

# MIDDLETON- CUM-FORDLEY



*Seen in Middleton before Chelsea! The Boxing Hares were in situ at 'Firethorn' Rectory Road, as part of Open Gardens, courtesy of the Richardsons, and will soon be on display on a floral 'boxing ring' at the Chelsea Flower Show in September.*

*You saw them here first!!!*

## NEWSLETTER

*September 2021*

Editorial

Well - what an amazing weekend Open Gardens turned out to be. We all wondered whether the visitors would be ready to come back, and boy were they ready! So much so that 3 times we ran out of guides and I dashed off to the village hall to print more, often leaving behind my valiant refreshment team to cope with the rush on teas/rolls/cakes! Cope they did of course - never in doubt. Over the two days there were 16 folk front of house, in the kitchen or in the sink! In addition, there were the tent erectors on the Friday afternoon and all the wonderful bakers that made cakes, scones, sausage rolls etc. etc. and the ladies with cream teas at the village hall. If I go on I will forget someone – might have already. Hope not!! Very much a community effort – and that’s without the people who opened their gardens!

Now that’s done, and we’ve got our breath back, at the time of writing we are about to launch into the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Village Fete. Seems an awfully long time since the Leiston RBL Band marched down the street to open our celebratory Golden Anniversary fete. By the time many of you read this though it will already have happened, so hopefully it was a success!

Contributions for the next newsletter to me by email preferably as a WORD doc please to [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com) or 6 Meadowview, Rectory Road, by **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September** unusual I know to be a Friday but I will be unable to collect and distribute on the normal day this time, I will most likely distribute to deliverers on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Spare paper copies will be in the church porch as usual. Also to be found on the Parish website.

[www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk](http://www.middletoncumfordley.org.uk).

Bank details for BACS donations:  
HSBC  
Middleton Newsletter  
sort code 40-28-33  
account number 61054236

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**Last call for the Poppy Appeal**  
  
At the time of going to press I have had no response to my appeal for someone to take over the co-ordination of the British Legion poppy appeal for Middleton this autumn. If no-one is willing to take this on I am afraid there won’t be a collection in Middleton this year.  
  
Graham Ingham  
648673

~~~~~

Letter to the editor ....

Hello...

While I think about it ( meant to do it last month!) any chance of asking folk, in the next Newsletter, to consider others when using noisy gardening equipment in the evenings in particular and perhaps Sunday afternoons. Tonight we were enjoying peace in the garden, birdsong and, I admit it, a little drink.. then, at 6.30 up starts a *really noisy* lawn mower. The other day it was after 7pm, possibly not the same one.

There may not be any law against such selfish shattering of the peace when people might be enjoying their gardens, and I know not everyone is retired and has time during the day, but perhaps it could be pointed out as possibly an unneighbourly act?

Tonight the noise drove us indoors.....very blooming annoying! Summer is short enough! Surely I’m not the only one it bothers?

JM

~~~~~



**A call for riders,  
striders, strollers to join  
Mandy on Saturday  
September 11<sup>th</sup>!**

Last year Ride & Stride raised £180,000 to help maintain the fabric of more than 400 medieval and other historic churches in Suffolk.

This year our own Mandy Beaumont is leading the way for Middleton, **so please sponsor Mandy if you can.** More than half the money Mandy raises will come back to Middleton Church to help look after the fabric of the beautiful and historic building at the centre of our village.

If you feel like joining Mandy for a stroll, walk or bike ride – however short and gentle - or know someone who might do it for you – please look out for sponsorship forms in the church porch. For every person nominating Middleton as their home church, we will get 50% of all their proceeds.

You can get more information from the website [www.rideandstrideuk.org](http://www.rideandstrideuk.org)

JB

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST – **UPDATE ...**

There are four of us in our little group of young & old souls entering the Ride & Stride this year - Mandy Beaumont, Steve Thorpe, Adam Bennett & Naomi Koebel. Between us we are doing a mixture of walking and cycling around our beautiful Suffolk countryside; calling in to as many historic churches as we possibly can on the day. Proceeds from our group will be split 50/50 between the Historic Churches Trust and our own Middleton Holy Trinity.

