

Your Rushmere

Summer 2021 Newsletter

Inside this issue...

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

Articles on
Quiet Lanes, Litter Picking Champions, Dogs, Your New Councillor, Classic Summer Games & more..

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

Here's to a Safe and Happy Summer!



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These beautiful fairy folk have been spotted on The Common by one of our parish councillors. They have brought a smile to the faces of many people walking past.

If you would like to let us know who you are we can mention you in our Winter Edition, but if you would rather stay shhh! That's fine also.

Thank you for brightening our day.





Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council



Hello, I am sure that the pandemic has left a profound mark on many households in Rushmere St. Andrew whether that be a job loss, financial loss or even loss of life.

As we now seem to be entering an important stage of recovery, we can look back over the past year and take stock of what is really important in our lives.

I am sure many of us have witnessed great acts of kindness from neighbours or even strangers, we can now see what we are capable of when we work together for a common cause but also, we now know help is always just around the corner.

I would like to mention all of the Rushmere St. Andrew residents that have worked so tirelessly during such challenging times in whatever role you have played.

Let's hope that the summer is a good one for us all and many happy memories are made.

Chris Griggs - Chairman of the Newsletter & Website Advisory Panel

Rushmere St Andrew Parish Councillors & Officers

Parish Council Meetings

BEECH WARD

Mr C Griggs	65 The Street, IP5 1DE	07921 821 869
Ms C Evans	9 Blackdown Avenue, IP5 1AZ	01473 617 635

VILLAGE WARD

Miss A Cracknell	148 The Street, IP5 1DH	01473 719 746
Mrs B Richardson-Todd (Vice-Chair)	57 Playford Road, IP4 5RJ	07801 736 067
Mr R E Whiting	105 Playford Road, IP4 5RQ	07831 204 270

TOWER WARD

Vacancy

Mrs M Brown	15 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	01473 725 720
Mr K Driver	6 Butterfly Gardens, IP4 5TF	07748 488 206
Mr M Newton	11 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	07788 456 641
Mr D J Francis	14 Clovelly Close, IP4 5UF	01473 723 453
Mr R Nunn	c/o Parish Council Office	01473 711 509
Mr P M Richings (Chairman)	29 The Pastures, IP4 5UQ	01473 436 688
Mr B Ward	12 Playford Road, IP4 5RH	01473 622 272
Mr J Westrup	9 Holly Lane, IP5 1DN	01473 272 257
Mr J Wright	4 Bodiam Close, IP3 8QR	07494 447 391

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
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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

PCSO 3208 Gemma Read is our Partnership Funded PCSO and covers all 3 wards

Telephone 101 Email: Gemma.Read@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

Details of these meetings 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 attend a meeting as a member of the public please first advise the Parish Clerk. Due to COVID-19 restrictions face to face meetings are subject to the Parish Council Protocols Policy available on the Council website.

Full Parish Council -Village Hall

Thursday 8 July, 7.30pm
 Thursday 9 September, 7.30pm
 Thursday 11 November, 7.30pm

General Purposes and Finance Committee -Tower Hall

Thursday 12 August, 7.30pm
 Thursday 14 October, 7.30pm
 Thursday 9 December, 7.30pm

Parish Amenities and Services Committee - Tower Hall

Thursday 15 July, 7.30pm
 Thursday 16 September, 7.30pm
 Thursday 18 November, 7.30pm

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 is open but please first book an appointment.

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

Meet New Councillor, Kev Driver



"Don't moan, do something about it" Is a mantra I've lived my life by. So when I left my full time job, I decided to try to use my skills to aid the community. Especially having met people that moan, groan and are generally negative about the area we live in. Some people seem to be out for themselves and don't care about the inconvenience to others.

Rather than moan about parking, rat runs, speeding, cutting hedges/trees and dumping of waste on shared areas and many other things that affect the lives of many due to the lack of consideration of a few. I decided I wanted to be part of the solution.

I have proudly lived in and around Rushmere for most of my life using the heath and common virtually everyday. My children grew up in the area and continually visit now they are embarking on their adult lives. I want to see the wonderful area we live in prosper and continue to be a place that people want to live and be part of.

I joined the Rushmere Commoners Committee (RCC) before a vacancy arose on the Parish Council. The roles are different but complementary. With the RCC being a charity looking at how to best manage the common for the good of the commoners, alongside the Rushmere Golf Club and the Parish Council having a wider remit.

Even with experience in business and multi-million pound projects, I'm learning how to get things done and why certain decisions are made. Whilst my opinion counts it's great to hear from the different perspectives and very experienced members of the parish, District and County Councils.

