
www.suffolk.gov.uk/message-cascaders

ANSWERS: 1. Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly 2. Pale Tussock Moth - Caterpillar 3. Common Field Grasshopper 4. Red-Veined Darter Dragonfly 5. Sun Fly

**Your Opinion is Important
Please Complete the Questionnaire by 3 January 2021**

**Household Questionnaire:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/F58PQJ/>**

**Youth Questionnaire:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/A164AZ/>
Look out for the competition (with prizes) in the Youth Questionnaire**

**Visit the Parish Council Website for details
www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net**

Rushmere St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan - Have Your Say!

We hope that you have heard that a group of residents, alongside members of the Parish Council are drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish

From late November to 3rd January there is an opportunity for residents to help the team decide what should be in our Neighbourhood Plan. To do this, please complete the survey. See below for details as to how to complete the survey. It should not take too long to complete..... how about making a cup of tea and whilst you are enjoying your cuppa complete the survey?

East Suffolk Council has recently adopted the District Plan, also referred to as the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. We would very much like to provide local detail to this adopted district plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan is intended to highlight the unique qualities in our parish. It will be used to help preserve and enhance the environment and to guide future development in the Parish.

Once "made" (i.e. completed), the Rushmere St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan becomes a legal document which will be reviewed from time to time and remain valid for the next 15 years or so. Planning applications made in Rushmere St Andrew will then have to be determined in accordance with both the Local and Neighbourhood Plans.

It is also about protecting what we like about the community we live in and to look at how the parish should evolve and

improve, so please use the opportunity to tell us what is important to you. The survey is an invitation to have your say on important issues such as future housing needs, the landscape, environment and parish amenities, roads and transport.

There is a householder questionnaire and a youth questionnaire. Please answer either as a household or as individuals if you wish. The youth questionnaire is for anyone in your household who is under 18.

It is intended that the survey will mainly be completed online by visiting:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/F58PQJ/> for the householder questionnaire and
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/A164AZ/> for the youth questionnaire (under 18s).

If you do prefer, a paper copy is available by contacting the Parish Office. Please email: pc@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk or phone the Parish Office on 01473 711509. If there is anything you're not sure about when completing the survey please call the Parish Office. Please be aware that the Parish Office staff work part-time so responses may take a day or so.

We ask that all responses and contacts

regarding this questionnaire should be done remotely without the need to visit the Parish Office.

If you have chosen to complete a paper copy of the questionnaire this should be posted to the following address: Clerk to the Parish, Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council Office, Tower Hall, 5 Broadlands Way, Rushmere St Andrew, IP4 5SU. There is a post box on the outside of the building at Tower Hall.

If anyone in your household has tested positive for Coronavirus or has been required to self-isolate, please do not post paper returns. Should you feel it's vital that your voice is heard please telephone the office for advice.

If you would like to find out more about the neighbourhood planning process, you can access more information at: www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net/neighbourhood-plan/. Alternatively, you can contact the Parish Office.

Neighbourhood Plan Working Party



Bixley Farm Church



Bixley Farm Church is the third congregation within the Mission Ipswich East (MIE) group, alongside those of St Johns, Cauldwell Hall Rd and St Andrews, Britannia Rd.

Until lockdown in March this year we had been meeting every Sunday afternoon 4-5pm at Tower Hall. Over 40 people were meeting regularly for worship and fellowship. Little Lambs our parent and toddler group had been meeting every Friday morning in term time at Tower Hall. After that we met online, holding family quizzes, prayer meetings and Bible studies.

Since September, many of us have been attending the Sunday morning services at St Johns and St Andrews. We have also been meeting At Tower Hall for a time of prayer from 4pm to 4.45pm Anyone wishing to join us should contact the MIE office using the details below as the situation is constantly changing.

The church also runs two homegroups in the Bixley Farm area where people meet to study the Bible and share supportive fellowship. These have continued to meet successfully on line during the year.

Over the summer two from our church have raised over £4000 for AgeUK by performing a sponsored musical item online. The church is also helping a local family raise funds for their disabled child by holding a series of events, including a family quiz later this month.

