

LAKENHEATH RECORDERS DIARY FOR 2020

The year started as any other year with hope and optimism. Covid-19 was a phenomenon happening in Wuhan China and no one had any idea as to how this would impact, infect and affect the world during the forthcoming year.

8.1.2020

Planning consent was granted by West Suffolk District Council by 8 votes to seven for 375 dwellings and a primary school on land fronting Station Road Lakenheath. The original application was submitted November 2014 and consistently objected to by Lakenheath Parish Council.

11.1.2020

Lakenheath Football Club remain third in the Thurlow Nunn League first division North after their 2-2 draw away to Needham Market Reserves.

18.1.2020

U9's football team on a cold but dry day! Yesterday the U9's played Stoke. A really good game with both teams showing great attitude and determination. Passing and movement was really good and the drills in training are starting to show in matches. Some positive football being played by all and goals from Ben, Callum and Sam made a really entertaining game for everyone watching. Well done to Isa for player of the match and to all players for the spirit the game was played in.

19.1.2020

Match review from U14's game today:

A great 9-0 win for the Lakenheath U14's today against Heatherset. Goals scored by Liam, Riley, Noah, Daniel W & Issac. A clean sheet by the goalie, Tyler. A fantastic effort made by the whole team.



8.2.2020

Lakenheath Youth FC: U7's match report:

I had the privilege of refereeing the under 7's team against Stoke. It was great to see all the children on the field playing with smiles on faces and giving 100%.

As the game progressed both teams had chances and both keepers made some good saves. Both teams pressed well and made some good tackles.

For me the result never matters at this level and it was good to see all players at full time shaking hands after enjoying the game.

Well done to Lee and John with this team as they continue to develop and grow as a team.

Finally well done to Max, Riley, Josh, Ethan, Josh, Amelia and Hunter - you were all superstars!

U9's match report: we played Thetford in a really close game. Both teams had chances and the game was played in a really good spirit.

Oscar and Ben H took their chances well and Ben M was given player of the match for his determination throughout the game.

February 2020. Turkish Barbers have now opened a barber shop in the High Street, opposite St Marys Church. Opening times are Monday-Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-4 so Open 7 days a week including bank holidays



3.2.2020

Lakenheath Parish Council were asked by the Playing fields association to grant them a loan for £75000 to complete all the required works to the complete the Pavilion extension and improvements to the playing fields themselves.

Their decision was delayed pending receipt of a business plan, cashflow forecasts and the opportunity to ask Playing Fields Association questions. The item is to be bought back to the table at the March meeting.

8.2.2020

Today the Epic Dad and fun Club will meet at Lakenheath primary school. They welcomed all dads, male carers and children of all ages. The event ran between 10 am and noon. It involved food, crafts and fun. The Club are now to meet every second Saturday on a monthly basis.

25.2.20

Sedge Fen Road closed today near Farthing Drove due to a collapsed culvert running under the road.



29.2.2020

Lakenheath Casuals: Fantastic performance today from Casuals!! They won 4-1 in the Ambulance Cup against Watton FC who are a division 1 team!! The lads were brilliant though, what a performance, they defended absolutely brilliantly!! And they attacked the game just as well. Really

proud of you all as you played as a team, played football and dominated the game!! MOTM will be shared between Ben Nolan & Freddie Stokes! 2 Goals from Elliott Parr, 1 from Kyle Starnes and 1 from Freddie Stokes. I have to say the whole team played phenomenally; I have to mention our solid defensive line today as well! #UptheCasuals #Cuprun Suffolk Football Association

29.2.2020

Lakenheath Youth FC : U9 Match Report: MUD MUD GLORIOUS MUD! today's game away against Stoke Holy Cross was possibly the muddiest we have played.

Despite the conditions and (due to sickness) having just the 7 players we soon started to play some good passing and positive football.

Everyone gave 100% and never gave up even after going a goal behind early on. Well done to Jessica for player of the match this week and to Oscar and Callum for their goals. A real team performance as always.

U9's match report: today we played Brandon in the cup. It was a great game from start to finish with some good attacking football from two evenly matched sides. Despite the best efforts of the wind the game went ahead and Lakenheath were soon into their stride.

Every player was worthy of man of the match however this weeks awards went to 1) Luke for his outstanding performance in goal and

2) Sam for great tackling, tracking back and some real positive runs.

Goals from Ben H, Callum and Oscar were all taken well and some great defending from Ben M, Jaeden, Isa and Jessica earned a clean sheet.

It just be said that Brandon played some great football and the whole game was played in the right spirit.

All in all they were all fantastic today and earned their place in the next round of the cup.

U12's Match Report:

Today we played Holt in another weekend of extreme weather. The wind was blowing end to end and this could easily have led to a "game of two halves".

Lakenheath started slowly and went a goal behind but found some rhythm when Pressure forced a corner and Lewis slotted a lovey shot into the net. Ben's pressure created our second goal and the third before half time was as good a team goal you will see. Crisp passing and movement opened up space and a ball to Luke was taken well and he found his spot to make it 3-1 at half time.

Our final goal came from some cross field passing and a follow up at the far post from Lewis.

Despite the bad weather Eric and Harry were solid in defence and dealt with a lot of long passes and made some good tackles.

Rhys and Clara both had stints in defence and played solid games. Josh chased down passes and pressed well and Kieran and Adam were always on hand in the middle of the park and did not give Holt any time on the ball. Lewis was always a threat and made positive runs with the ball. Luke and Ben made the impacts that we needed and pressed well to create chances.

In goal Joseph was composed on the ball, played it out well and came off his line with confidence.

All in all it was good to watch in very windy conditions and all showed a great team spirit.

Thanks to Steve and Mark for warm ups and also to Steve for running the line.

Thanks also to our supporters who braved the elements and were rewarded with a good display from the team.



29.2.2020

Today proved to be a special day for one Lakenheath Couple, Rory Palmer and Ellen Butcher. 6 weeks early they became proud parents to twins, Ollie and Ivy, at West Suffolk Hospital;

3.3.2020

Lakenheath FC beat Mulburton Wanderers 1-0 to book their place in the Thurlow Nunn League First Division Knockout Cup Semi Finals next week.

7.3.2020

Lakenheath FC beat Leiston Reserves 1-0.

13.3.2020

The Bury Free Press reported that Lakenheath couple, Wayne Watson and Emily Power are to continue with wedding plans despite a huge motor bike accident which has left Wayne with life changing injuries. He is paralysed from the neck down.

11/03/2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak a global pandemic. At a news briefing, WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, noted that over the past 2 weeks, the number of cases outside China increased 13-fold and the number of countries with cases increased threefold.

16.3.2020

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson MP says “now is the time for everyone to stop non-essential contact and travel”

19.3.2020

The Lakenheath Coronavirus Action Group was formed Essentially to find a resolution in looking after the lone elderly and vulnerable people of the village. A leaflet is to be designed with the ultimate aim of delivering same to each house in the village. Notes from meeting in the pack.

23.3.2020

PM announces the first lockdown in the UK, ordering people to “stay at home”

26.3.2020

Lockdown measure legally come into force.

The Coronavirus Group had a further meeting. Leaflet agreed upon and will be delivered to each dwelling in the parish with the Lakenheath Times.

It is envisaged that incoming calls will be one off requests and further requests will be made from individuals as needed. Those Good Neighbours that are self-isolating have agreed that they will take on those individuals that require a regular phone call. A list is to be compiled of those that are already receiving calls in this way from Good Neighbours and the Emergency Planning Team.

Advice from Community Action Suffolk is not to handle cash which prevents volunteers from doing shopping. Three business in Brandon have got together and are offering a home delivery service to Lakenheath three times per week. These businesses will take orders over the phone along with card payments. Alan Gyte agreed to speak with the manager of the co-op to see if something similar could operate in the village. The co-op could take orders, make them up and the group’s volunteers could deliver.

The food bank currently has good stock levels and Cllr. Colin Noble agreed to find out about the additional funding that is available for food banks. Basic packs are already available for delivery where required.

Gerald will speak to the co-op to ask if milk and potatoes could be given as a priority to the food bank.

27.3.2020

The Bury Free Press reported that a family managed to escape unharmed from a blaze which engulfed a bungalow. The fire started in an outbuilding and spread to the bungalow.

30.3.20

Drivers were granted a 6-month exemption from MOT testing. Drivers who have an MOT test due before 1 August will be granted the 6-month extension. For example, if your MOT is due on 31 July, it'll be extended to 31 January 2021.

2.4.2020

This was the first month that we were in lockdown. No one knew for how long this would be. The Coronavirus Action Group meeting was informed that the Co-Op will take orders over the phone but have to collect cash from the person and pay it over accordingly. They do not have a facility to take payment over the phone.

West Suffolk Council will provide a list next week of shops that do offer a delivery service to Lakenheath.

Confirmation had been received that the £600k made available for food banks is available with 24 hours of request.

8.4.2020

The Coronavirus Action Group meeting was informed that Vince had carried out approx. 6 foodbank deliveries.

Positive feedback had been received from resident's receiving a phone call. Around 50 households are being contacted, a proactive approach may be useful in the future.

Fairshare / Co-op Cllr Colin Noble to send Vince information regarding the County Council initiative.

Vince agreed to advise parishioners using the Lakenheath foodbank of help available via the group and ask them to make contact. Normal systems at the foodbank will remain in operation.

Social Services are to be contacted to let them know about the group. Aware of a resident in Quayside who doesn't have any family members to help as they are self-isolating.

Although residents may run out of cash, deliveries are available from various sources.

Supermarkets are increasing the delivery slots available and Robert at Feltwell Golf Course is offering daily delivery of a hot meal.

11.4.20

The first coocoo heard in Lakenheath

16.4.2020

Lockdown extended for at least three weeks. The Government sets out five tests that must be met before restrictions can be eased.