Any sponsorship you are able to give at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mandy-beaumont> will be welcomed and wisely used - we will walk/cycle as far as we can on the day!

MB



Hello I just wanted to say thank you so much to everyone who donated to my recent fundraising haircut.

I have raised over £1600, which is nearly enough to have 3 wigs made by The Little Princess Trust for Children who have lost their hair due to Cancer or other medical reasons.

I was recently sent my certificate. Thank you

*Amy xxxxx*





## Open Gardens 2021 Thank You

On the Saturday evening of our event I opened my computer and there was an email from one of our garden visitors. She thanked us all for a most happy and enjoyable day in our lovely village and remarked on the rich variety of our gardens. Her words repeated what so many had said over the weekend. This year especially, people were so grateful to wander with others on a sunny day and feel normality returning.

Having cancelled the 2020 event due to Covid we tentatively began preparations for 2021. We expected some gardeners would be unsure about inviting visitors to their gardens. 15 did and some who had not opened before. From us all "Thank You".

To my band of friends who deliver posters far and wide I thank you for all you do after all these years, still saying "yes".



Thanks must go to Barbara, Liz, Renny, Elizabeth and Trish and the wonderful Pavilion catering **team** and to Kathryn, Michele and Jackie for running such a successful Village Hall Cream Tea venue, not forgetting Mark!

Robert, without you we wouldn't have so many visitors, your signs let them know we were back.

Special thanks must go to David Burgess, the PCC Treasurer who was thrown in at the deep end and dealt with it all.

I give personal thanks to Barbara and Elizabeth for all your help along the way.

I will not lead this event next year as I am aware I can no longer give it the attention it deserves. The organising structure will adapt and I will still be involved. Middleton Open Gardens will continue as the main fund raiser for Holy Trinity Church Middleton. Over the years it has become a major event in the village diary, long may this continue.

Irene Ralph

## OPEN GARDENS

Earlier this summer my family was able to enjoy the beauty of Holy Trinity Church, as our son married his fiancé. During this time, many of you shared your stories of why this Church had such special memories for you; so, it was good to see the village come together to raise money through the Open Gardens weekend to enable us to continue to care for this valued building.



The PCC appreciates its role as custodians of this wonderful building, and will continue to work with the wider community to care for the building and preserve it for all those who live in the Village. We were overwhelmed by your warm-hearted generosity, enthusiastic commitment, and hard work over the two days, and I am pleased to report that another record was achieved as £5,230 was raised, so far, from the event.

15% of the money raised, at least £785, will be given to a local critical care charity, the Suffolk Accident Response Service, to improve emergency physical health interventions across Suffolk, including this rural area. Their volunteer responders and critical care teams aim to assist the ambulance service at serious medical emergencies and trauma; they can provide life-saving equipment, not always available on frontline ambulances.

A further 5%, at least £262, will be used to benefit the village, and this year the Village Hall will benefit from a professional clearing of weeds in the car park and general tidy up.

Then money that comes to the church from the Open Gardens, after the expenses are taken out, will all be used to maintain the fabric of the building, and to ensure it is here for future generations; currently this stands at £3,388. Over the last two decades over 300 parish churches have closed, so it is a credit to this village community that we are able to keep the church open for some of life's important and meaningful occasions.

Thank you to all those who opened their gardens, big and small, all inspiring; thank you to all those who helped and worked hard to make the event such a success, with such warm heartedness; and thank you to those who attended and took part to make this event flourish. Let it grow.... let it blossom, let it flow.

David Burgess

Treasurer, and on behalf of Middleton cum Fordley PCC

## THANK YOU IRENE

After many years of organizing Open Gardens for Holy Trinity Irene has decided the time has come for her to step down as the overall organiser but is happy to oversee the event in future... for which we are very grateful as her knowledge of how it all works is invaluable.