Councillor Kev Driver

News from the Allotments



For us allotment holders May/June should be the most rewarding and also the busiest time of year. Most seeds have now been planted and are making an appearance along with the weeds which seem to grow even faster.

It's been a very wet spring which is not a huge problem but lack of warmth has not helped with germination. My parsnips for example have failed to appear and will have to be replanted. I always aim to have new potatoes and broad beans ready to harvest during the first week of June and it seems that I'm on course for that fantastic dish.

Welcome to our new allotment holders who have joined this year. We hope you enjoy working on your plots and experience good harvests. All our 50 allotment plots are taken with a rather large waiting list but if you are interested in becoming an allotment holder please put your name down via the Parish Council Office as things can change particularly in the autumn.

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



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Remembering Tom Tyler (July 1939-December 2020)



Tom and his wife, Tricia, retired to Rushmere St Andrew in 1992 and soon became very much part of the

church family at St Andrew's church.

Tom got involved in the community in various ways and started giving talks to groups on a wide range of subjects, which started with 'The History of Jigsaws' as he was writing a book on the subject.

Tom loved to entertain and he spoke to groups all over Suffolk and sometimes further afield; he used to say that there were not many groups that he had not "lulled to sleep" at some point.

Like many of his generation, Tom was resilient to the various challenges life threw his way, which included a long running health battle. In 2004 he was first diagnosed with Non Hodgkins Lymphoma and spent most of that year

being diagnosed and treated. The John Le Vay centre at the hospital, to give support and help to cancer patients, was built that year and as soon as he was well enough he started to work as a volunteer there and this role grew as the centre developed. As well as volunteering in the centre, he became involved in patient support groups and helped to start the 'Moving on' groups which became the 'Hope courses' for people who had completed their treatment. This involvement was typical of Tom, which he carried on until his final relapse came last year.

Within the parish, Tom also organised the very successful 50th anniversary church extension exhibition in 2018, and to coincide with it he also produced his 'History of Rushmere St Andrew' book. Tom was a prolific author and in his final months researched and published 'Slavery and Freedom'.

Although I knew Tom and Tricia over a number of years, it was only in his last two that I was fortunate to really get to know him. In that time, I found Tom a kind, caring and hugely interesting man for whom his wife and family were

central. History was a passion of Tom's and it seemed to me that he liked nothing better than an attentive audience.

When volunteers were sought in the parish to be part of a group to develop the Neighbourhood Plan, Tom was one of the first to volunteer and I remember with great fondness our first meeting (pre-Covid-19 restrictions) when he entertained us with his knowledge of Rushmere St Andrew.

Very shortly before he passed away, Tricia invited me to have afternoon tea with them. Even in those last days, the skills of the raconteur were as sharp as ever and we discussed Rushmere St Andrew, past, present and future. On that very day, I had received the printer's proof of Ruth Silburn's book on 'The History of Rushmere 1900 - 1920' and I was pleased that Tom had the opportunity to look through it and give it his seal of approval. As always, Tom was supportive and encouraging in his usual unassuming way, attributes which he naturally and freely shared with so many.

Councillor Robert Whiting

Walking your Dog



We are incredibly lucky to have so many lovely places to walk in this area - as a dog walker, I like to visit different places so the dogs don't get bored. Here is a brief guide to some lovely local walks and some helpful hints to make your walks safe and enjoyable.

Rushmere common is a great place to walk as it offers a mix of both heath and woodland. You do need to be careful as it is also hosts a popular golf course - so take extra care not to walk in front of players teeing off, and to also avoid letting your dog run off with the golf balls!

At the Heath Road entrance there is a wooden box containing maps of the golf course to help identify the direction of play. Three of the holes are on private land and are clearly marked as such. These should be avoided. Also beware of the pond! Non running water should be avoided in the summer as it can contain blue-green algae, which is toxic to dogs.
<http://rushmerecommonerstrustees.onesuffolk.net>

Foxhall stadium is another good place with a big open field with woodland paths surrounding it. Great for energetic dogs that like chasing balls.

Long Strops is an open space running between Bell lane and Dobbs lane, with a large car park accessible from Millennium Way. There is a nice wood at the end, but dogs should be kept on lead on the main field.

Portal woods is situated between Martlesham Heath and the police headquarters - with access from behind the Martlesham Control Tower Museum. This is beautiful shady woodland, and great place to visit on sunny days.

Also check out - Purdis Heath (Bucklesham Road), Martlesham airfield (off Dobbs lane) and Bixley Heath nature reserve. Google for details.

It's also worth remembering that dogs, just like people, can suffer anxieties. Coloured leads, bandanas, coats or collars can be used to signify this - this is what they can mean.

Yellow: Give this dog space, it could be anxious/nervous/recovering from surgery.