The Coronavirus Action Group were informed by the Parish Clerk that requests are settling in to a pattern, but could possibly increase in-line with April Lakenheath Times being delivered with information the group and options that Parishioners can use.

The Families Communities Officer for West Suffolk who is managing calls for Home but not Alone initiative has not had to send any calls to Lakenheath or Beck Row and this shows that our system is working on a local level.

Mark's Fruit and Veg. Mark is no longer delivering meat and bakery goods. He has had contact with CJ's and has agreed with them to pass these orders over to Louise as he was being inundated with orders and has now cut ties with the Meat Market and Hyam's. It was confirmed that Louise is also using her contacts to supply household good such as toilet rolls etc. where she could.

29.4.2020

The Coronavirus Action Group were informed that this week there had been 14 calls, a total of 111 to date. There is no shortages of companies doing food deliveries and that the calls to the Coronavirus line could be dropping as villagers get used to a new way of shopping. In the main the requirement is for Prescription pick up and delivery. The current system is working very well.

Update on the befriending service was that the Good Neighbours team are supporting with regular phone calls and contact. It was also mentioned that a Parish Councillor is also calling the keep fit group and the Emergency Helpline group.

Local businesses are to be thanked for their support and help during these current times.

Suffolk County Council, Lakenheath Parish Council and WSDC will be laying a wreath for VE day at 11am and requires one side of the chain to be removed around the village war memorial as a health and safety requirement on the day. This event is not to be publicised in advance because of concerns about social distancing but is happy for The Heritage group to take pictures to upload to social media after the event.

2.5.20

We're now in our sixth week of lockdown and the Prime Minister has returned to work. There's been a lot of change for us all to deal with, whether it's new ways of working together or new routines at home.

May 2020

Leo Grimwood, a 9-year-old from Lakenheath has raised £420 for charity by running 3 km. He decided to complete the run after seeing that NHS staff were being affected while helping those with coronavirus. Leo's father, Daniel Grimwood helped him to set up a just giving page, with all proceeds of the run going to NHS charities Together. His initial target was £50 but that was exceeded.

10.5.2020`

The government has started to outline a relaxation of the lockdown rules and possible measures for organisations to return to their usual places of work. The UK guidance makes it clear that people should continue to work from home where they can. With effect from 13.5.20 return to work if they can avoiding public transport where possible. Many local businesses have changed the way they operate so they can continue providing services to their local community

13.5.2020

The Coronavirus action group is running very smoothly therefore the need for phone meetings will be rescheduled fortnightly.

Recycling Centre reopening 14th May 2020 by prebooked appointment only.



Click and Recycle



- **No access to site without pre-booking**
- **Cars and car derived vans only**
- **No other vans, trailers or commercial type vehicles**
- **One adult to unload, unless 2 adults needed for heavy items**
- **No staff assistance to unload vehicles**
- **No trade waste**
- **No textiles or re-use items accepted**
- **Please adhere to social distancing rules and follow instructions from staff**

Please do not come to site if you have symptoms or have been diagnosed with Covid-19

www.suffolk.gov.uk/recyclingcentres

27.5.2020

The Coronavirus Action Group has received 155 calls to date. Although every household has received at least two communications about the group, a small number of referrals are still coming in from Home but not Alone, a District Council initiative.

It was confirmed that the Foodbank is okay and referrals from the group have always been dealt with promptly, even when requests have included special dietary requirements.

Other towns in Suffolk have reported much larger numbers of request for food parcels.

A couple of residents who have received food parcels direct from the government have reported that they have far too much food and they have been referred to the foodbank to donate any surplus.

Although the markets are re-opening, Mark in Brandon has confirmed that he will carry on with his Saturday deliveries to Lakenheath until at least the 15th of June.

The Government introduced a Track and Trace system to work where people are in close proximity to others such as pubs take away restaurants. When contacted by text or email, people are sent a link to the NHS Test and Trace website to enter details of recent contacts. These details can also be shared over the phone. As well as names, contact tracers will also ask for the email addresses, home address and phone numbers of those who may have been exposed to Covid-19.

29.5.20

The Bury Free Press Headline was that the headteacher of a Lakenheath school which was told to improve by inspectors this month said changes are under way to return it to its previously 'good' rating.

Lakenheath Community Primary School was rated as 'requires improvement' in an Ofsted report published last week after an inspection in March flagged shortcomings in the school's leadership, management and quality of education.

The report said early years reading lessons at the Mill Road school were 'not good enough' and that pupils' skills were 'not developed in a coherent way'.

It continued: "Children in the early years do not have enough opportunities to practise core skills of reading, writing and mathematics in either their play or with an adult. They are not making the progress that they ought to be.

"Leaders need to ensure that opportunities for practice are planned in and that staff are confident in how to develop these early key skills."

But the report also rated behaviour and personal development at the school as 'good' and said that headteacher Sally Esom and her staff had 'successfully begun to turn this decline around'. It added that pupils at the school are 'happy', 'well-supported' and that there is a 'strong focus on developing pupils' personal development'.

Miss Esom said: "We will be continuing to review our curriculum over the coming months to streamline our topics and improve teacher, and therefore pupil, skills.

31st May 2020

Poppies in the field opposite the Warren , Maids Cross Hill



1.6.2020

Lakenheath Community primary school reopened their doors to the early years, year 1 and year 6. A cap had been placed for a maximum of 80 children to ensure safe social distance and maximum safety. Parents were asked to indicate attendance on a first served priority. Children are grouped in pods of 15 with teachers / support staff; isolated from each other group. Attendance first week back was 60. Lunch is placed outside the rooms of each group in isolation. Very strict handwashing regime and areas marked out for no go areas. Each entrance is strictly controlled with social distance measures in place for parents, drop off and pickup. The system seems to be working well.

For safety the school governors agreed that they will not open the rest of the school to more even if the gov says so!!

5.6.2020

West Suffolk Council announced that it has recorded its best return yet on its £14.5million solar farm in Lakenheath.

The authority said the Toggam Farm facility produced 2,007MWh in May - with sunny weather helping up to 65 per cent of the nation's power supply come from renewable sources.

West Suffolk has stated the farm is an investment in both green energy and a sustainable boost for their finances. A record £411,000 of income was taken in May.

Lakenheath RSPB reserve reopened parts of their grounds to the public.

12.6.2020

The West Suffolk Garden Waste Brown Bin scheme which was stopped in March is being reinstated with effect from the 12th June collection in Lakenheath.

15.6.2020

Following lockdown the non-essential shops were allowed to reopen in England.

Lakenheath Cricket Club face a tough test when they host current Marshall Hatchick Tow Counties Championship Division one leaders, Wivenhoe today.

First Lieutenant Kenneth Allens F-15C Jet Eagle stationed at the 48th Fighter Wing based at RAF Lakenheath came down this morning whilst on a training exercise off the Yorkshire coast.

The official announcement was:



48th Fighter Wing downed aircraft

RAF LAKENHEATH, UNITED KINGDOM - A U.S. Air Force F-15C Eagle crashed at approximately 0940 today in the North Sea. The aircraft was from the 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom. At the time of the accident, the aircraft was on a routine training mission with one pilot on board. The cause of the crash as well as the status of the pilot are unknown at this time, and U.K. Search and Rescue have been called to support.

As soon as additional details become available, they will be provided.

The wreckage was later found together with the body of the pilot.

17.6.2020

Update given by Cllr Noble to the Coronavirus Action Group on the Government track and trace app.

It was noted that Mark's Fruit and Veg had returned to the markets and would no longer be delivering in the village.

Agreed that meeting would take place monthly going forward and that the next meeting would be a full debriefing meeting looking at figures, best practices and improvements to be made.

23.6.20

Boris Johnson, the Prime Minister has announced that the two-metre rule will be relaxed from 4 July, when pubs, bars, cafes, art galleries, museums, hotels and cinemas are set to reopen after months of lockdown

"This means sticking to two metres distancing where we are able, washing our hands regularly, wearing face coverings in public and working from home whenever possible." The prime minister also announced a reduction in the two-metre social distancing rule to "one metre-plus".

The new guidance will also allow friends and families from two households to meet indoors and stay overnight.

People 'shielding' due to their health also received news that from July 6 they would be allowed to meet with up to groups of six outside their home or form a support bubble if in a single adult household.

Then as of August 1 those classed as clinically extremely vulnerable would be advised they would no longer need to shield.

Boris Johnson urged parents to "get their kids back into school" as he addressed the issues of worsening inequalities for children during the coronavirus lockdown at the final daily press briefing at No 10 Downing Street. The prime minister said the Covid-19 crisis had been "unfair" in its effects on children's education.

24.6.2020

LYFC produced the following statement

LAKENHEATH YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB



2020/2021 SEASON

Subject to Covid-19 restrictions being lifted our 20/21 season will start in September 2020 with pre-season training being provided before then.

We Currently have teams for the following age groups from September 2020 and are always looking for new members:

- Under 7's
- Under 8's
- Under 9's
- Under 10's
- Under 12's
- Under 13's
- Under 14's
- Under 15's

OPEN TRAINING SESSIONS

We will look to start training before this date and will plan to run some open training sessions for any new along with current players. The open training sessions all run for four weeks. All coaches are FA qualified and CRC checked and sessions are designed to be fun and positive.

WHY CHOOSE LYFC?



If you are interested in attending our open training or require further information please contact:

Richard Horrex – 07540201223

Emma Gathercole – 07970794659

And we will add you to our contact list to keep you informed of any changes to the planned schedule

28.6.2020

St Marys Church gave the following information: It is with very great pleasure we can announce that, following the change in guidance, St Mary's will be open for private prayer on Wednesdays from 1pm – 6pm Subject to detailed guidance from Her Majesty's Government, we expect to open for public worship Sunday 5th July at 11am, Holy Communion.