We, on behalf of our PCC, would like to thank Irene most sincerely for all her hard work and time in bringing together year after year such an amazing event which brought our community together, has given visitors a very enjoyable time in our pretty village and allowed us to make a donation each year to a different charity. We are truly grateful.

Thank you Irene.

Rita & Margaret  
for Holy Trinity PCC



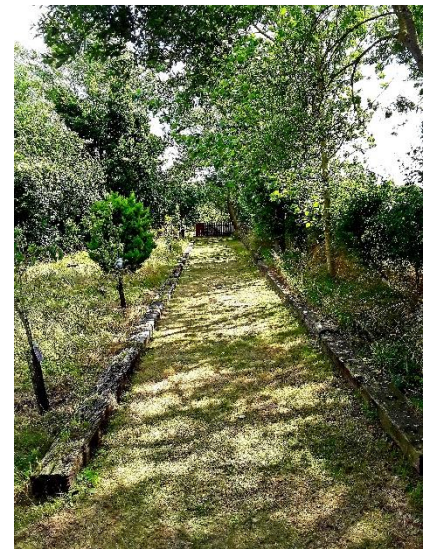
And, finally, Holy Trinity's very own monthly '**Thought for the Day**' (!) with a happy nod to the weddings which have taken place in our little church over the summer:

"Blessed are the lovers, for they will see God everywhere." (from Brian McLaren *Faith after Doubt*)



The following photos were taken at various venues during Open Gardens weekend and kindly submitted by various residents. My sincere apologies if your garden was open and it is not featured! BB







**WI News**

It has been about 18 months since we have been able to meet in the Village Hall. We are very much looking forward to resuming "normal" WI life with our September meeting! Our speaker will be Sally Sibley, her talk is on " Women of Sutton Hoo ". You can hear what will be a very interesting lecture on the 15th of September at 7:15 pm in the Village Hall. Please join us, all are welcome.

LV



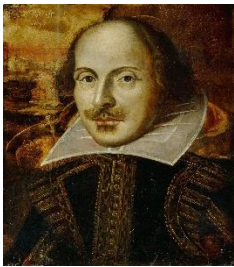
## Macmillan Coffee Morning

This year the Macmillan coffee morning is back, (unless rules change). It is on Friday the 24th September between 10 and 12 at The Middleton Bell.

Do come along and support this worthwhile event, enjoy coffee, cake, friendship and laughs.

If you want to bake a cake let me know, we will have our normal cake stall, raffle and hopefully a few games.

Fiona Cusack tel. 07730474004



**Middleton actor Simon Bridge is running a Storytelling and Drama session for 5 to 11-year-olds at Westleton Village Hall on Sunday September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 – 4pm. £5 – pay on the door, but contact Simon on 07967 978028 or [simon@simonbridge.co.uk](mailto:simon@simonbridge.co.uk) to book.**



**Simon, who has been part of the furniture at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre for many years, will also be giving a talk "Shakespeare – The Real Deal, Part Two. From the Page to the Stage" at Westleton Village Hall on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 from the village hall or Westleton village stores.**

**This will be followed by a series of four fun, workshops de-mystifying the Bard on Fridays October 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 – 9pm - "Why Did Shakespeare Write Like That?" - no acting experience necessary! Contact Simon (see above) to book - £10 per workshop or £35 for all four – 20% discount for students.**



### **BBC New generation artists performing at Concerts at Cratfield on Sept 12 – free tickets for young people 25 or under**

**The Consone Quartet**, currently BBC New Generation Artists, will perform two socially-distanced concerts at Cratfield Church near Halesworth on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Tickets are £10 and available online [www.concertsatcratfield.org](http://www.concertsatcratfield.org). **We are offering free tickets to people under 25 thanks to support from the Adnams Trust.** Please contact [jonathan.birt@ymail.com](mailto:jonathan.birt@ymail.com) for more information.