Green: This dog is friendly with people and other dogs.

Red: Beware of this dog - do not approach it or get too close.

Blue: Working dog (or dog in training) so do not distract it or its owner.

White: Has hearing or sight problems - so

they may not be able to see or hear you!

Orange: Friendly with people, but not with other dogs.

Purple: Do not feed this dog.

If you see a dog on a lead it is most likely for a good reason - keep an eye out for any of these indicators and be prepared to recall your dog to avoid any unnecessary stress.

It is also never a good idea to feed or touch other people's dogs without asking the owner or walkers permission first.

Take care when walking near farm animals. It's advised to keep your dog on a lead as it is an offence for a dog to worry livestock. Altercations could result in a fine or worse. Farmers are within their rights to protect their livestock.

Many walkers, runners and cyclists use the above locations and some can be scared or anxious around dogs - you may find this difficult if you're a dog lover. If someone asks you to keep your dog away this should always be respected.

Hope this helps you to enjoy the space we are so lucky to have within the local area.

Take myLead

Tina Skinner

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

Green Spaces



Ransomes Memorial Gates

Sports grounds seem to proliferate around Rushmere St Andrew and that means we are still able to have lots of green belt to provide open spaces for fresh air. After the Second World War major employers in Ipswich looked for grounds on the fringes of the town, to provide recreational facilities for their employees, some of whom worked in an industrial setting.

The parcel of land between Humber Doucy Lane and Bent Lane, which had been farmland and the majority of it being part of Limes Farm, became home to a number of sports grounds.

Fisons (fertiliser manufacturer) established their sports and social club off land accessed from Bent Lane but always referred to it's address as Playford Road. Botwoods (motor engineers), later becoming Mann Egerton had it's ground, off the Street and was accessed from the entrance to where Eaton Place is now located. Cranes was based on Playford Road and this is now the centre of the Ipswich Town Football Academy.

Many of these companies had thriving teams and after work activities, and the Fison's and Cranes sports and social clubs in particular offered comprehensive facilities with each having football and hockey pitches, cricket squares, tennis courts and bowls greens as well as a huge array of indoor facilities including table tennis and darts teams. Most of these companies had a licenced bar on their premises which were hugely popular in those days especially before the dangers of drinking and driving were considered.

In 1957, Ipswich Rugby Football Club purchased 11 acres of ground at their current home on Humber Doucy Lane which was farmland. The pitches weren't ready to play on until 1959 as the ground had to be prepared and seeded.

Not much is known about these very early years but we do know that the Ipswich Association Football Club was formed in 1878 by a group of Ipswich School alumni, and is reputed to be one of the 4 oldest "open" rugby clubs in the world.

In 1888 the football club merged with Ipswich Rugby club to become Ipswich Town FC and took up residence at Portman Road, which had been the rugby club's ground and is now the home of the football club.

Ipswich Rugby Club stopped playing during the 1st and 2nd world wars and it was after 2nd world war in 1946 that Ipswich RFC played at a ground called Bourne End and shared the grounds with Ipswich YMCA rugby. They even had to alternate their playing weekends as there was only one 1st team pitch.

The junior section started in the late 1970's and now has 11 age groups from U6-18 plus 2 girls' teams. A women's team is also based at Humber Doucy Lane to add to their 3 senior men's teams.

Notable past internationals include Martin Offiah (GB Rugby League legend), Mark Bailey (England), Derek Wyatt (England), Keith Wilkinson (Canada).

I understand that the current clubhouse was originally part of Colchester Army Barracks and measured about 60ft x 20ft and a little known fact is that the original maplewood floor which formed part of the living quarters of the barracks is still underneath the floor now!

Ipswich YM Rugby Union Football Club moved to the Street in the 1980s from Bourne End, to grounds previously used by Ransome Rapier, an old established engineering firm in Ipswich.

A later addition was Willis Faber and Dumas (now Willis Tower) who had a sports club and field in the Street, which was subsequently transferred to Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council and is now leased to the Ipswich School.

Ipswich Wanderers Football Club is located in Humber Doucy Lane and occupies land that was previously used by William Brown (Timber Importers) for

their sports and social club.

Ransomes Sims and Jefferies have a sports ground in Sidegate Avenue, Ipswich, complete with a set of memorial gates commemorating employees killed during World War Two, including one of our Rushmere men.

Rushmere Heath Common and the Golf Club, which uses part of the common, established in 1895 provides an important recreational area for all ages.

And of course there are the parish allotments, close to the Chestnut Pond, which have been in existence for over 100 years, not always in the same location but ever present in the village!

I would like to thank Ipswich Rugby Club and Robert Whiting for additional information.