We expect this pattern to continue for the next few weeks.

30.6.2020

The Coronavirus Action group were informed that since lock down 14 weeks ago Good Neighbours had carried out 73 jobs, an average of 5 per week down from the norm of 12-15 per week. This is partly due to not being able to offer transport, with reinstatement of this service now being investigated.

Cllr Noble gave an update on how the government are working with counties using postcode data and test and trace. There is the potential for a spike which will require some residents to self-isolate again.

It was confirmed that the Emergency Planning Group are continuing with their weekly chats to vulnerable residents. The Village Hall is reopening soon with the possibility of clubs restarting.

There were no concerns raised about the helpline reducing to 3 hours weekdays, 9am to 12pm.

A Parish Councillor felt that having two clerks had been an advantage over lockdown and it was good to see everyone pulling together. Communication may have been dealt with better.

It was agreed that there would be an update to be published in the Lakenheath Times to include a reminder to remain sensible.

7.7.20

Cllr Colin Noble for Suffolk County Council announced work dates for Farthing Drove which has been closed since early March due to a collapsed Culvert:

Really good news today that as we get back to some sort of 'new' normal, after months of lobbying I've been told by Suffolk's Highways team that UK Power Networks have agreed to prioritise Farthings Drove power line temporary moving, as they come out of network repairs only mode and return to planned works.

To those who live and work in my area this is extremely welcome news and will mean a lot as it will allow the highways team to then work safely to repair a collapsed drain that could not be worked on with live power lines directly overhead.

The collapsed drain could not have come at a worse time as Covid-19 meant that UK Power Networks only undertook work to keep the grid working rather than planning works. The diversion for many residents has been a difficult one at this already difficult time.

UKPN will be attending next month to divert the overhead power cables which are in close proximity of the culvert collapse into a nearby field, this will then enable our contractors to safely repair the damaged culvert.

UKPN has programmed in to erect the temporary power poles from Thursday 27 August, with the aim of having this completed by Friday 4 September. Not as fast as we would all hope but at least we have got UKPN to programme the works in.

Suffolk Highways contractors will then be able to start works to repair the collapse from Monday 7 September. They estimate that the works to rebuild the culvert and the bank, including resurfacing of the above section of road will take approximately six weeks.

UKPN will then return to reinstate the main power lines with the aim of reopening the road by the end of October 2020.

8.7.2020

Chancellor Rishi Sunak's Summer Statement confirmed a stamp duty holiday, jobs for under 24s, eating out vouchers and a VAT cut have all been announced.

9.7.2020

USAF 48th Fighter Wing – Base Commander posted this statement:

Today I completed my last full day as Commander of the Liberty Wing.

Words cannot express what a great honour it has been to lead this team for the last two years. Heather and I have greatly appreciated the tremendous partnership the Wing enjoy, not only with our teammates at team Mildenhall, but with the local community and civic leaders. We will leave with many new friends that we will cherish for our lifetimes and with a special place in our hearts for the people-both US and UK that enable the mission of securing our freedom and the sovereign skies. Tomorrow I will reluctantly relinquish command to my friend Col Jason "Vasco" Camilletti, and I know that team Camilletti will take the Wing to even greater heights. This is a special place, and the people here accomplish things others dream of-on a routine basis. We will be watching from afar, and hopefully occasionally from up close, to see what the Liberty Wing does in the future. I will sleep soundly knowing that they will be ready to dominate the skies and strike at will if called upon.

Thanks to all that have made this such a rewarding Command Tour. We will miss you all.

For the final time as Liberty 1...

Col Will "Deadeye" Marshall

10.7.2020

Lakenheath Football Club announced that Lakenheath Casuals Vets have successfully been accepted into the Cambridgeshire Veterans, Division 2 league, for this upcoming season – They are still recruiting for new players and asking for any ex-footballers of 35+ that would like to join their newly established squad.

They also announced receipt of several grants to enable necessary grounds works to be completed.

16.7.2020

David Lee Barto, aged 72 of Woodcutters Way, Lakenheath drove on the C633, Elveden at 35 mph, exceeding the limit of 30 mph. Fined £40, surcharge £32. Costs £35. Licence endorsed.

July 2020

Lakenheath Community Primary School sent the children home with a newsletter to confirm new term start dates. It also confirmed various changes to rules and expectations moving forward.

17.7.2020

The Bury Free Press reported that Lakenheath FC has recruited their first two new signings of the summer.

Today Mikel Blaine John Radford of Undley Common, Lakenheath appeared at Ipswich Magistrates Court. He answered the charge that he drove on a road in Newmarket with an invalid licence. Fined £100, victim surcharge £80, costs of £68 and had his licence endorsed. He also drove on a road in Newmarket without insurance. Fined £200 and had his licence endorsed. He further drove on a road in Newmarket with Benzoyllecgonine in blood. Fined £200 and banned from driving for 36 months, licence endorsed. He finally drove on a road in Newmarket with a proportion of Ketamine in his blood. Fined £300 and banned from driving for 36 months, licence endorsed.

18.7.2020

Local authorities in England gain additional powers to enforce social distancing

29.7.2020

The last Coronavirus Action Group meeting was held. It was Reported that due to annual leave for both Clerks next week the phones will be handed to Good Neighbours and that a list of active volunteers has been sent to a Good Neighbour Co-ordinator. The Good Neighbours were hopeful that they would fully functional by end of September and would be able to take back the support for the parishioners, this will coincide with Clare Shimmer's end of employment with the Parish Council.

The food Bank co-ordinator reported that he had received grants of £2,500 and that he was currently distributing approximately 30/35 Kg of supplies each week.

1.8.2020

The Methodist Church in Lakenheath announced: At LAST! Services begin again - from tomorrow 2nd August we will be meeting at Sunset Barns, Undley. for an outside service. If you want to attend, please let me know (01842 861160) as we need to arrange seating. We start at the usual time of 10.30 am.

3.8.2020

We have now learnt that the USAF are staying at Mildenhall and that is hugely welcome news. You cannot underestimate its importance to our communities for the local economy. The largest employer in the area and American Personnel using local facilities. Yes, both bases are noisy, but both are powerhouses of our local economy. It's great news RAF Mildenhall is now not going to close in the foreseeable future.

Also, good news reported last Monday by the local paper, the East Anglian Daily Times, was that there had been no coronavirus deaths reports in Lakenheath, Eriswell and Beck row which is terrific news as we all know this terrible disease has touched so many families and communities.

Of course, there is a long way to go until there is a cure, as we have seen in cities and communities across the country, there is always a possibility of increased infection rates. We are still in this for the long haul, and we must temper any good news with this reality.

3.8.2020

Eat Out to Help Out scheme, offering a 50% discount on meals up to £10 per person, begins in the UK, A Government initiative to encourage people to eat out to assist the leisure industry.

14.8.20

The ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England – The 48th Fighter Wing and U.K. Defense Infrastructure Organisation partners unveiled a new parking ramp for the 492nd and 494th Fighter Squadrons at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, Aug. 11, 2020.

“The ramp consolidates F-15E Strike Eagle operations for the two squadrons, shortens transit times and maintenance operations, and saves manpower while improving mission efficiency,” said Lt. Col. Clinton G. Warner, director of the 48th F-35 Program Integration Office at RAF Lakenheath.

The expansion project began in April of 2019 and was completed August 2020 to facilitate construction of the parking apron for the incoming F-35A Lightning II aircraft arriving in late 2021.

“This represents a huge milestone for the F-35 program at RAF Lakenheath and also for U.K. defences,” said Mark Evans, the F-35 Delivery Partner project manager for the DIO. “It represents the successful completion of collaborations between multiple industry organisations of the U.K. and U.S. visiting forces.”

The arrival of the F-35A will mark the first-ever permanent basing of U.S. fifth-generation aircraft in the European theatre, enhancing the 48th Fighter Wing’s combat lethality and contributions to the collective defence of the NATO alliance.

Lockdown restrictions eased further, including reopening indoor theatres, bowling alleys and soft play

19.8.2020

Lakenheath FC announced that the draw for the first qualifying round of the Buildbase FA Vase has granted them as opponents at home and encounter with Framlingham Town on Saturday September 19th.

28.8.2020

16 F16 jets from Aviano AFB arrived at RAF Lakenheath for a month’s deployment and training with the F15’s based at RAF Lakenheath

28.8.2020

A serious collision between two cars has closed Undley Road just outside Lakenheath. The police were called to the incident in Undley, near Lakenheath shortly after 11.20am. They arrived to find that two vehicles had collided and were blocking the road, which was then closed. One person is understood to have suffered serious injuries and is now under the care of the ambulance services. The fire service was also called to attend the scene after reports that a person was trapped in one of the cars but were not needed. The road reopened in the evening.

29.8.2020

The Methodist church announced that services will be held in the community centre from this Sunday 30th August till the refurbishment of Chapel is completed. They begin at 10:30. Social distancing and face masks still required along with contact information.

29.8.2020

The Coop in the High Street announced that it was raising money for their charity of the year Mind over the weekend of the 29th and 30th August. There was a his and hers 'night in' hamper which is

being raffled off at £2 a ticket as well as a 'guess the number of sweets in the jar' competition going on at £1 a ticket.

Well done to Jell Ryan for winning the 'guess how many sweets in the jar'.

30.8.2020

A community Yard sale was organised by Maxine Mcmillan in the village where 72+ homes took part. It was intended as a fun day and for neighbours to get together, social distancing first. This Yard Sale was about getting to know your Neighbours and meet new people. It was a big opportunity to get out, stretch those legs and say Hello to fellow Heatheners.

A picture of a few of the neighbours who took part.