We will be posting a Christmas card to every house in Bixley Farm with details of what Christmas celebrations will be taking place online and in the community. We are also praying for all on Bixley Farm estate and more specifically for a different area each month.

All our events are open to anyone to join and are publicised via our monthly article in the Kesgrave and Rushmere edition of InTouch magazine as well as flyers in the local information boxes around the Parish. We also post cards in homes to advertise major events and use the internet to promote our activities.

For further information/questions go to: www.mie.org/bixley Email: office@mie.org.uk Tel: 01473 270978

Rushmere Baptist Church



Welcome to Rushmere Baptist Church

We are a lively active church for people of all ages, and everyone is very welcome to our Sunday services and midweek activities and groups. Perhaps you already come to a group for senior citizens or an activity for children or young people. We are situated on The Street, Rushmere St Andrew, on the corner of Playford lane near Chestnut pond.

Together with other centres in the community we had to close our building in March because of Covid19, but the

church did not close down.

We are meeting on Zoom every Sunday morning for a service together at 10.45am. You are invited and the joining details are on the home page of our website www.rushmerebaptist.org.

Midweek we have a Zoom session for young children and their parents or carers, and evening Zoom meet ups for young people with our youth worker. If you would like to find out more or join a group please phone the church on 01473 721455 and someone will phone you back. You can also contact us by email through the website, and lots more information can be found on our Facebook page.

We are planning for opening our building in line with Covid19 restrictions when possible but we are not able to welcome people into the building as yet.

However on Saturday October 3 we held a collection of food for the food bank run by the charity, FIND. People from both the church and the local community brought a large amount of assorted foods which are now helping people in need. Bags and boxes were collected in the entrance to the church in spite of the rain, and it was great to see everyone! Thank you very much if you were there.

We are looking at how to make the church more eco-friendly. If you are involved in activities to improve the local environment we would love to hear about what you are doing, by phone or email.

We will definitely be celebrating Christmas but it isn't possible as yet to give you details of what will be possible. Whatever happens you are very welcome to join us. **God Bless.**

Christmas Trail

At Rushmere Baptist Church we are hoping, Covid permitting, to hold a Christmas Trail which everyone can join in with. Hiding around the village will be characters from the Christmas story and the challenge is to find all the characters.

We would also like to offer the opportunity to celebrate Christmas with a Christingle. A Christingle is often made during Christmas celebrations, we can't make these together this year but a DIY Christingle kit will be available to collect from the church with instructions available on the Rushmere Baptist Church Facebook page.



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PCSO Report



Whilst patrolling the area, I have been able to engage with the local community about any issues they may be having. One concern that has been raised is speeding, specifically on Playford Road and Foxhall Road. As a result of this, myself and other members of the local SNT have been engaging in speed enforcement

checks which have resulted in motorists being stopped and given word of advice with some fixed penalty notices being issued. Our presence has been well received by local residents who have been having issues with vehicles driving at speeds in excess of 30mph. Additional speed reduction techniques are also being identified and put in place by the Parish Council in order to further impose these speed limits.

I recently attended Broke Hall Primary School who were happy to report that the previous issues with parking at peak times appear to have reduced. One related concern that has been reported is the proximity that some vehicles are parking to junctions. The Highway Code states that you should park at least 10 metres (32 feet) from a junction in order to give drivers a clear view of the road and the ability to identify any hazards around the junction. I will be monitoring this on my patrols, so please continue to be courteous to the residents and other road users when parking in this area.

In the recent months, we have received increased reports of motor vehicle crime in the East of Ipswich. Whilst these have not occurred in the Rushmere St. Andrew area, I feel it is important to distribute the relevant advice as a method of prevention. The local SNTs have been increasing patrols to provide reassurance and advice to residents. We are encouraging people to ensure that vehicles and car keys are kept secure and to avoid leaving your possessions in the vehicle – anything from small change to sat navs may make your vehicle more of a target. More information can be found at: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/roads-and-vehicles/car-security>

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Eleanor Miles

Police Community Support Officer 3357

Partnership Funded PCSO for Kesgrave and Rushmere St. Andrew

Suffolk Constabulary

Tel. (Non-Emergency): 101

Email: eleanor.miles@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.suffolk.police.uk

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>

In an emergency or if a crime is in progress, please call 999. If you have any non-urgent concerns that you wish to report, please to report this via 101 or through the online reporting tool: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something>



Bus Timetable Changes

The Covid-19 epidemic led to significant reduction in bus service provision. Whilst most services continued, massively reduced passenger demand led to services running at a very reduced frequency. The time is probably right to give a synopsis of service provision at the time of writing.