Contact Ruth Silbum, Local History Recorder with any Rushmere St Andrew local history information

Email: rsilbum@hotmail.com

Rushmere St Andrew during the Great War: a history of the village from 1900-1920 by Ruth Silbum

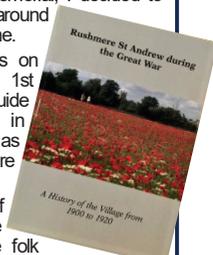
"Having researched all the names on the First World War memorial, I decided to look at life in and around the village at that time.

There are chapters on the church, school, 1st Rushmere Guide Company, formed in 1919 as well as farming, agriculture and shops.

The second half of the book details the lives of Rushmere folk who died and survived during WW1 whilst serving our country."

It is fully illustrated with black and white and colour photographs

The book costs £8, if collected locally. Contact Ruth at rsilbum@hotmail.com or telephone 01473 711872.



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Nature Notes

As part of my work as a parish councillor I am a member of the Rewilding Group which is an offshoot of the local Community Partnership. Supported by East Suffolk Council, the Community Partnership stretches across this part of Suffolk from the Fynn Valley through Rushmere St Andrew and on into Martlesham.



"Rewilding" is an interesting concept. It is perceived differently by various environmentalists and there's likely to be a range of rewilding schemes based on local landscape, soil types etc.

In some cases, local councils are reducing or stopping the cutting of grass verges. Whilst this might be called "rewilding", if we are looking to provide enhanced habitat for pollinating insects then it does need a bit more careful planning rather than just keeping the mower off the verge.

I am encouraged to hear of several schemes in the area. There's a great scheme at Westerfield Station and several schemes in and around Martlesham and Felixstowe. When we asked you about Rushmere St Andrew there was a significant response in favour of preserving and enhancing our local environment.

We have in mind planting a substantial hedgerow which will truly "rewild" one location. At our Broke Hall Playing Field there's a long fence which separates the playing field from one of our neighbours. The plan is to develop a substantial hedgerow along the length of the fence. Before we do that, we will be installing an inner fence to create a protected growing zone.

Our contractor is planning to do that in November and we're hoping to do the first planting from December onwards so that the young plants have the best possible start.

We've also identified several areas of grass verges which we believe will benefit from being seeded with wildflower mix. Then there's the idea of a community woodland venture. This is

in an area still subject to negotiation so, once again, watch this space. For safety reasons we've had to remove four or five trees on parish council land over the past year or so. Plans are in place to replant at these locations with a number of more mature trees.

Further work envisaged by the rewilding group is to map "green corridors". In some communities, people have looked at their responsibility to offer support to wildlife. It only takes a few square metres of planting; it might be you could manage a few pots with flowers or shrubs, but the challenge is to join long rows of front and back gardens into an interconnecting green "highway" for birds and insects.

It would be great to know your thoughts on "rewilding" in Rushmere St Andrew particularly if you would like to join in on any rewilding projects.

Councillor James Wright (Parish Tree and Pond Warden)

Strange Weather!

2021 is shaping up to be one of the strangest years on record as far as weather is concerned. The cold and snowy spell earlier in the year was matched by even colder weather on the European Mainland. Significant flocks of birds migrated to the UK for food.

There were reports of large numbers of Blackbirds. Our resident blackbirds, which are normally very territorial, had to share their feeding grounds with dozens of visitors on their patch! A real treat for birdwatchers happened when flocks of Redwing and Fieldfare came through raiding the berries off Rowan Trees and taking Crab Apples and Rose Hips.

Then came April – now logged as one of the coldest and driest on record. Night after night of ground frosts and rainfall just 5% of normal averages. Would May be any better? Sadly not..... in fact the weather pattern has been predominately a series of low-pressure systems discharging plenty of rain but so cold that central heating pumps have

been busy!

The effect of this long cold spring is of extreme concern. Migrating birds such as Swallows, House Martins and many of the Warbler family have not (at the time of writing this in the last few days of May) arrived to nest here in the UK. Of even greater concern is the lack of insects. Some might be pleased that insect "pests" have not appeared, but nature is very much interdependent.

The insects are food for many of the birds. Without good numbers of bees flying there's going to be less pollination. The fruit trees looked pretty with their blossom but it's not looking good in terms of fruit buds that have successfully set. Hedgerows are covered in Hawthorn flower. It's vital that these get pollinated to supply the berries for the winter food of so many creatures. I hope that in the winter newsletter I can report on a significantly improved picture for wildlife in the second half of 2021.

Councillor James Wright

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Please contact Councillor James Wright, our Tree Warden on 07494 447 391 if you require guidance on these matters.

