

Chair's report to 44th AGM of Redlingfield Parish Meeting on Wednesday 28th April 2021

I don't need to tell you that last year was strange. We all lived through it. Redlingfield only managed to have two Pubs on the Green and a couple of Coffee Caravan visits between lockdowns so we missed out on a host of social and fund-raising gatherings.

We did, however, come through for those in need. When we asked for volunteers to help with shopping, prescriptions, odd-jobs and just combatting loneliness we had ten times more volunteers than requests for help. I'd like to thank everyone who has helped out with everything from small acts of kindness to bigger projects. Not only have villagers stepped up but also the local traders and deliverers. I would particularly like to thank Scott, our regular postman. Not only does his smile brighten the day, but he's also gone above and beyond helping villagers.

One big success was our Bags of Cheer project which brightened up a particularly bleak May for Redlingfield and surrounds. We had grants from Suffolk Community Foundation, Mid Suffolk District Council, Redlingfield church, the Coffee Morning and Redlingfield parish council, as well as donations from individual villagers and businesses.

More recently, thanks go to Sue and Allan Chapman for putting up our new noticeboard and Will Kerry for sorting out the insert.

After four years in the chair – one over the recommended three – I'm stepping down but will be happy to continue to help out as and when I can as a committee member.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with events, projects and just making Redlingfield a great place to live over the last few years.

Along with many of you, I really look forward to our first Pub on the Green.