In the south of the Parish, the Bixley Farm area is served by Ipswich Buses "Bixley Buster" service 4. This runs half-hourly during weekday daytime hours with a very limited provision earlier & later. On Sundays & Bank Holidays, the service is sponsored by Ipswich Borough Council and runs hourly during daytime hours, the tendered contract having changed hands from First at the start of October. The area is also served by First's "Ipswich Reds" limited Monday to Friday business worker aimed service 67 running to/ from Martlesham Adastral Park via Foxhall Road – mornings eastbound, evenings westbound.

The centre of the Parish is well-served by First's "Ipswich Reds" services 63/64/65/66 from early morning to late evening, 7 days a week, with up to 5 buses per hour crossing the Common during the day. The 63/64/65 services head straight along Woodbridge Road to Woodbridge & further on, whereas the 66 runs via Beech Road & onwards to Martlesham.

The Village area has had a very minimalistic service only running 3 days a week. The big news is that First have been contracted, via Suffolk County Council tendering process, to run a "Village Links" service 59 from Monday to Saturday from September onwards. This runs during the morning & early afternoon, roughly hourly. Most traverse the village via a Humber Doucy Lane / Playford Road / The Street loop although a couple heading to / from Little Bealings only traverse The Street.

www.firstgroup.com/norfolk-suffolk
www.ipswichbuses.co.uk/
www.suffolkonboard.com/buses

Councillor Phil Richings

Be Part of Neighbourhood Watch



Want to build safer, stronger and more active communities in which people can thrive? **JOIN US**

Joining Neighbourhood Watch does not have to be onerous. During

lockdown earlier this year we all took care to look out for our neighbours and this is just what Neighbourhood Watch is all about.

Many of us are still working from home whilst more of us are back at the coalface so to speak. Many more have the worry of possible redundancy.

This is a time to pull together through all the mental health strife, frustrations and restrictions. Getting to know those around you can help. Keeping an eye out for each other and property is one way of defeating the thieves. Recently there have been several warnings re burglaries from homes

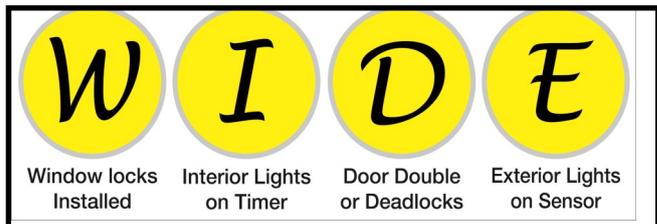
and cars. With the increase in vans and car about for online deliveries it is easier for potential thieves to go undetected. People have been spotted riding bicycles up and down roads in our area trying all cars en route to see if they can gain entry. The Police have been warning for some time that unlocked and even locked cars with valuables on display are a magnet for thieves. Don't leave anything to chance. Even a few minutes away from your vehicle is enough for an opportune theft.

The best and easiest way to protect your home from burglary is to follow the WIDE security combination.

Properties with the WIDE security combination Window locks, Indoor lights on a timer, Door double or deadlocks and External lights on a timer or sensor - are nearly

50 times more protected from burglary than those with no security. And for those of you already in a Neighbourhood Watch area don't forget to tell your house insurer so that you can take advantage of any reduction they may offer.