Rushmere St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan

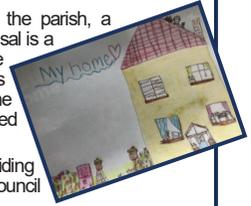
We are pleased to report that we have made very good progress with the development of a neighbourhood plan for the parish. The neighbourhood plan is a local planning document allowing residents to play an active part in planning for our parish.

At the end of last year and the beginning of this year residents had an opportunity to help the neighbourhood plan working group decide what should be in the Neighbourhood Plan. Thank you to all the residents that completed the questionnaires and surveys. One of the issues that residents identified in their responses was a demand for Retirement Homes / Sheltered Accommodation and for Starter Homes. More information on the key issues identified in your responses are available on our website at <http://rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net/neighbourhood-plan/>.

We have analysed the responses from the questionnaires and more recent survey about locally important buildings and open spaces and are drawing up a draft document that residents will be consulted on later in the summer/ autumn. Several events will be held locally to provide an overview of the content of the draft document and provide you with an opportunity to ask questions. We would encourage residents to comment on the draft document once it is available. It is your opportunity to have your say on the future of the parish.

To support the development of the neighbourhood plan two studies have been completed for the parish, a Landscape Appraisal and Design Codes have been developed for the parish. The Landscape Appraisal is a very comprehensive document and identifies special areas in the parish that we think should be protected and gaps that are important to the preservation of the character/identity of the parish. It looks at the unique character and qualities of the parish in order to make sound judgements as to the sensitivity and capacity of land to accommodate development. The Appraisal also assessed opportunities for landscape enhancement and green space.

The Design Codes sets out guidance for matters such as building scale, massing, etc. Aimed at providing guidance on how best to maintain the local character. The studies can be viewed on the parish council website by following the links mentioned earlier in this article.



Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMPETITION TIME

Turn to the back page for a chance to win some wonderful prizes by answering questions about the parish or for younger readers design a poster to keep Rushmere St Andrew Litter free!

Quiet Lanes



Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council together with Suffolk County Council are progressing with proposals to designate certain rural lanes in the parish as Quiet Lanes. This forms part of a county wide project and Suffolk County Council intends to designate four quiet lanes in the parish namely Tuddenham Lane, Playford Lane, Lamberts Lane and Seven Cottages Lane.

Quiet Lanes are a nationally recognised designation for narrow, rural roads which are shared by walkers, horse riders, cyclists and other road users. They encourage drivers to 'Expect and Respect' more vulnerable road users and so allow non-motorised users to enjoy rural lanes in greater safety.

Advisory signs are placed at the Quiet Lanes to show motorised users clearly that the road is a shared space.

This could be a real benefit to the parish and those who visit. The lanes being considered are already used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders and link with existing footpaths and bridleways in the village.

This project is being funded by the Suffolk County Council Suffolk 2020 Fund and the East Suffolk Community Partnerships and Greenprint Forum.

For more information about this project see the Quiet Lanes Suffolk website - www.quietlanesuffolk.co.uk

Initial public consultation on the proposals were completed in March by the Parish Council and responses received were generally very supportive of the proposals. Suffolk County Council published a formal notice to designate the lanes in May. Consultation on the proposals closed on 14 June.

Full details of the extent of the roads and reasons for the designations can be viewed online at www.QuietLanesSuffolk.co.uk

Litter Champions Needed

Do you care about our Environment and want to do something? We need you!

Volunteers Required to be Litter champions at Broke Hall Playing Field, Salehurst Road

The parish council is aware of the increase in litter over the last year and have installed additional litter bins. However, often the bins remain empty and litter is instead thrown on the ground. Broke Hall Playing Field has been a particular problem.

So, it is this area we are trialling a scheme in collaboration with Jason Alexander from Rubbish Walks <https://rubbishwalks.co.uk> to identify and engage volunteers to do regular litter picks.

Full training, support and equipment will be provided. Once we know how many residents are interested, we will arrange a meeting on site at Broke Hall Play Area.

If you would like to find out more before committing your time or wish to be involved, please email: sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk providing your address and contact details.

Must be over 18.



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.

After many months during which we have not been able to meet at Tower Hall, we have resumed our Sunday meetings with a short time of worship or prayer, while observing social distancing rules etc. Anyone wishing to attend has to notify the church office (see details below) so that numbers can be limited to 35 and we have been encouraged that we had 25 attend our third such gathering. Although we are not permitted to sing indoors we can listen to songs, read the Bible and pray together. If things continue to improve we hope to resume our normal services in September.