2.9.2020

Lakenheath Corona Virus Action group disbanded and passed the responsibilities to the Good Neighbours group in the village. This was agreed as we are moving into a new phase and the country is doing its best to return to a workable normality. It was agreed however if any urgent issues or further action is required there is a very good system in place to utilise should another flare up occurs. This to be included in the Lakenheath Times for October.

September saw a staggered return to school class by class. The Bury Free Press showed a photo of the early years new intake.

9.9.2020

Today was the funeral of David (Cowboy) Gathercole who passed away on 22nd August 2020 after a long illness, he had been in Addenbrookes Hospital for 11 weeks. He left behind his partner of 26 years and Three Children. David was a Parish and District Councillor in Lakenheath for many years, he will be sorely missed for all his tireless work for the benefit of Lakenheath. There was a Graveside funeral service at St Laurence's Church Eriswell followed by a wake in line with David's wishes it was to first come down to Lakenheath Pavilion so that whoever wanted to, could pay their respects and have a drink with him to celebrate his life. This took place 12.00pm to 1.30pm, for which there was a good turnout of local people.

12.9.20

Great win for the 1st team, Lakenheath Casuals, today with a 6-2 victory over Bar 33. Bit of a rough game but they got the job done!

Goals from:

Ben Nolan

Elliott Parr

Clive Allen Boucheron

Jordan Kemp

Alvin Watts x 2

Roll on next week! Away to Bowthorpe in the Cup!

Lakenheath Casuals Reserves had their first game today in the Cambs County Division 4C. They entertained Benwick Athletic Reserves at home, they battled very hard for their first game together but unfortunately lost the game 2-0! Not a fair reflection of the performance though!

They go again next week against Huntington United Reserves!

In the meantime, Lakenheath Football Club conceded defeat to Mildenhall Town as they exited the FA Vase with a 3-1 defeat.

13.9.2020

Lakenheath youth FC announced this week that the U13s took on Horsford in the league. Having never played each other previously it was a good chance to test ourselves against an unknown team. From the outset we started with good passing and movement and at the half way stage were 4-1 up. The second half started slowly and after a few goals in reply from the Horsford we started to play more as a team again and added 3 more to our score.

Lots of good performances on the pitch today:

Dylan with 4 goals

Rhys with 3 assists

Lewis always being a threat and creating numerous chances

Josh for a superb all-round performance and showing his pace

Ryan and Kieran for solid performances in the middle of midfield

Harry and Aaron for good link up plays with players around them

Tyler and Clara for working well together in defence

Olivia for her increased confidence and playing the ball out

Jack for making some decent saves

Joseph for some of his trade mark through balls.

All in all, a good team performance and plenty of positives to take from it.

Unfortunately, there was one negative as Adam sustained a fractured arm in the warm up so we all wish him a speedy recovery.

Thanks, as always to our great supporters and to Rhys M for running the line.

They also announced: Since last season the club in conjunction with Lakenheath Casuals have undertaken numerous pitch maintenance works. For both clubs this is a long-term commitment to the ground to improve the playing services for many years to come. In order to achieve this, we applied and were successful in obtaining a "Enhanced Grass Pitch Maintenance" Grant which helps us to kick start the work for the pitches.

Since April we have started to see improvements on the playing surface that the works on the pitch were intended to do and whilst we are by no means finished or achieved our goals there is definitely huge progress made that we will continue to build upon.

There have been many people involved with this project but a few thank yous to Parker's Pitches for their work they have put in and to Mark & Ryan for their assistance in the testing conditions during the summer. Also, a thanks to Lakenheath Cricket club for allowing us to borrow equipment when needed to assist with this project.

We will continue to improve our playing surfaces under this long-term plan so hopefully further improvements will be seen in future months / years.

14.9.2020

'Rule of six' – indoor and outdoor social gatherings above six banned in England

15.9.2020

17.9.20 Lakenheath Youth Football Club announced: Good evening all, this weekend's matches are as follows:

Saturday

U8's Away to Wymondham KO 10:30

U9'S Home to Thetford KO 10:00

U10's Away to Morley KO 10:00

U12's Away to Haddenham

Sunday

U12's Home to Thorpe St Andrews KO 10:30

U13's Home to Firsides KO 10:30

U14's Away to Holt KO 10:00

U15's Away to Heigham

Good luck to all our Lakenheath Youth Teams this weekend.

Lakenheath FC secured an emphatic 4 – 0 victory over Haverhill Borough.

18.9.2020

The Lakenheath Casuals Football side announced they were looking for players to join the Club for forthcoming seasons campaign!

They play Saturday football in the Cambs County and Central Norfolk League.

Training is on a Thursday evening under floodlights from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Lakenheath Pavilion

Please contact Chris Hewett for further details.

18.9.2020

Due to the Covid situation, Friends of Lakenheath Primary School announced that they are unable to run any events. In trying different ways to raise some funds they asked the community if they planned to attend their summer fair perhaps, they would purchase a virtual balloon instead?! Only £3! Design and create the winning balloon to win some great prizes. See notice below for detail.

A colorful poster for a 'Virtual Balloon Race'. The background is light blue with white clouds and several balloons in teal, pink, and orange. The title 'VIRTUAL BALLOON RACE' is in large, white, bold letters at the top. Below it, a yellow banner reads 'Halloween Race! STARTING FROM DRACULA'S CASTLE!'. The main text in the center says 'ONLY £3 PER BALLOON! Style and design your balloon! RACE STARTS: SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER National and Local prizes'. It then lists the prizes: '1st Prize £50', '2nd prize £10 cinema voucher', and '3rd Sweetie Hamper'. Below this, it says 'Plus the chance to win national prizes!'. At the bottom, it says 'How to enter' followed by 'Balloons available now: Search Eco racing and search Friends of Lakenheath or click the link below!' and a URL. A 'Parentikind Member Association' logo is in the bottom right corner.

VIRTUAL BALLOON RACE

Halloween Race!
STARTING FROM DRACULA'S CASTLE!

ONLY £3 PER BALLOON!
Style and design your balloon!
RACE STARTS:
SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER
National and Local prizes

1st Prize £50
2nd prize £10 cinema voucher
3rd Sweetie Hamper
Plus the chance to win national prizes!

How to enter
Balloons available now: Search Eco racing and search Friends of Lakenheath or click the link below!
<https://ecoracing.co/user/page/688>

Parentikind
Member Association

22.9.2020

The Government announced that after a period of some stabilisation, we're now seeing the number of COVID-19 cases beginning to rise across the country. I have set out the new rules due to the severity of the changes and ensure that it is written into our village history.

Following the latest announcements from the government today, this is an update on the latest COVID-19 guidance, as this situation rapidly unfolds.

The government has confirmed that the UK is now at a 'tipping point' and has introduced some new restrictions in an attempt to control the spread of COVID-19. This includes the limiting of gatherings to no more than six people and the closing of pubs and restaurants at 10pm. Please be aware that the rules and measures differ slightly between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as in areas that are currently experiencing local lockdowns, so please familiarise yourself with the rules in your area.

Working from home

The government confirmed today that they are now recommending that people work from home if they can. We appreciate that this isn't an option for our frontline workforce, who are working tirelessly day in, day out, to keep our country running. However, we are now recommending that Mitie colleagues who would ordinarily work from a Mitie office but can work from home, should do so. Although our offices will remain open for now, we ask that you don't work from the office unless it's absolutely essential for the performance of your job. Please discuss with your line manager if you're unsure whether or not you need to be in the office.

When to self-isolate and what to do

In the event that you or someone you know develops COVID-19 symptoms, you can find all of the government guidance on when to self-isolate.

If a colleague tests positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If a colleague has come into contact with someone who has tested positive, they may need to self-isolate for 14 days, however they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, who will confirm this.

The government has just announced a new £500 Isolation Support Payment for low-income employees that meet all the following criteria:

They are currently receiving benefits, which could be Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit and/or Pension Credit;

They are in work, either employed or self-employed;

They can't work from home and will lose income as a result; and

They've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, either for 10 days after testing positive or for 14 days as a result of a close contact with someone who has tested positive.

The scheme will come into effect from Monday, 28 September and will be administered through local authorities online or by phone (not through employers). At this stage, the scheme has only been announced for England, but we understand similar schemes will be in place for Scotland, Wales and NI. We'll provide more details as and when they become available.

The Prime Minister said:

"The best way we can fight this virus is by everyone following the rules and self-isolating if they're at risk of passing on coronavirus. And so nobody underestimates just how important this is, new regulations will mean you are legally obliged to do so if you have the virus or have been asked to do so by NHS Test and Trace.

People who choose to ignore the rules will face significant fines. We need to do all we can to control the spread of this virus, to prevent the most vulnerable people from becoming infected, and to protect the NHS and save lives.

And while most people are doing their absolute level best to comply with the rules, I don't want to see a situation where people don't feel they are financially able to self-isolate.

That's why we're also introducing a new £500 Test and Trace Support payment for those on low incomes who are required by NHS Test and Trace to remain at home to help stop the spread of the virus."

25.9.2020

The Bury Free Press reported that following the death of Cllr. David Gathercole there would be a by election for the Lakenheath seat but not until May next year.

26.9.2020

In the storm today a large tree came down on Station Road blocking the whole road. It was soon removed.

Lakenheath Casual League table after first 3 games of the season.

Division 3

League Table

POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Firside Ath	3	3	0	0	19	9
2	Lakenheath Casuals	3	3	0	0	15	9
3	Weasenham	3	3	0	0	13	9
4	Cockers	2	2	0	0	14	6
5	Hornets	2	1	0	1	3	3
6	F.C. Viking	2	1	0	1	1	3
7	Bowthorpe Rovers	3	1	0	2	-1	3
8	Costessey Sports Res	3	1	0	2	-1	3
9	Bar 33	3	1	0	2	-5	3
10	Hockering Res	3	0	0	3	-13	0
11	Horsford Utd Res	2	0	0	2	-22	0
12	Narborough Res	3	0	0	3	-23	0

Table detail

30.9.20

St Mary the Virgin Church announced that they are pleased to confirm the re-introduction of their Thursday morning communion service starting on 1st October. Please note the earlier start time of 9.45am. They now have a QR code assigned to the church for 'Track and Trace.'

