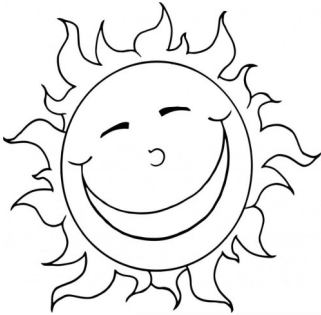


# CRATFIELD NEWS

August 2018



**The summer of 2018**

## CRATFIELD

Well we must be getting it right (and I think we know we are), people are flocking to join us here in our lovely, quiet, friendly village. This month we offer a very warm welcome to three new couples who have recently come to join us.

Jo and Tim at Tye Cottage  
Alison and Mike at School Corner  
&

Bronwen and Pat at Fair View House

Hopefully they'll soon feel they've never lived anywhere else.

## WHATEVER SHALL I DO NOW?

Very many thanks to all those 62 (at the last count) people who turned up at church on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July to see my 'stitchery'. It was great so see our church once again being used as a social hub, and I was thrilled to see that so many of you thought it was worth the outing. Wine and nibbles helped I'm sure, and my sister and I were delighted that almost all of it was consumed. As I mentioned on the night, most of the cost of the wine was covered by the very generous donation I received for the posts and rail. I am immensely grateful to this person, without whose help the work might still be lying on our spare beds.

I would like to thank Nigel for providing some of the eats, Linzi, Dan and Nick (despite being in much pain from cracked ribs) for circulating dishes and wine and Margaret for her help in setting up and clearing.

Prior to the occasion I had help from several burly fellows who moved some immensely heavy church benches to create the space for the permanent position of the work, so, many thanks to Mel, Nigel, Gary, Mike and Nick (pre-ribs).

If you didn't come on the night and are interested in seeing the piece, it will be housed permanently in our church, which is always open, so if you are passing, maybe dog-walking, (dogs are welcome as long as they don't pee on the pews! *or the hanging*) why not pop in.

Once again, thanks for coming.

Sue

## WANTED

Person to carry out various jobs around the garden i.e. painting sheds etc. Would suit young person or O.A.P.  
Call:- 07971 236531 or 798 850

*Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018  
10am -12.30pm*

*“a friendly community market  
held in All Saint's Church & the Royal Oak  
and outside on Church Plain”*

Last month it was good to welcome so many regulars and visitors, including folk taking advantage of lovely weather and camping nearby - no doubt they were stocking up at the Market on delicious things to eat and unique gifts to take home. Singer Julia Maclusky of the Black and Tan Dog Band sang for most of the morning and was very widely appreciated. This month the entertainment will be the Pretty Grim Welsh Border Morris Side, a very different style and look of Morris people.

At the August Market on the 4<sup>th</sup> there will be over 30 stalls. Look out for such items as vintage finds, seasonal plants and flowers, individual crafts, jewellery, dolls' clothes, bric-a-brac, cards, photos and upcycled goods. There will be organic veg, bread, meats, raw milk, cakes and savoury bakes (with a good choice of gluten and dairy free). Add to the list such items as embroidery, turned wood and a first appearance of The Soapy Goat (lovely soaps made from the local goat's milk). Plus lots more of course! So do come and see all the goodies on offer this month.

The popularity of Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market means there can be a waiting list for stall space, so please contact Catherine Cawood on 01986 798852 early if you would like to request a slot. There's a special deal for children to have space, so do ask Catherine about that if interested.

*The Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market welcomes you for a sociable  
time on the first Saturday morning of every month.*

*See you there!*

*(don't forget the Museum will also be open just across the road)*

*Tea, coffee, cake and loos available in the Church  
Breakfasts, bacon rolls, lunches and liquid refreshment available at the  
Oak*

*Tables for outside eating*

*Laxfield Produce, Craft & Flea Market – the friendly one!*

## “SUMMERTIME and the livin' is easy....”

I was listening to a track by Adele the other day entitled “When we were young” and it set me reminiscing. I wonder will the summer of 2018 be remembered, it somehow doesn't have the same ring to it as **'the summer of '76'**.

When we were young that **summer of '76** we could almost guarantee perfect weekend weather. This was in a previous life, when we first came to Suffolk, (Fressingfield) before we went away and obviously before we came back again! We were a group of four close friends who spent many happy hours in the Fressingfield Swan, that's how it was in the 70s!

Quite a disparate group we were, I was teaching (Stradbroke Primary), Nick was training horses at Whitingham Hall, Charles was an antiques dealer operating from Richmond House (directly opposite the Swan) and his lovely sister Penny (sadly no longer with us) was a hairdresser. We liked this variety, because so often when you get a group of people who are in the same line of business that tends to become the sole topic of conversation and if you are a hairdresser, do you really want to hear someone banging on about the demerits of little Johnny, or if you are an antiques dealer the merits of an Arab or a hunter don't have a great deal of meaning, so we just had fun.