If you would like your street to join in our local group in Rushmere St Andrew just contact



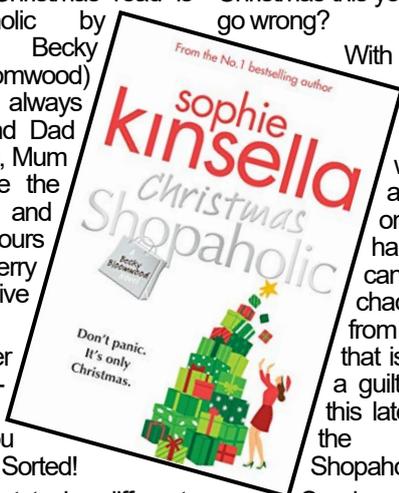
our secretary Gavin Pond at email: neighbourhoodwatchip4@gmail.com.
 Website: <http://www.nwip4.btck.co.uk>
 Facebook @NeighbourhoodwatchIP4.

Rushmere Readers

Our choice for the Christmas read is *Christmas Shopaholic* by Sophie Kinsella. Becky Brandon (nee Bloomwood) adores Christmas. It's always the same - Mum and Dad hosting, carols playing, Mum pretending she made the Christmas pudding, and the next-door neighbours coming round for sherry in their terrible festive jumpers.

Now it's even easier with online bargain-shopping sites - if you spend enough you even get free delivery. Sorted!

But this year looks set to be different. Unable to resist the draw of craft beer and smashed avocado, Becky's parents are moving to ultra-trendy Shoreditch and have asked Becky if she'll host



Christmas this year. What could possibly go wrong?

With sister Jess demanding a vegan turkey, husband Luke determined that he just wants aftershave again, and little Minnie insisting on a very specific picnic hamper - surely Becky can manage all this or will chaos ensue? A break from the Covid Christmas that is 2020 treat yourself to a guilty pleasure by reading this latest outing for Becky in the extremely popular Shopaholic series.

Send us your thoughts on this book, and we will publish them in the next newsletter.

Email: sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Readers' Reviews

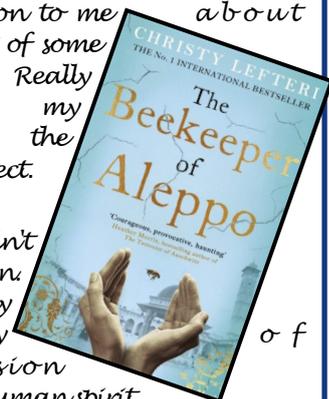
A hard read but well worth it.

C Jenkins

A revelation to me about the plight of some refugees. Really changed my view on the whole subject.

S Smythe

I couldn't put it down. It really was a story of compassion and the human spirit.



M Pease

The characters are beautifully written. Really empathised with them. **M. Keeble**

Keeping Christmas Merry

Well what an incredible year this has been, and it will be imprinted into our memories for many years to come! I often wonder what future generations will say when they look back at what we did in 2020 – the year Covid kept us at home.

I am trying to stay positive about Christmas this year. The changes in society will force us to not have to worry about the pressure of Christmas meals and outings, and instead allow us to spend quality time at home with the children. I am looking forward to baking and crafts at home (however stressful the mess may be!) We can soak up all the happiness from the decorations and make it a year we will never forget for the right reasons. I will be taking a trip to the well-known hobby shop in Martlesham ahead of the holidays, they sell fantastic craft kits for children including bauble decorating, stickers and painting. Last year I made some peppermint bark which was so easy to do and bag up as gifts for school friends, there are lots of recipes online (just go for the simplest one!)

I think it is important for us to remember those who will find the isolation at Christmas a real struggle, whether it is someone living alone or a single parent. I hope they still manage to find the happiness of Christmas and can move into the New Year with better hope of life returning to normal.

I will raise a glass to the community of Rushmere St Andrew this Christmas, keep safe and well – here's to a Very Merry Christmas. **Libby Griggs**

Time to Take up a New Hobby!



Learning Ukulele during lockdown



Since the lockdown lots of people have been learning new instruments, one of the most popular has been the ukulele. It is easy to play and have fun with, and inexpensive to buy. You can strum songs with just a little application but it can be technical and challenging. You can play any type of music on it from pop through to classical, and it suits all ages from young to old.