September 2020

Picture in the Bury Free Press of the reception class as new entrants to the school in September 2020.

30.9.2020

PM says UK at a "critical moment" in the crisis and would "not hesitate" to impose further restrictions if needed.

2.10.2020

Lakenheath Youth Football Club advised that This weekend's matches are as follows:

Saturday

U8's Home VS Rocklands 10 KO

U9's Home VS Bacton 11 KO

U10's Away VS Tasburgh 11:30 KO
U12's Home VS Saffron Walden 10 KO
Sunday
U12's Home VS Thetford Town (friendly) 10:30
U13's Home VS Holt 10:30 KO
U14'S No Game
U15's Home VS Catton 11 KO

3.10.2020

A notice was given out that Lakenheath indoor bowls club are starting an afternoon session after school on Wednesdays, 3:30 to 4:30 for 7–9-year-olds that are looking to start a new sport.

Lakenheath Casuals FC announced a fantastic result today from the 1st team! A 6-0 win at home to last season's rivals Hornets FC! Great game, the lads were solid and we won every battle on the pitch!

MOTM - Jordan Kemp

Goal scorers:

1 x Clive Allen Boucheron

1 x Elliott Parr

1 x Alvin Watts

1 x Jordon Kemp

2 x Rhys Nunn

100% record in tack! Roll on next week with another tough game away to Costessey!

Suffolk Today publication reported that: The 48th Fighter Wing, based at RAF Lakenheath, have completed a planned three day readiness exercise.

Mission Assurance Exercise (MAX) 20-20 is an exercise designed to develop capabilities for conducting operations from forward operating bases with varying levels of capacity and support, ensuring airmen and aircrews are ready to deliver lethal combat power at any time and from anywhere.

Col. Jason Camilletti, Commander of the 48th Fighter Wing, said: "Establishing and sustaining small expeditionary bases is part of our Airman DNA.

"Agile Combat Employment (ACE) enables airmen to utilise flexibility and ingenuity to defeat the enemy in austere conditions."

The 48th Fighter Wing trains with allies and partners during these ACE events to enable forces to counter military aggression while allowing airmen an opportunity to gain hands on experience.

Staff Sergeant Brian Nguyen, dedicated crew chief for the 748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, added: "I think hands-on experience is the best way for my Airmen to see how they impact the mission.

"It allows them to see ACE concepts in action, and also the perspective of other agencies around base."

The exercise took place across three air bases at RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall in Suffolk as well as RAF Conningsby in Lincolnshire.

MAX 20-20 is vital in maintaining the 48th Fighter Wing's operational competence away from their home station, its effective combat readiness capabilities, and its continued ability to ensure air superiority for NATO partners and allied nations.

Group Captain Matt Peterson, RAF Coningsby Station Commander, said: "The US Air Force and Royal Air Force have worked successfully together over a long period of time.

"Practicing ACE concepts strengthens the ties between our two stations, and enables us to have the edge in combat whenever we need it."

Camilletti added: "We have to continue to adapt and innovate during peacetime to ensure we are prepared for any situation.

"Keeping ACE capabilities current ensures that potential adversaries know that we are always ready to own the skies."

6.10.2020

Suffolk Libraries announced: This is an update on how we're reintroducing more services and opening library buildings for customers.

Almost all libraries are now open and offering browsing, computer access and printing/copying.

We have the following safety procedures in place:

Staff and customers are required to wear a face covering and we have hand sanitisers available for everyone.

Limited numbers of customers are allowed in each library and everyone is asked to respect social distancing and one-way systems.

It is now mandatory for Suffolk Libraries to collect information from customers for the test and trace process.

You can check our website for any temporary changes at your library before visiting but everyone is very welcome to visit us again.

However, we would ask that anyone with any COVID-19 symptoms refrain from visiting until they're feeling better in the interests of customers and staff.

On Monday 5 October we made some important changes as we continue to reintroduce normal services:

We have reintroduced charges for overdue items. This will only apply to items borrowed on or after Monday 5 October which are due back on 2 November onwards.

Library loan periods will remain at four weeks.

We have also reintroduced charges for DVDs.

Most libraries have a book drop facility so you can drop items off without having to come in. You can also renew your books online.

We understand the COVID-19 situation makes it difficult for some people to visit or return books, so please contact us if you have a concern about returning overdue items. You can call your local library or contact our customer service team at help@suffolklibraries.co.uk or call 01473 351249.

We're still running online activities and you can access our extensive eLibrary service if you can't get to a library.

Any rise in local infection rates or changes in government advice affecting Suffolk may affect the services we are able to provide but we will keep customers informed of any changes.

7.10.20 – Ipswich magistrates court hearings:

Bryan Schmitt, 21 of RAF Lakenheath, in Beyton drove on the A14 without due care and attention. Fined £166, Licence endorsed. He also in Beyton drove on the A14 with no insurance. Fined £250 victim surcharge £32, costs £110, banned from driving for six months, licence endorsed.

Marc Anthony Stoneham, 31, of Avenue Road, Lakenheath drove on A30 Roseworthy, exceeding limit of 60 mph. Fined £230, surcharge £32 and costs £85. Licence endorsed

Jemarco Brooks, 33 of Coningsby, RAF Lakenheath drove on Queensway, Mildenhall without insurance. Fined £220, banned from driving for six months, licence endorsed. Drove on Lords Walk, Lakenheath without insurance. Fined £461, surcharge £79, costs £85. Licence endorsed. He also drove on Lords Walk, Lakenheath without MOT Fined £100.

8.10.2020

2 squadrons of the F15 jets deployed to Iceland as part of the NATO Protection

9.10.2020

Lakenheath FC defeated by Mildenhall 3-1 as they exited the FA Vase.

The Bury Free Press ran a two page spread showing the activities of family fun at The Pumpkin Patch run by Undley Farms Events near Lakenheath with Covid safe procedures in place. It includes the ever-popular maize maze and the opportunity to pick your own pumpkin. It will be open for the next 3 weekends and all of half term with a ticket only entrance to limit numbers at any one time.

10.10.2020

Stephen Yallop put out a request for singers and non-singers to start a new Suffolk musical theatre group. The aim is a brand-new weekly singing group to be held in the Assembly of God Church Hall in Back Street Lakenheath.

LAKENHEATH FC

S.S.CUP

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER

V

FELIXSTOWE AND WALTON RES



K.O 3:00PM

BAR & KITCHEN OPEN

Wings Rd IP27 9HN

12.10.2020

The Prime Minister gave another lockdown announcement across the UK, which has seen the reintroduction of stricter measures for many parts of the country. As the local and national authorities attempt to manage the surge in coronavirus infections. West Suffolk NHS foundation Trust as a result produced a guide bearing in mind that Suffolk has been allocated the medium covid alert level as below.

13.10.2020

Lakenheath youth FC announced exciting news! Thanks to the Premier league, The FA and DCMS'S football foundation, we've been awarded a grant that will enable us to purchase another set of mini soccer goals for our club.



Following last night's statement by the Prime Minister, West Suffolk NHS foundation trust confirmed that Suffolk has been assigned the medium COVID alert level. They issued this to confirm the new and current rules for our area:

VERY HIGH

HIGH

MEDIUM

LOCAL COVID ALERT LEVEL

MEDIUM

Social Contact



Rule of six indoors and outdoors, in all settings.

Weddings and Funerals



Up to 15 guests for weddings and up to 30 guests for funerals. 15 for receptions, wakes and related ceremonies.

Overnight Stays



Overnight stays permitted subject to social contact rules.

Working from home guidance



Work from home where possible.

Shopping and Retail



Open.

Leisure and gyms



Open.

Hospitality



Open with some restrictions including 10pm closing time and table-service only.

Entertainment and tourist attractions



Open, except nightclubs and adult entertainment.

Education



Schools, FE colleges open. Universities must reflect wider restrictions.

Healthcare Services



Open.

Residential Care



Open to external visitors with additional precautions, subject to individual care provider guidance.

Travel and Transport



No travel restrictions within area. Avoid travel into Local COVID Alert Level Very High areas where possible.

Sporting Activity



Organised sport / licensed physical activity allowed in outdoor settings. Indoor organised sport must follow social contact rules (other than youth or disabled sport).

Worship



Open, subject to social contact rules.

Childcare



Registered and wraparound childcare open. Supervised activities permitted in private homes. Children's groups permitted.

Youth Clubs and Activities



Permitted.

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other:



Wash hands
keep washing your hands regularly



Cover face
wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space
stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

For more information and detailed guidance visit:
gov.uk/coronavirus

18.10.2020

Lakenheath Casuals FC Posted: Great win this weekend for the Vets! 10-0 away to Ridgeons Vets in our 3rd league game.

Goalscorers:

4 x Alvin Watts

2 x Mark Bunko

1 x Nathaniel Cohn

1 x Chris Hewett

1 x Dan Proctor

1 x Graham Gladstone

Division 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Lakenheath Casuals	3	2	0	1	18	6	6
Thurlow	2	2	0	0	13	3	6
Bluntisham Rangers	3	2	0	1	8	6	6
Kennett	3	2	0	1	15	14	6
Little Rose	2	1	0	1	8	7	3
Cambridge Ambassadors	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
Bottisham	2	0	0	2	12	16	0
Ridgeons	3	0	0	3	1	23	0

21.10.2020

Ipswich Magistrates Court hearings:

George Albert Scott, 57 of High Street, Lakenheath caused harassment, alarm or distress to another in Brandon. Fined £300 surcharge £32 and costs £300.