Sunday lunchtimes (and they were quite long lunchtimes) were one of our favourite meeting times, but that summer we felt the need to be outside and as you know there is no garden at the Swan, so we decided on picnics. For some reason we felt the need to have a practice run. Penny and Charles' garden was to be the venue, we could meet in the Swan, have a drink or two, buy a bottle of wine and pop over the road. Penny and I felt long dresses (probably Laura Ashley) and straw hats were de rigueur, Charles felt that the garden needed a little extra something, a certain va va voom, and, as he happened to have a stuffed lion and also a lion's head in the shop, these were placed strategically amongst the bushes. Nick was in charge of picnic music, Joseph Canteloube's 'Shepherd's Song' from Chants d'Auvergne quickly became our favourite in the weeks to follow.

The trial was a huge success and we were ready to venture a little further afield as the summer progressed.

Nick was our 'recky', whilst out exercising, from the back of a horse, he spotted lots of secret, shady little field corners where we later spent the sunny, Sunday, summer afternoons. The lions did not accompany us on these sorties, but our Harrods picnic hamper certainly came into its

own and proved good value for lots of money!

Trespassing maybe, but we didn't do any harm, or get caught!

That summer seemed to go on for ever, as is this so far, but somehow no other summer will ever have quite the magic of **the summer of '76** and anyway I'm not *quite* sure we'll still be around in another forty years to remember 2018.

Sue Eade

### **FRESSINGFIELD HISTORY GROUP 'WE WILL REMEMBER THEM'**

“ It will all be over by Christmas” such was the optimism in the autumn of 1914, but history and many programmes on television tell us it was an altogether different story. Over 8 million served and lost their lives in the service of their country and freedom. Thousand more returned home maimed and continued in their suffering. From the cities, towns and villages like Fressingfield young men and women responded to the call ' Your country needs you', ordinary everyday people who worked on farms, trades people, all leaving homes and loved ones. On land, sea and in the air, men and boys, nurses and women working in ammunition factories and others, all were caught up in events beyond their imagining.

To commemorate and honour those from Fressingfield who died and those who served, we are launching the book,

#### **'Sons, Husbands and Fathers'**

compiled and written by three members of the Fressingfield Local History and Archive Group, and are holding an Exhibition of photographs and stories from that time on Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup> in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield from 10am to 4pm. Teas and coffee and will be served. We hope to see you there. Copies of the book will be on sale price £10.00. A percentage of the profits will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

There are family links with Cratfield which we know will be interest to some of our readers.

MICHAEL OLIVER

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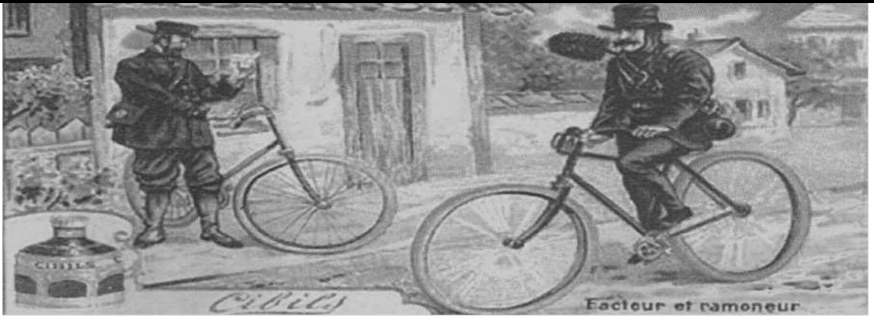
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## HEVENINGHAM HALL COUNTRY FAIR

I am delighted to tell you that this year's Country Fair was a great success, thanks in some part to the wonderful weather over the two days. The new system of getting in, parking and buying tickets seemed to work very well and the feedback from all the people who visited was extremely positive. This would not have been possible without the help from the enormous number of people from Cratfield and the surrounding villages. So, a huge thank you to all those of you who helped by putting up/taking down tents, acting as stewards, serving tea and cakes in the Courtyard and the Tea Tent, selling raffle tickets, counting money and all the other things that went towards making this year's fair the best yet. A personal thank you from me to all those people who donated Tombola Prizes and made a donation towards the £30 John Lewis Voucher that was Cratfield's contribution to the raffle. The Tea Rooms raised a magnificent total of £10150 and the Tombola a record breaking £1567.

The Raffle raised £1103 after the £300 first prize was taken out and the prize winners were

1st prize Ms Chivers (£300)

2nd prize Neil Baldwin (2 night stay in Holly Cottage, Huntingfield)

3rd prize Dorothy Mills (A mixed case of 6 bottles of wine)

4th prize John Minchin (Aspalls Champagne)

5th prize Catriona Chase (A £40 voucher for a 1 hour massage)

6th prize Mrs Marsh (A £30 voucher for John Lewis)

7th prize Mr Folan (A £25 garden voucher)

8th prize Rebecca Todd (A round of golf for 4 people on the Blyth Course at Halesworth Golf Club)

9th prize Michael Simpson (A hamper of local produce)

10th prize J.Scott (A hamper of local produce)

11th prize Catriona Chase (A bowl of fruit)

The money raised is for local communities for village and school projects, church repairs and individual cases of need.