- Concert 1 2.30pm to 3.30pm

*Schubert: Quartettsatz D703; Mozart: String Quartet K565 'Dissonance'*

- Concert 2 5.00pm to 6.00pm

*Haydn: String Quartet 33/4; Verdi: String Quartet in E minor; Puccini: Crisantemi*

Concerts at Cratfield is a charity which presents afternoon chamber concerts over the summer at the church of **St Mary's, Church Road, Cratfield, East Suffolk, IP19 0BU**. Cratfield is a small village about 5 miles west of the A12, close to Halesworth and Yoxford.



## This year's alternative '0' birthday celebrations

In aid of my "significant" birthday this year on 11 September, I have chosen not to party and instead celebrate the day by walking (with Trish) the 25km (15.5 miles) Thames Bridges Trek to raise money for Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY), our family's charity of choice. We are the lucky ones as the inherited heart condition that affects our family has been diagnosed, however every week in the UK at least 12 apparently fit and healthy young people die suddenly of undiagnosed cardiac conditions – it's the 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest killer in the UK of young people. CRY do outstanding work in preventing young, sudden cardiac deaths (YSCD) through awareness, screening and research, and supporting affected families. Please donate if you can, the link is here: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trish-and-graham-cooke](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trish-and-graham-cooke). Thank you in advance!

Graham Cooke



**The Mid-Summer boules competition** – (slightly off mid-summer but close enough) was held on 31<sup>st</sup> July on the newly re-surfaced recreation ground piste and some games played on the carpark. Both surfaces proved 'interesting' and not at all like the piste at the Bell, causing hilarity and frustration in equal measure!!!



The winners on this occasion were Lynda & Colin, who now have possession of the coveted cockerel trophy till next year! (it's in their front window!!)

The 'winners' of the wooden spoon (which was actually wooden coches), were Julian and Fiona.

It was a good day all round with many new players who had never tried boules before, some returning to the game after long gaps and some who play regularly, ranging in age from 8 to 80+ !! Thank you to all who came and had fun. See you next time!



Welcome visitors return to Middleton Moor -Most would recognise the pictures except for perhaps the caterpillar which is called the Cinnabar Moth caterpillar. Why welcome? It feeds on ragwort!



GRAND 2021 MIDDLETON CAMOUFLAGE COMPETITION

Winner - female pheasant

Close runner-up Aylesbury duck



Snakes alive -who wouldn't feel sleepy, sitting on a warm dung heap in the hot sun having just breakfasted on live toads. The swellings in her body may also be due to eggs.



Harvest is here already.

AB. 25.7.21



## September Nature Notes

As summer turns to autumn and the evenings begin to draw-in our open and lighted windows are attractive to a number of insects. One of the most frequent indoor visitors are craneflies, commonly known as "daddy-long-legs" and in Suffolk as Michaelmas gnats - an appropriate name given the time of year and their general gnat-like appearance. However, craneflies belong to a distinctive group of diptera (true flies) known as the Tipuloidea, characterised by slender abdomens, long antennae and very long spindly legs which are so slightly attached that it is difficult to capture one without breaking one off.

There are 322 British cranefly species, of four families, ranging in size from a couple of millimetres to the largest *Tipula maxima* which has a leg span of over 100mm, while *Tipula paludosa* the species most commonly found indoors in the autumn is still quite large with a wing span of about 40mm. Many smaller species of craneflies are frequently mistaken for mosquitoes but they differ entirely in habits and can be distinguished from mosquitoes by the lack of scales on the wing veins and having non-piercing mouth parts so are incapable of biting. However, the female abdomen does end in a pointed ovipositor that may look somewhat like a stinger, but is completely harmless; the male abdomen is blunt ended.