Sally Scott 58 of Wingfield Road, Lakenheath assaulted another in Brandon by beating. Fined £490, surcharge £49 and costs £300.

23.10.2020

Sadly, the telephone box located near Mutford Green used as a book exchange was destroyed as a result of arson. The box is owned by the Lakenheath Parish Council and looked after by the various scout groups in the village. The village keeper cleared out the burnt books ready for repairs to be carried out paid for by the Parish Council. Newspaper article available.



30.10.20

Lakenheath FC are celebrating the return of John Sands to their forward line.

31.10.20

Our Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced new lockdown national restrictions to try to contain the corona virus spreading. In short, he announced:

COVID-19 case numbers are rising rapidly across the whole of the UK and in other countries. We must act now to control the spread of the virus. The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home, to protect the NHS and save lives.

When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection. That is why, from Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December, the Government is taking the following action:

Requiring people to stay at home, except for specific purposes.

Preventing gathering with people you do not live with, except for specific purposes.

Closing certain businesses and venues.

These new measures have been carefully judged to achieve the maximum reduction in growth in the number of cases, preventing the NHS from being overwhelmed, whilst ensuring that schools, colleges and universities stay open and that as many people as possible continue to work.

Until Thursday 5 November, the relevant Local Covid Alert Level measures will continue to apply in the area where you live. From Thursday the national restrictions replace the local restrictions in your area. No new areas will move in the LCAL Very High restrictions between now and Thursday.

The new measures will apply nationally for four weeks up to Wednesday 2 December. At the end of the period, we will look to return to a regional approach, based on the latest data.

Complying with the new measures will help limit the spread of coronavirus, reduce the impact on the NHS and save lives. They will be underpinned by law which will make clear about what you must and must not do from 5 November. The relevant authorities, including the police, will have powers to enforce the law – including through fines and dispersing gatherings.

Protect your loved ones.

1. Stay at home

This means you must not leave or be outside of your home except for specific purposes. These include:

for childcare or education, where this is not provided online
for work purposes, where your place of work remains open and where you cannot work from home (including if your job involves working in other people's homes)
to exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place - with the people you live with, with your support bubble or, when on your own, with 1 person from another household (children under school age, as well as those dependent on round-the-clock care, such as those with severe disabilities, who are with their parents will not count towards the limit on two people meeting outside).
for any medical concerns, reasons, appointments and emergencies, or to avoid or escape risk of injury or harm - such as domestic abuse
shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which should be as infrequent as possible
to visit members of your support bubble or provide care for vulnerable people, or as a volunteer
This list is not exhaustive and there are other limited circumstances where you may be permitted to leave or be outside of your home. These will be set out in law and further detailed guidance will be provided.

2. Staying safe outside the home (Social Distancing)

You should minimise time spent outside your home and when around other people ensure that you are two metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

Remember - 'Hands. Face. Space':

hands – wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds

face – wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet

space – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)

3. Meeting with family and friends

You must not meet socially indoors with family or friends unless they are part of your household - meaning the people you live with - or support bubble.

A support bubble is where a household with one adult joins with another household. Households in that support bubble can still visit each other, stay overnight, and visit outdoor public places together.

You can exercise or visit outdoor public places with the people you live with, your support bubble, or 1 person from another household (children under school age, as well as those dependent on round-

the-clock care, such as those with severe disabilities, who are with their parents will not count towards the limit on two people meeting outside).

Outdoor public places include:

parks, beaches, countryside,
public gardens (whether or not you pay to enter them), allotments
playgrounds
You cannot meet in a private garden.

4. Businesses and venues

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues to close. These include:

all non-essential retail, including, but not limited to clothing and electronics stores, vehicle showrooms, travel agents, betting shops, auction houses, tailors, car washes, tobacco and vape shops.

indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks,

entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, adult gaming centres and arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, concert halls, zoos and other animal attractions, botanical gardens;

personal care facilities such as hair, beauty and nail salons, tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services, non-medical acupuncture, and tanning salons.

Food shops, supermarkets, garden centres and certain other retailers providing essential goods and services can remain open. Essential retail should follow COVID-secure guidelines to protect customers, visitors and workers.

Non-essential retail can remain open for delivery to customers and click-and-collect.

Playgrounds can remain open.

Hospitality venues like restaurants, bars and pubs must close, but can still provide takeaway and delivery services. However, takeaway of alcohol will not be allowed.

Hotels, hostels and other accommodation should only open for those who have to travel for work purposes and for a limited number of other exemptions which will be set out in law.

A full list of the business closures will be published and set out in law.

Some venues will be allowed to remain open for specific exempt activities, like childcare and support groups. Support groups that are essential to deliver in person can continue with up to 15 participants where formally organised to provide mutual aid, therapy or any other form of support. This includes support to victims of crime, people in drug and alcohol recovery, new parents and guardians, people with long-term illnesses, people facing issues relating to their sexuality or gender, and those who have suffered bereavement.

A number of public services will also stay open and you will be able to leave home to visit them. These include:

the NHS and medical services like GPs. We are supporting the NHS to safely carry out urgent and non-urgent services and it is vital anyone who thinks they need any kind of medical care comes forward and seeks help.

Jobcentre Plus sites

Courts

Civil Registrations Offices

5. Weddings, civil partnerships, religious services and funerals

Funerals can be attended by a maximum of 30 people, and it is advised that only close friends and family attend. Linked ceremonial events such as stone settings and ash scatterings can also continue with up to 15 people in attendance. Anyone working is not included. Social distancing should be maintained between people who do not live together or share a support bubble.

Weddings, civil partnership ceremonies will not be permitted to take place except in exceptional circumstances.

Places of Worship will be closed, unless they are being used for:

Funerals

To broadcast acts of worship

Individual prayer

Formal childcare or where part of a school

Essential voluntary and public services, such as blood donation or food banks

Other exempted activities such as some support groups

6. Going to work

To help contain the virus, everyone who can work effectively from home must do so. Where people cannot do so (for instance people who work in critical national infrastructure, construction or manufacturing) they should continue to travel to work/attend their workplace. This is essential to keeping the country operating and supporting vital sectors and employers.

Public sector employees working in essential services, including education settings, should continue to go into work. The risk of transmission can be substantially reduced if COVID-secure guidelines are followed closely. Extra consideration should be given to those people at higher risk.

7. Going to school, college and university

The Government will continue to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our young people and will not be closing schools, colleges or universities. It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians. Senior clinicians still advise that school is the best place for children to be, and so they should continue to go to school. Schools have implemented a range of protective measures to make them safe.

The Prime Minister and Education Secretary have been clear that exams will go ahead next summer, as they are the fairest and most accurate way to measure a pupil's attainment. We therefore need to keep schools and colleges open so that children are able to keep progressing towards exams and the next stage of education or employment. Students now have more time to prepare for their exams next year, as most AS, A levels and GCSEs will be held 3 weeks later to help address the disruption caused by the pandemic.

Universities have welcomed students back and we have published guidance advising universities on reopening to ensure they have safety measures in place to minimise the spread of the virus.

Universities and adult education settings should consider moving to increased levels of online learning where possible.

There are further restrictions in place:

If you live at university, you must not move back and forward between your permanent home and student home during term time. You should only return home at the end of term for Christmas. We will publish further guidance on the end of term.

8. Childcare and children's activities

Parents will still be able to access some registered childcare and other childcare activities (including wraparound care) where reasonably necessary to enable parents to work, or for the purposes of respite care.

Early years settings can remain open. Parents are able to form a childcare bubble with another household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under. As above, some households will also be able to benefit from being in a support bubble, which allows single adult households to join another household.

Some youth services may be able to continue, such as 1-1 youth work and support groups, but most youth clubs and groups will need to cease for this period.

9. Protecting people more at risk from coronavirus

If you are over 60 or clinically vulnerable, you could be at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. You:

should be especially careful to follow the rules and minimise your contacts with others

should continue to wash your hands carefully and more frequently than usual and maintain thorough cleaning of frequently touched areas in your home and/or workspace

Clinically vulnerable people are those who are:

aged 70 or over (regardless of medical conditions)

under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (that is, anyone instructed to get a flu jab each year on medical grounds):

chronic (long-term) mild to moderate respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis

chronic heart disease, such as heart failure

chronic kidney disease

chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis

chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS) or cerebral palsy

diabetes

a weakened immune system as the result of certain conditions or medicines they are taking (such as steroid tablets)

being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)

pregnant

There is a further group of people who are defined, also on medical grounds, as clinically extremely vulnerable to coronavirus – that is, people with specific serious health conditions. Over this period, we are advising the CEV to work from home. If you cannot work from home, you are advised not to

go to work and may be eligible for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) or Employment Support Allowance (ESA). You are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible, but are encouraged to go outside for exercise. The full new guidance will be published on Monday 2 November and the Government will write to everybody who is clinically extremely vulnerable to set out detailed advice while the new restrictions are in place. Current advice is in place at each local COVID alert level.

10. Visiting relatives in care homes

Guidance on care home visits will be published ahead of Thursday. For now, you should follow existing guidance

11. Travel

You should avoid travelling in or out of your local area, and you should look to reduce the number of journeys you make. However, you can and should still travel for a number of reasons, including:

travelling to work where this cannot be done from home

travelling to education and for caring responsibilities

hospital GP and other medical appointments or visits where you have had an accident or are concerned about your health

visiting venues that are open, including essential retail

exercise, if you need to make a short journey to do so

If you need to travel, we encourage you to walk or cycle where possible, and to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. This will allow you to practise social distancing while you travel.