Many of our regular members have been attending the Sunday morning services at St Johns and St Andrews. Members have also been instrumental in the setting up and running of a weekly pop-up shop at St Johns Church. For a fixed amount of £2, visitors can fill a bag with groceries, with no referrals required. Anyone within the church parish, which includes Bixley Farm, can use the service and it has been much appreciated by many.

Although our toddler group Little Lambs and Homegroups haven't been able to meet in person, we have had many online events. MIE collectively have raised over £3000 for a local family by holding an online family quiz and an auction of promises. We also made and sold scones at our two sister churches to raise funds for this cause. Through our promotion of this cause, some local businesses have also come to the aid of this family and enabled them to start the required building work. We continue to pray for people on Bixley Farm Estate, with the focus on a different set of streets each month, and later this summer we hope to have a litter pick event.

All our events are still open to anyone to join and are publicised via our monthly article in the Kesgrave & Rushmere edition of In Touch magazine, and via the MIE website.

For further information/questions go to www.mie.org/bixley or email office@mie.org.uk or call 01473 270978.

Rushmere Baptist Church



Rushmere Baptist Church has been alive and active throughout the pandemic but we have been unable to use our building on The Street in Rushmere St Andrew. We hold a Sunday morning service on Zoom every week. You are very welcome to join us.

However with the lessening of Covid restrictions we are delighted to re-start some groups and activities mid week in the Church building. We are holding groups and activities for children and young people.

FFAF On Mondays at 6.15pm FFAF (Fun, Friends & Faith) club for

children in school years 2-6 meets during term time and places are available. Each evening has a mixture of crafts, games and Bible stories Contact Val Dufour on 01473 431757 or email: val@du4.org

'SPRING' is a group for young people in school years 7 and up and meets in the Church building on Mondays between 7.45-8.45pm. Email our youth worker josh.youth@rushmerebaptist.org.uk

Rushmere Ducklings, a group for pre schoolers meets on Friday mornings.

If you enjoy walking in the beautiful local countryside and meeting people you are invited to meet in the Baptist Church car park at 2pm on Saturdays. We go for a walk in groups of 6 for about an hour.

You need to book a place in advance for all the above activities. Please see our website for details:

www.rushmerebaptist.org.uk

Speedwatch

In the responses to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire there was a resounding call to take action to reduce the speed of vehicles travelling through the parish.

Lockdowns meant that the Speedwatch Team have been unable to operate but the speed detection gun has been recalibrated, and soon we'll be out.

Speedwatch sites include Rushmere Street (both ways), Bent Lane, Playford Road (both ways in the traffic calming area), Beech Road, Woodbridge Road (both ways by Rushmere Heath), Foxhall Road (both ways between the Golf Hotel and Broadlands Way and Arundel Way.

Playford Road and Foxhall Road have been highlighted as being of particular concern and the Police Speed Enforcement Team will visit those locations from time to time.

Councillor James Wright

Talking Bench

A new bench has been installed at the boundary of our car park, just on the corner of The Street and Playford Lane.

Called a "Talking Bench" and donated by the East Suffolk Community Partnership, the aim is to encourage people to begin new conversations with other people without the discomfort that talking to a stranger may have.

With the easing of restrictions and the



coming of Spring and Summer weather, our hope is that people will enjoy having a place to relax – perhaps especially after taking a walk in the lovely Fynn valley.

We were so pleased that Rushmere Baptist Church was invited to be a part of this community project and hope that it will add to the friendly atmosphere of Rushmere St Andrew.

We hope lots of you are able to enjoy this bench.

Rushmere Baptist Church

PCSO Report



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**

In recent months, concerns have been raised over the use of e-scooters in public places, such as pavements, cycle paths and public roads. E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles, so they can only be used on private land. Use of e-scooters in public places can result in a multitude of offences that can lead to a

range of penalties including fines, seizure of the vehicle and points on your license. Please ensure you are taking this into consideration if you are thinking of purchasing an e-scooter and ensure that if you own one, it is being used in the correct location. Further information can be found on the government website: www.gov.uk/government/publications/powerd-transporters/information-sheet-guidance-on-powered-transporters

With the improving weather conditions, there have been some reports of anti-social behaviour around the local area, including on Rushmere Heath and at Broke Hall Playing Field. Myself and my colleagues are aware of these issues and will be patrolling these areas at key times to engage with members of the public and dealing with any issues where necessary.

Over the last year, I have received reports of parking issues around Broke Hall Primary School, specifically relating to the zigzag lines in front of the school entrance. These lines must always be kept clear, meaning that you cannot stop on them, including to park and to stop to drop off/pick up passengers. Any contravention of this could lead to the receipt of a ticket.