Adult craneflies are short lived and do not need to feed much, but they can suck up water and nectar from flowers. However, once they become adults, feeding is not important but finding a mate is, and once a male cranefly emerges from its pupal case their first task is to search for a female to which to mate. Following mating the female deposits eggs by inserting her pointed abdomen into the soil, depositing one egg on each hop as she bounce across the surface of the soil. Mating and egg laying usually takes place within twenty four hours of emergence. The eggs hatch into larvae. Many species live in moist soil or rotting wood and the larvae eat decomposing plants and other microscopic organisms associated with organic matter. Some cranefly larvae live in water and have gills. They are predators of other small invertebrates or feed on algae and moss. Most craneflies are important recyclers of organic material, but a few attack living plants and can be pests. These are the larvae of terrestrial craneflies, commonly known as 'leather jackets', and get themselves a bad name from gardeners and farmers by feeding on the root systems of grasses and cereal crops and by burrowing into potato tubers.

Peter Vincent



### Middleton Amateur Weather Station

### Rainfall Recordings

	1 year ago (2020)	10 years ago (2011)	20 years ago (2001)	30 years ago (1991)	Average (1991 – 2020)
February	85.5mm	52.0mm	94.0mm	31.0mm	50mm
March	24.5mm	8mm*	92mm	26mm	47mm
April	18mm	8mm	63mm	50mm	41.3mm
May	0.5mm	18mm	41mm	20mm	55.6mm
June	48mm	92mm	46mm	92mm	51.9mm
July	51mm	76mm	84mm	45mm	60mm
August	40.5mm	75mm	94mm	9mm	62mm
September	90mm	21mm	97mm	61mm	56mm

September

Driest year 1997 with 13mm

Wettest year 1993 with 137mm

## New Homes for Swifts in Middleton



Photo credit: SOS Swifts (Suffolk Bird Group)

The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB is thrilled to have received some funding from the Galloper Wind Farm Fund to help pay for swift boxes and callers to be installed on suitable buildings in Middleton, Leiston and Thorpeness.

18 boxes and 3 callers are allocated for Middleton with more for Leiston and Thorpeness. However, flexibility on this allocation means that more might be available for Middleton if there is demand.

Swifts have declined by an alarming 50% over the last twenty years and as a result they have been identified as a priority species within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Nature Recovery Plan. Although the swift is currently an Amber Listed Bird of Conservation Concern its rate of decline strongly suggests it should be considered as being on the Red List in the UK which is the highest level of conservation concern. The sharp decline it has experienced is mainly due to the loss of nest sites from buildings in towns and villages. Despite sharing our buildings for over 2,000 years, new building techniques and materials in addition to insulation of older buildings are preventing them from nesting. As buildings are replaced, insulated or repaired, swifts find themselves excluded, and they are now declining fast.

The AONB would love to hear from you if you know of a suitable site for installing swift boxes. Suitable places for swift boxes include:

- Under eaves
- On or in gables or high walls
- Height above ground should be at least 4.5 metres

Unsuitable places include:

- X Very exposed, cold, wet or hot positions (unless insulated or sheltered)
- X Very close to trees, tall vegetation, ladders, handrails or cables. These can provide perches for predators and can also impede the swifts flight access.
- X Height above ground below 4.5 metres.

In order to nominate a suitable location for nest box installation please email a photograph of the proposed site to the AONB's Nature Recovery Officer (Alex Moore da Luz) at [alex.mooredaluz@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:alex.mooredaluz@suffolk.gov.uk)

***Please note the AONB cannot install the boxes for you. Recipients of the boxes need to arrange the safe installation of boxes themselves in order to be considered for the scheme.***



# HOLY TRINITY - MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY



## Services for September

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Morning Praise 11am

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion 9.30am **at Theberton**

Please do join us

## Holy Dusters rota 😊

August to October 2021

8 September: Amanda and Paul

24 September: Mark and Liz

6 October: Rob and Paul

20 October: Irene and Amanda

## Church Notelets & Jotters

We are pleased to say that these are now available again for sale inside the church.