Overnight stays and holidays away from primary residences will not be allowed. This includes holidays abroad and in the UK. It also means you cannot stay in a second home, if you own one, or staying with anyone you do not live with or are in a support bubble with. There are specific exceptions, for example if you need to stay away from home (including in a second home) for work purposes, but this means people cannot travel overseas or within the UK, unless for work, education or other legally permitted reasons.

You must not travel if you are experiencing any coronavirus symptoms, are self-isolating as a result of coronavirus symptoms, are sharing a household or support bubble with somebody with symptoms, or have been told to self-isolate after being contacted by NHS Test and Trace.

If you need to use public transport - to travel to work for example - you should follow the safer travel guidance. This includes the rules on wearing face masks and advice on car sharing.

For those planning to travel into England, you should check the current travel corridor list to see whether you need to isolate for 14 days. You will still be required to abide by the restrictions set out here even if you do not need to isolate. If you do need to travel overseas from England before 2 December (and are legally permitted to do so, for example, because it is for work), even if you are returning to a place, you've visited before, you should look at the rules in place at your destination, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) travel advice.

British nationals currently abroad do not need to return home immediately. However, you should check with your airline or travel operator on arrangements for returning.

12. Financial support

Workers in any part of the UK can retain their job, even if their employer cannot afford to pay them, and be paid at least 80% of their salary up to £2500 a month.

The flexibility of the current CJRS will be retained to allow employees to continue to work where they can.

Employers small or large, charitable or non-profit are eligible and because more businesses will need to close, they will now be asked to pay just National Insurance and Pensions contributions for their staff during the month of November – making this more generous than support currently on offer.

The Job Support Scheme will not be introduced until after Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends
Wherever you live, you may be able to get financial help through the:

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
Job Support Scheme (from 1st November)
New Style Employment and Support Allowance

1.11.2020

Lakenheath Youth Football Club: U13's VS Dussindale match report:

With the news from the previous day of another lockdown coming in soon we knew this may be our last game for a little time and the team played like it also with everyone giving 100%.

From the outset Lakenheath were chasing every loose ball and battling for possession. With the wind against us we took the lead through a Dylan back heel from a corner and this upped everyone again.

Two further goals from Lewis put us 3 up before half time. With the wind a major factor it was good to adapt to the conditions and get a good lead by half time.

Olivia came on from sub midway through the first half and held the ball up well which allowed Isaac and Liam to get forwards and keep pressure on Dussindale. Adam and Kieran were battling for every ball in the middle of midfield and with Ryan playing outfield in the second half it was a good strong performance from them all in midfield.

The second half saw some good goals from Isaac, Dylan, and Lewis and "the-goal-of-the-season-that-never-was" from Ryan striking from a drop ball.

Joseph played well in goal second half and during his time on the pitch in the first half he picked out many passes. Ryan did the first half shift in goal and played the ball out well and commanded his area.

Aaron and Harry were excellent on the right/left in defence and with Erik, Clara and Rhys doing shifts in at centre back we looked solid at the back which gave the platform for the whole team to go forward.

Dylan, Rhys and Olivia played well upfront and forced many errors and took their chances as well. All in all it was a good birthday present for me as coach and was good to see them all giving 100% and playing as a team.

Thanks to Rhys M for running the line, Chris and Mark for warm ups and coaching and to our great supporters who cheered the team on from start to finish.

Let's hope we can get back to football soon when safe to do so.

2.11.2020

CJ's announced that a fruit and veg stall will be available on their site every Friday from 8 am to 2 pm.



5.11.2020

Second national lockdown comes into force in England

6.11.20

Bury Free Press reported that two members of Lakenheath junior Indoors Bowls Club have secured themselves a place in the finals of the Junior Suffolk Championships to be held at Beccles Bowls at a date yet to be decided.

Bury Free Press also confirmed today that there were 4 lab-confirmed Covid-19 cases week ending 30 October 2021.

8.11.2020

In line with current Government restrictions The Lakenheath Remembrance Day service consisted of a short service at the war memorial followed by laying of the wreaths.



Rev Tams leading prayers with Cllr. Ed Morley (Chair of the Lakenheath Parish Council) and Col. Jason Camilletti (USAF Commander of the 48th Fighter Wing at RAF Lakenheath)



Cllr. Stephen Frost (West Suffolk Council), Cllr. Colin Noble (Suffolk County Council) and Matthew Edwards (President Lakenheath Royal British Legion)



Cllr Stephen Frost Cllr. Colin Noble, Matthew Edwards, Edward Morley and Col. Camilletti

9.11.2020

Cllr Colin Noble posted this

Representing your community on the County Council is an honour and a privilege. No more so than when you are helping residents with their issues and concerns. It's a working role rather than a ceremonial one. Still, on Remembrance Sunday, it's usually both, with the laying of wreaths and chatting to the resident before and after the ceremonies.

I say Remembrance Sunday but in my case it really a remembrance weekend as there are several war memorials in villages across the Row Heath division area and acts of Remembrance take place across the weekend. Indeed one village holds its remembrance ceremony always on the eleventh day at the eleventh hour to make when the First World War ended, so this year that's on Wednesday coming.

Of course, this year's acts of Remembrance are very different and lower-key than previous years, and the advice has been to ask people to mark Remembrance by being in their own garden to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice rather than gather at War Memorials. An extraordinary state of affairs but just one that adds to all our efforts to beat the virus.

This year I laid wreaths at West Row, Kenny Hill, Beck Row, Eriswell and Lakenheath. But these were quite reflective occasions without the larger gathering of residents to pay their respects to those who went before us.

The biggest gathering is usually Lakenheath where groups from across our community Scouts, Cubs, Girl Guides and Brownies along with Children from the village primary school all march through the village and after the laying of wreaths we all go to our village church for a rousing service of remembrance. Sadly this year, just a few of us, socially distanced, gathered to remember and mark

the occasion. And like so many things this year, many children missed out on this moment spending time to understand our history and the consequence of war.

The lockdown whilst protecting all of us and making sure the NHS can cope with those who do get ill still means we have not been able to pay our collective respects as we would want to.

But it's important for our family, friends, work colleagues and communities that we beat this thing together and that why this year we quietly marked the occasion. Next year when we have a vaccine is available, and the danger is passed we can all contribute to the 100th anniversary of the Royal British Legion and pay our respects properly to those who make the ultimate sacrifice. But for this year we all worked together to keep each other safe, and we must continue to do so.

Take Care.

Colin Noble



13.11.2020

The number of new positive Covid cases in Lakenheath for week ending 6th November 2020 was 0.

19.11.2020

George Albert Scott 32 of Wingfield Road, Lakenheath appeared at Ipswich Magistrates Court guilty of assault by beating. Community order made for 18 months, to comply with requirements set by Officer for up to 230 days, unpaid work requirement for 80 hours within next 12 months, restraining order not to contact named individual or enter named address for one year, compensation £200, victim surcharge £90 costs of £300. At Brandon damaged the passenger side wing mirror of a vehicle belonging to named individual. Compensation £ 449.98

20.11.2020

Number of new Covid positive cases for Lakenheath is 4 for week ending 13.11.2020.

22.11.2020

A new Facebook group formed in the village set up by Pastor Vince Williams "Covid-19 Mental Health Support Group". <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1455134741357691/> This is a group set up to arrange discussions about what is going on in our lives and to provide support to those struggling in whatever manner as a result of the Covid pandemic. Funding has been arranged to allow small groups to meet within the Government guidelines in the Village Hall on Lakenheath High Street until such time as a permanent venue can be found. Every support and every precaution will be taken with seating 2 metres apart and good ventilation.

23.11.2020

Ipswich Magistrates Court saw George Albert Scott, 32 of Wingfield Road, Lakenheath guilty of assault by beating. Community order made for 18 months, to comply with requirements set by officer for up to 230 days, unpaid work requirement for 80 hours within next 12 months, restraining order not to contact named individual or enter named address for one year, compensation £200, victim surcharge £90 costs of £300. At Brandon damaged the passenger side wing mirror of a vehicle belonging to named individual, compensation £449.98.

24.11.2020

The Prime Minister announces up to three households will be able to meet up during a five-day Christmas period of 23 to 27 December. Other rules were reinforced. Lakenheath is in tier 1 the lowest tier. In short this allowed:

1. The rule of 6 applies indoors and outdoors
2. Pubs, bars and Restaurants can open but to table service only.
3. Shops non-essential retail can re-open
4. Hair and beauty salons can open
5. Work from home if it is possible to do so
6. Overnight stays yes so long as it is within your support bubble.
7. Travel walk or cycle if possible. Avoid travel into tier 3 areas except where necessary ie work, education, medical attention or caring responsibilities
8. Hotels can open
9. Education nurseries schools colleges universities can all open

10. Religious services. Places of worship will open but people must abide by the rule of 6
11. Weddings and funerals no more than 15 guests at weddings, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals
12. Amateur sport classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors but must follow rule of six indoors.
13. Gyms and Pools can open
14. Professional Sport Spectators limited to 50 per cent capacity or 4000 outdoors and 1000 indoors.
15. Live Performances Audience limited to 50 per cent or 4000 outdoors and 1000 indoors

Lakenheath Youth Football Club made this announcement:

This year has been challenging for everyone and within our village we have seen our local Sandwich Bar: CJ's Sandwich Bar & Café adapt their business and provide a great service during an ever-changing environment. When panic buying was depleting supermarket shelves of the essential items CJs kept the supply of various items for people to purchase.

We recently asked Louise if CJ's would like to help with our raffle by selling some tickets and there was no hesitation in them saying they "would love to help". This is a great help to our club in helping raise some funds when, through the cancellation of football, we have been unable to do so recently. CJ's then went a step further and not only offered to sell the raffle tickets but also provided most of the Christmas hamper prizes. We are extremely grateful for this help and want to say thanks to everyone at CJ's for your help.