I just want to stress the importance of reporting incidents through the relevant official channels. All incidents reported to our control room undergo a series of checks whereby we ensure each report is risk assessed and the appropriate resources are allocated to it. Any non-emergency reports should be reported via 101 or using the online reporting tool: www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something

As the current COVID-19 restrictions start to relax, I am looking forward to the time where community events can proceed. I will continue to patrol the local area so if you see me around, please do come and say 'Hello'; I am always happy to assist with any queries you may have.

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



ZOOM!



The 1st of June 2021 hopefully started a new era for the Parish Council – we actually held a face-to-face meeting in public for the first time since 12 March 2020 – is this the longest period with none on record? Like everything else in our lives, the Covid-19 pandemic had a major impact on the way we, as a parish council work. Initially, due to rules on people meeting in public and venues being forced to close, we were unable to hold our planned formal meetings – legally they have to be held in the public domain. However Emergency Government Legislation was enacted to permit council meetings to be held in a virtual mode. Like many other bodies, we decided that the hitherto virtually unknown 'Zoom' online platform would satisfy our needs – as a parish council we have to hold formal meetings in public so, not only was access needed for Councillors, it had to be available to members of the public – a potential bottomless total of attendees.

So how did things go for us? We didn't hit the news headlines like the well-publicised Handforth Parish Council meeting which went viral on the internet! Technology was alien to some of us & it led to some unusual events, not normally seen when we sit in a hall. To see the lips move, and hear nothing, led to some 'you're on mute' moments necessitating the chairman putting 'hands to ears' as a signal! Connectivity was sometimes an issue but then the whole world wanted to use the internet, seemingly at the same time. Who's got the best set of books in their bookcase became a train of thought? The assisting spouse pressing the requisite buttons and, of course, the sight of the cat wandering across the screen.....!

The bottom line was that we managed to keep things running as best we could during a very challenging and alien period. Thanks go to everybody who participated in the meetings and especially our two Officers, Sylvia & Sarah, who got us up-and-running initially and then set up & controlled the technical side of things from meeting to meeting – a lot of extra work was involved in this carrying out this unusual exercise. Over 30 public meetings were held virtually, and, adding other administrative and committee meetings, the total must be around 100 Zoom meetings to date.

The Emergency Legislation expired on the 7 May 2021 and with public meetings not being permitted until the 17 May 2021 some meetings were brought forwards. We still have Zoom in our armoury & will still use it, from time-to-time, for 'non-public' committee & administrative meetings.

But at least we are now back face-to-face. One meeting down, covid risk assessed, well-spaced out, sanitised, escorted to table one at a time. No mingling, one-by-one out of the hall at the end..... It all worked very well, thank goodness.

The day will come when things are back to normal – may it be soon!

Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillor Phil Richings

Caring for Rushmere St Andrew

Over the past few months, I've been involved in dealing with several cases relating to the care of our local environment. Rushmere St Andrew is outstanding in having large areas of green space, mixed woodland, heathland and countryside walks. Why would anyone want to spoil that?

Recently there's been a spate of incidents where people have decided it's OK to cut down trees or hedges then dump the waste somewhere other than their own garden!

So, let's clarify the position. It is NOT alright to dump cuttings from trees/hedges/shrubs/lawn mowing etc anywhere outside your property. Such behaviour is an illegal act of 'fly tipping'. Your green waste is yours to dispose of using the appropriate waste bins or the local recycling centre.

"I can trim trees that grow into my garden". Yes, but, and there is a significant "but"! Firstly, if the tree or hedge is not rooted within

your land you should seek permission from the owner before you start work. You are also responsible for any cuttings. It is simply not legal to cut something down and dump it over your garden fence! In short, if you create the waste, it is yours to dispose of legally.

We all know that during "lockdown" there was a large increase in dog ownership. Alongside that, hundreds of you living in the parish enjoyed the many countryside walks in our neighbourhood.

With dog ownership comes responsibility. Picking up waste from your dog and disposing of it legally is YOUR responsibility.

As a responsible, caring authority, Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council provides numerous dog poo bins throughout the area. There may be times when these bins are full. It is then an illegal act of fly-tipping to throw a bag of dog poo near to the bin or, worse still, hang it from a nearby tree branch.

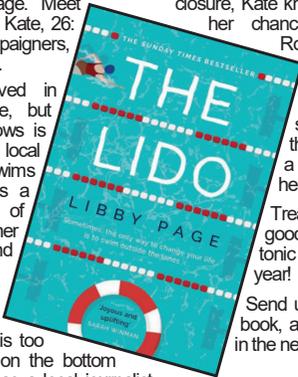
Councillor James Wright

Rushmere Readers

Our choice for the Summer read is 'The Lido' by Libby Page. Meet Rosemary, 86, and Kate, 26; dreamers, campaigners, outdoor swimmers...