You can learn in groups or individually in various ways, as a ukulele teacher I do groups in village halls with Covid risk assessments in place and individually online using Skype or Zoom. Lots of people who thought they couldn't play music have found through the ukulele they can, get strumming now. Please feel free to email me if you need guidance on taking up the ukulele timlamming55@gmail.com

Tim Lamming

One man who did get strumming

3 years ago my daughter started to play the ukulele at primary school, I have always been interested in music but have never played an instrument. My daughter patiently gave me instructions in strumming and some basic cords.

We were quickly able to play some songs together and had great fun. My daughter quickly moved on to Karate but I decided to stay with the ukulele.

The best move was joining a class, together with like minded people and a very patient tutor my enjoyment of playing has grown.

In these troubled times playing a musical instrument is a great stress relief and a really positive way to spend an hour or 10 mins just getting away from it.

Whilst I will never be able to give up the day job, I can say that I have found a great hobby and made some good friends on the way. I would sincerely recommend it to anyone of any age.

Marc



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Your Rushmere

Christmas Colouring Competition



Don't forget Santa is a Key Worker. He is busy getting ready for Christmas Eve.

IT'S COMPETITION TIME! Colour in the above Santa. Pop your entry in the postbox at Tower Hall, 5 Broadlands Way, IP4 5SU. You will find it on the wall to the left of the doors. Please include your Name, Age and Contact Details. Alternatively you can email a photograph of your picture to sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk.

Closing Date: Friday 18th December 2020

AND THE PRIZE IS ...REMOKING Remote Control Robot for Kids, A STEM Smart Robot with LED Eyes, Dance and Sounds. The winner will be judged by members of the Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council.

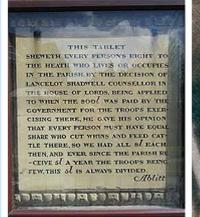
(No family or members directly related to members of the Parish Council may enter.)



Christmas Trail Quiz

Here's a fun quiz to get you out and about over Christmas.

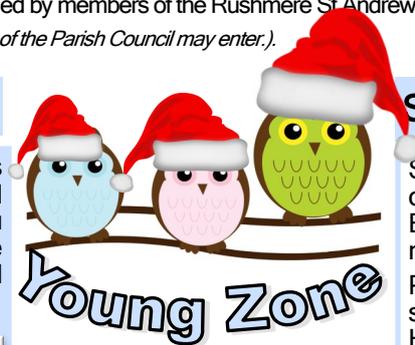
1. There are two picnic benches designed to include use for those in a wheelchair. Where are these located. (Clue: one is in the village and one in a play area).
2. This is the "Tablet" which gives everyone living in Rushmere the right to use Rushmere Heath as "Common Land". Which building is it on (In Rushmere Village)?
3. There are two ponds in Rushmere Village. Take care near the water. What are the names of the ponds?
4. Over to the "Tower" Ward now. What was the tall tower off Bixley Drive and behind Larkhill Rise used for and what is it used for today?
5. On Broke Hall Play area there is a very bright piece of play equipment designed to allow use by people in wheelchairs. What item is it?
6. Next to the One-Stop shopping area there is a short narrow section of road blocked off by bollards. According to the road signs, if it was open, which would be the only two types of vehicle allowed through?



Answers at the bottom of page 8

Competition Winner

Congratulations to Daniel Ramos Watts Age 8 for your colourful, cool bug garden picture. We hope you enjoyed your bug hunting kit. The judges loved it. We had a record number of entries so well done.



Spread Christmas Kindness

Spread Christmas Kindness and Cheer. Let others in Rushmere St Andrew know you care. Even if COVID means our community can't meet up as in previous years.

Paint a picture and or write a message on a stone and pop it somewhere in the parish (the Heath, Play Areas etc) for someone else to see and enjoy.

Keep your eyes peeled when you go for a walk this Christmas and see if you can find one of these very special stones. Thank you to everyone old and young for your incredible efforts this year and for showing that you care.

Have a Safe Christmas.

Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council



Christmas Jokes

Which of Santa's reindeer has the worst manners?
Rude-Olph!

Why was the snowman rummaging in a bag of carrots?
He was picking his nose!

Who hides in a bakery at Christmas? A mince spy!

What's red, white and blue?
A sad candy cane!