If you are passing through the village or already visiting CJ's please do pay them a visit. Not only will you be able to pick up fresh bread, flour, fresh cakes, sandwiches, sausage rolls and lots other items but you will also have the chance to buy some tickets for the raffle.

Our Christmas Hamper is on display at CJ's also.

We will put regular updates on the raffle over the course of the next 4 weeks and thanks to everyone that buys a ticket.

Today CJ's announced that they had collected £264.35 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal supporting the Armed Forces

25.11.2020

Ipswich Magistrates Court Bealee Barbara Gibson, 35, of Eriswell Drive, Lakenheath. Drove in Eriswell Drive with controlled drug, namely Benzoyllecgonine in bloodstream. Fined £120, surcharge £32, costs £105, disqualified for 12 months, licence endorsed. Drove in Eriswell Drive, without insurance. Fined £80, licence endorsed. Drove in Eriswell Drive without licence. Fined £60, licence endorsed.

26.11.20

Suffolk was placed into tier two lock down measures. In short this means

No mixing of households indoors aside from support bubbles will be allowed, with a maximum gathering of six permitted outdoors.

Pubs and bars will remain closed unless operating as restaurants, with alcohol only served as part of a "substantial meal" until 10pm, before venues must close at 11pm.

All retail, leisure and personal care services are able to reopen.

People will be encouraged to reduce the number of journeys they make and to avoid travelling into Tier 3 areas, except for reasons of education or work.

Overnight stays will only be permitted for those in the same household or support bubble and accommodation can open.

Places of worship can reopen, but people must not interact with anyone outside their household or support bubble.

Fifteen guests will be allowed at weddings and civil partnerships, increasing to 30 for funerals.

Classes and organised sport can take place outdoors but not indoors if there is any interaction between two different households.

Large events including sport and live performances will be open to the public but limited to 50% capacity or 2,000 outdoors and 1,000 indoors.

27.12.2020

Ben Cowling Manager at Lakenheath Football Club announced that he has resigned Dean Grogan

The Bury Free Press reported that a former Suffolk Police Officer, resident of Lakenheath, made fake drug wraps after bungling a stop and search in Newmarket. Daniel Jackson of Gorse Close has been handed a 12-month jail term at Norwich Crown Court on Tuesday.

Bury Free Press also confirmed today that there were 11 lab-confirmed new Covid-19 cases week ending 20 November 2020.

1.12.2020

Ashley Pinner of 22 Mill Road, Lakenheath, appeared at Ipswich Magistrates Court. In Barton Mills drove on the A11 without Insurance. Fines £660, Victim surcharge £88, costs £90, licence endorsed. In addition, in Barton Mills drove on the A11 and failed to comply with a traffic sign by doing a U-turn. Fined £230.

2.12.2020

Suffolk County Council announced that their budget for the forthcoming year is now published which will see a Band B home will pay just under £42 extra per year for the council tax bill. This equates to a 4% increase. 2% towards the adult social care precept and 2% for the county's element of the bill.

Today the Second lockdown ends after four weeks and England returns to a stricter three-tier system of restriction.

The roll out of the vaccination program will proceed with earnest now. 2 jabs required and immunity will be in place one week after the second jab which will take place 3 weeks after the first jab.

3.12.20

The first snow of the season fell in Lilac Drive, Lakenheath, leaving about 2" on the ground



4.12.2020

Lakenheath again had no Covid Positive cases week ending 4.12.2020.

10.12.20

Amazon Locker facility appeared outside the coop today. A wonderful facility for the use of locals. Post Office were pleased as it will reduce their workload if they no longer deal with the Amazon parcels which for them was an unpaid service.

There was a lot of debate around the village as to the location adjacent to the zig zag lines of the zebra crossing and on a highway without planning consent. This is being investigated via the Parish Council.

Eventually the box was removed as it was causing too many near accidents because of its location. People were selfishly parking wholly on the pavement near the box so that it became impossible for people to see what was approaching the zebra crossing. Others were distracted by the box and ignoring those already on the crossing. In addition, there was no permission for the box to be placed on the County Highway.



15.12.21

PM says Christmas rules will still be relaxed but urges the public to keep celebrations “short” and “small”

18.12.20 to 20.12.20

In memory of the late David Gathercole (who previously regularly provided a Christmas Tree at the Playing Fields and arranged the Father Christmas tour of the village) his family and close friends continued the tradition. Nothing but good comments were received by them from all quarters of the village. It is hoped that the tradition will continue or be taken over by someone else in future years.



18.12.2020

Sunday Supper Hampers ready to deliver to those in need from the food bank
Thank you to Sainsbury, Factory Shop and Lakenheath Co-op for all your kind donations



19.12.2020

Lakenheath Youth Football Club announced “with Many thanks to CJ's Sandwich Bar & Café for selling our raffle tickets. Over the last four weeks they have helped raise over £500 for the club which is an awesome effort.

Anouska is pictured below who drew the winning ticket for the hamper which was won by Iris. A real huge thanks from all of us at the club to CJ's.”

The winners are:

Christmas hamper - Iris

Hair styling voucher by Sally - Wendy

Family photo shoot voucher & biscuits - Dave Fisher

Paint balling voucher - Kay Patterson

Bottle of white wine - John briggs

Bottle of red wine - Paul Lewis

Children's toy - Iris

Quality street tin - Mr Blackwell

G&T and photo shoot set - Mrs Henry

Again, many thanks for your support.



19.12.2020

Boris Johnson, the Prime Minister, has announced further restrictions as the rate of Covid-19 infections is rising rapidly as a new strain emerges. The planned relaxation of coronavirus rules for a five-day period over Christmas has been cut to just Christmas Day for people living in Tiers 1 to 3, which includes Suffolk in Tier 2. Prime Minister Boris Johnson has announced. As Suffolk remains

in Tier 2, they will also see the Christmas “bubble” policy – allowing up to three households to meet up over the holiday period – severely curtailed, applying on Christmas Day only when previously it was to cover 5 days of Christmas.

The recommendation is still to work from home if you are able to.

Lakenheath Football Club beat Cornard United 4 – 3. They are now considered for one of the four promotion places.

21.12.2020

Tier 4 restrictions come into force in London and South East England

24.12.2020

Covid positive results for Lakenheath week ending 24.12.20 were 11.

29.12.2020

RAF Lakenheath received their first allocation of vaccines but are not starting to administer them till the 3rd January. They are hopeful to provide at least 300 per week.

End of year report received from the RSPB

2020- a year of ‘ups’ and ‘downs’ at RSPB Lakenheath Fen

2020 was a very different year- when word got round our office in March that there was a new virus around which was very contagious... we hoped and prayed that it wouldn’t affect us. But what a rollercoaster ride it took us on which has not ended yet despite it being ten months later. In early April, I and a couple of my colleagues were furloughed, to return in June, reunited with the rest of the team and together we attempted to put the pieces of the reserve back together- none of the paths had been mown so vegetation was several feet high everywhere, and we had marsh harriers nesting very close to a path, which we cordoned off to give them peace and privacy. A few weeks later, this nest produced five beautiful fledglings, which was a wonderful reward for protecting their awkwardly-placed nest! Joining them in the avian creche of summer 2020 was one crane chick, hatched and nurtured by one of two pairs of cranes using the reserve in 2020- ‘pair A2’. We had a second pair of new (and possibly inexperienced) birds who attempted to breed but failed- we are hoping they will try again this Spring.

It was heart-warming to see the wildlife going about its business throughout the pandemic- displaying, breeding and raising young, no matter what struggles we humans may be having ourselves. As I write this in January 2021, we have just entered a third lockdown, but the reserve is full to bursting with redwing, fieldfare, roe deer, woodpeckers, marsh harriers and even a scarce hen harrier- delightful to those local visitors still able to reach us for their daily exercise. In 2020 we finished the year with:

139 bird species recorded from the reserve, including white stork, bar-headed goose and wood sandpiper.

15 dragonfly and damselfly species.

19 different butterflies, including a white-letter hairstreak, a purple hairstreak and a clouded yellow.

19 mammals recorded, including a pair of Chinese water deer!

What's next for us at the reserve

Looking ahead to the future, we have plans to improve the reserve further this year, such as placing colour-coded way marker posts at path junctions throughout the reserve to co-ordinate with our four trails- purple, green, orange and yellow- to make it easier for visitors to find their way around. This work is being generously funded by a local conservation grant for which we are very grateful. We also plan to replace the bird feeding station at the front of the Visitor Centre- which is falling apart- with a new-look station, perhaps in the form of a couple of tree branches decorated with feeders! The only event we managed to hold in 2020 was our usual long-distance winter-themed guided walk of 6 miles, led by one of our fit and enthusiastic volunteers, down to the far western end of the reserve and back. It was on 1 February which enables the route to take in parts of the reserve closed off to the public during the breeding season as the cranes make this end their dominion and are very sensitive to disturbance. This year, we hope to resume events in summer with plenty of guided walks, organised moth traps and children's activities. We are planning for a positive outcome in summer and we will just hope for the best!

Myself and the rest of the team at RSPB Lakenheath Fen would like to wish readers good health and happiness for the year ahead. If you would like any information about the reserve or if you have any questions, we can be contacted via 01842 863400 or using our e-mail address

lakenheath@rspb.org.uk

With best wishes,

Heidi Jones (Visitor Experience Officer, RSPB Lakenheath Fen).

As we draw to the end of what can only be described as an extraordinary year, the last few weeks of December continue to be eventful. The roll-out of the first Covid-19 vaccine is very welcome news and brings hope that this is the start of the end of the pandemic and of a sense of normality returning in 2021. While the road ahead will be bumpy, the direction of travel is encouraging.

Records produced by Hermione Brown as the Village Recorder for the Suffolk History Local Council.