Rosemary has lived in Brixton all her life, but everything she knows is changing. Only the local lido, where she swims every day, remains a constant reminder of the past and her beloved husband George.

Kate has just moved and feels adrift in a city that is too big for her. She's on the bottom rung of her career as a local journalist, and is determined to make something of it.



So when the lido is threatened with closure, Kate knows this story could be her chance to shine. But for Rosemary, it could be the end of everything. Together they are determined to make a stand, and to prove that the pool is more than just a place to swim - it is the heart of the community.

Treat yourself to this feel-good, uplifting read, just the tonic we all need after the last year!

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

Love these books, I've read all of them and this one didn't disappoint!

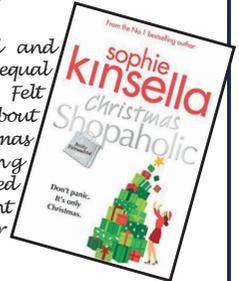
P Jenkins

I laughed and cried in equal measures. Felt better about my Christmas planning which ended up different this year with Covid.

K Walker

It was good but I don't think I was the target audience so it felt like a bit of a slog at points. But an easy quick read.

M Cooke



Classic Games for the Summer

SKIPPING

You can purchase a skipping rope for under £5 and skip to your heart's content practicing forwards, backwards and crossing over the ropes or you can get a longer rope and a couple of friends and sing jump rope rhymes.

Bumper Car Rhyme

Had a little bumper car, number 48, went around the corner. (*skipper jumps out and runs around the twirler and run back in the rope. Keep saying 'corner' until the skipper jumps back in*)
and slams on the brakes.

Policeman came and put me in jail.

How many days did he put me in jail?

1,2,3, (*count until the skipper stops*).

Then there's Double Dutch, a game in which two long jump ropes turning in opposite directions are jumped by one or

more players jumping simultaneously. You might want to look that one up!

JACKS

This game can be played on any flat surface, indoors or out. The player scatters the jacks on the playing surface, often by just tossing them out of one hand, as if rolling dice.

The ball is then tossed up, is allowed to bounce once, and is caught before the second bounce. The player tries to scoop up jacks and catch the ball with one hand before the ball's second bounce.



The number of jacks to be picked up goes in order. First you pick up one ("onesies"),

then two ("twosies"), then three and so on.

MARBLES

The general rules specify that you draw a circle and then take turns trying to knock each other's marbles out of the circle with your one large marble.



CAT'S CRADLE

Ideal for car journeys. If you are playing alone, you can make various string shapes on your own hands. With two people, you can play a bit of a game, transferring the shapes back and forth and creating new ones. You can find plenty of information online or ask a parent or grandparent! All you need is a piece of string approximately 36 inches long, tied in a circle.

Have fun and enjoy!

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Your Rushmere

Competition Under 12's



Competition Under 12's

Design a poster using the picture above to get people to bin their litter. The winner will receive **Limmys Magnetic Building Blocks**, which includes 42 pieces, idea book & a velvet drawstring bag (as per picture below).

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 and send it to sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Closing date: Friday 6th August 2021

Congratulations to Hollie Stowe, Age 5 our Christmas colouring competition winner. Your colourful, jolly Santa was a big hit with the judges. Enjoy your Remote Control Robot!



Competition Over 12's

Answer this question correctly to win Pictionary!

How many households (houses, bungalows, flats) are there in the Parish of Rushmere St Andrew?

The nearest figure to the correct answer will be the winner and receive Pictionary Air. In the event of a tie there will be a draw.



Answer this question correctly to win Escape Room!

How many councillor positions are there available on Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council?

Hint: Look through 'Your Rushmere' and page 3.

The correct answers will go into a draw.



Email answers to the above question/s including your name, age and address by Friday 6th August 2021 to :

Sarah.jenkins@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk

Competitions are courtesy of the Neighbourhood Planning Group and provide a chance for younger members of the parish to get involved.

Summer Fun

What is brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?

A coconut on holiday!

How do you know the sea is friendly?
It waves!

Milkshake Ice Pops – Whizz up these milky strawberry and banana ice lollies.

Ingredients:

405g tin of light condensed milk
1 tsp vanilla bean paste
1 ripe chopped banana
10 strawberries

Method:

STEP 1

Pour the light condensed milk into a food processor and add the vanilla bean paste and chopped banana. Whizz until smooth. Add the strawberries and whizz again.

STEP 2

Divide the mixture between 4 paper cups, cover with foil, then push a lolly stick through the foil lid of each cup until you hit the base. Freeze for 4 hrs or until solid.

Cool down by enjoying your ice pop.