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## ARE YOU READY FOR THE EXPECTED INCREASE IN ENERGY COSTS

If you are concerned about the expected increase in energy costs that are regularly being reported in the press, and worried about how you will pay these bills, it is even more important to check you are on the best tariff for you.

Our website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/) has a host of information and a price comparison tool. If you find this whole area daunting then do get in touch and we can guide you through the process.

*We suggest first point of contact for advice by email, phone and post on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri from 10-2pm alongside the new appointment service. Call us on 01728 832193 or Freephone 0808 278 7868. Or email: [supervisor@leistoncab.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:supervisor@leistoncab.cabnet.org.uk) to make contact.*

*We have recently resumed our face-to-face appointments in Leiston. These **appointments must be pre-booked** by phoning 01728 642960 – the lines are open 10am-4pm Mon-Fri. To meet government guidelines, we have had to adapt the way we have traditionally worked. We are restricted on numbers of people allowed in at any one time so even with an appointment you may have to wait outside before you can enter. We thank you for your understanding while we reopen our offices and look forward to seeing our clients face-to-face once again.*

New ways to bring materials into Sizewell to keep road traffic down.  
AB with apologies to Heath-Robinson



**FREE Drop-in coffee morning - continues Thursdays 10-11.30 am - Village Hall**

All welcome for coffee/tea and cake.

Transport can be arranged if needed.

Contact Lesley 07970257329 or Lynda 668977



Don't forget you can avail yourself of any of our new IT installations if you need to.



# Jo Hannon

## Design

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Great Gardens!!

# J.W. Garden

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Joelwatsonjw@aol.co.uk  
07881376314  
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# Diary Dates for 2021

## September

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Historic churches 'Ride & Stride'  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall 6pm  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> WI - Village Hall , 7pm 'The ladies of Sutton Hoo'  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> MacMillan Coffee morning 10-12 Middleton Bell  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Newsletter copy date

## October

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Mafafam ( Autumn Fayre)  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall 6pm

## November

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall 6pm

## December

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Santa Boules  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> MCC party  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Parish council meeting , Village Hall 6pm



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Are you affected by stress, anxiety, depression?

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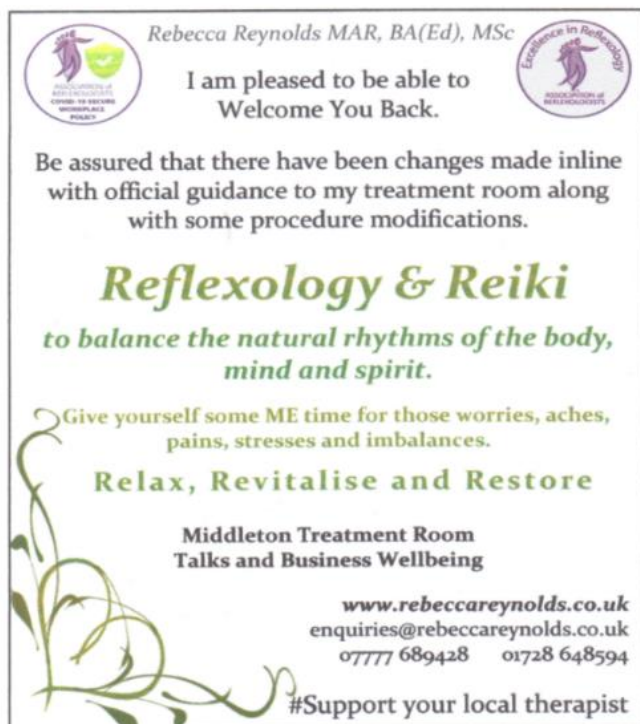


**MBK**  
**Electrical**

**Michael Kennedy**

Allestree  
Rectory Road  
Middleton  
Suffolk IP17 3NP  
Tel: 01728 648865  
Mob: 07968 160511  
mbk@allestree.me.uk

Inspection  
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Rebecca Reynolds MAR, BA(Ed), MSc

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