Once again, thank you to all who contributed in any way.

Carolyn White

Cratfield Village Representative

Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust Reg Charity No. 1095403 – Supporting the Local Community.

# VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We look forward to welcoming you at our next pop-up pub on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, from 6.00pm at the Village Hall. We are doing a BBQ again and of course hoping for the same dry, sunny time we had in July. Everyone is welcome.

If coming by car, please look out for parking signs which will direct you away from the main green onto the back field. This is for the safety of the children playing. Disabled and restricted mobility parking will be available in front of the hall and will also be marked.

Upcoming diary dates:-

The next main event at the hall is the **Produce Show on 4<sup>th</sup> August**, which is the day after the pop-up. 'Suffolk Produce' is one of the categories for our photographic competition on **Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>**, so the produce show could provide inspiration for a winning picture. The other categories are 'Suffolk Coast' and 'Suffolk Architecture'. There will be a pay bar at this year's photographic show. Look on it as an extra pop-up in the month with the added attraction of pictures, so please come along even if you are not exhibiting.

There is also our **bistro evening on September 29<sup>th</sup>**, a sit-down meal catered for us by the Huntingfield Arms plus a fabulous French wine-tasting session to begin with. Make a date in your diary and look out for more details in next month's magazine. Tickets will be available in advance.

Hoping to see you at all these events and wishing you happy summer holidays

Natalie Lloyd-Evans.

## 100 CLUB

The July draw was delayed to the end of the month to allow the new list to be drawn up, so no winners to announce prior to going to press. We will include them in the next issue. If you have not yet returned your form and payment to join the 100 club, do please consider doing so. The money raised goes towards the upkeep of the hall

## My Time as a Spanish Waiter

In June I swapped Cratfield for my house in Spain. June is the month of flowers in Andalusia – the early part of summer before the sun is at its most scorching. Some of my time was spent walking across wild meadows and enjoying mountain views; but a lot of it was spent, as it always is in Spain, waiting.

I waited for the bread man who comes at midday. I looked forward to our chats about the World Cup.



Early Tuesday mornings are spent waiting for the butano man. There is no piped gas in Andalusia, so butane is delivered to your house. The butano man parks his transporter in town and delivers the containers door to door by dumper truck – which is the only way you can negotiate narrow streets dating from the days of muleback. The machine gun noise of the dumper truck together with the rattling and clanking of metal cannisters gives plenty of warning of his arrival.



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In the past I spent a lot of time waiting for Antonio the wine man's sporadic arrivals – he has retired long since - but in the old days would park his van on the corner, stand by my front door and call out my name. I paid him twenty-five Euros and he would syphon twenty-five litres of mountain wine into my large plastic container from the barrel in the back of his vehicle. It was good wine too, if Antonio's glassy stare and complete inability to calculate the change from 50 Euro notes was anything to go by. In later years, I am glad to say, he became more risk averse and wisely engaged a boy to do the driving.



The older ladies in my barrio wait for the occasional visit of an unmarked vehicle which sells voluminous and old-fashioned underwear from its open back door.

All of us await the vegetable vans. These rock up at odd times of the week. One of the drivers has a tannoy and a startlingly loud and urgent voice that makes harmless announcements about the quality of his produce sound like the warning of a nuclear



attack.

If you wait long enough once in a blue moon you will hear the pan pipes which is the traditional way that the itinerant knifegrinder announces his arrival. Knife grinders go from village to village on their mopeds. When they arrive on the corner of your street they decouple the back wheel and attach a drive belt to a grindstone. A neat way to earn a living.



I have spent a lot of time waiting for the oven repair men to arrive. They are only in my area on Wednesdays and you book an appointment by phone in advance. Ever since the time my electric oven exploded during the preparation of Christmas dinner there have been regular visitations. Given that I am not often there that means long waits.

I last used the oven in February. The thermostat packed in. The oven got hotter and hotter, changed into the inner core of a nuclear reactor and incinerated my sausages. I had to make a repair appointment well in advance to coincide with my visit.

Wednesday arrived, and the oven men finally came at one o'clock. There was drama. Just before they turned down the road a white van carrying water melons stopped at the top of our steep street. The sliding side doors accidentally came undone and the great green watermelons rolled out like the severed heads of so many Martians. They banged down the lane, shedding shards of green skin and red flesh on the way. Everyone rushed to their door to see the fun and the mutilated melons found grateful homes.



My wait was rewarded. Calmly the oven men picked their way through the carnage. The oven was repaired. Roast chicken for tea and melon for afters.

**Nigel Cousins**

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## **Baby Hedgehogs in Bell Green**

Some of you may have seen the signs up this week about baby hedgehogs (thank you to all those drivers who kept a look out for them). We actually had six in our front garden, they seemed to be living under the front hedge but a couple of them were determined to venture out on to the road!

Even the postman was looking out for them as, when we were out one day, he left a note on one of our letters with an update!

It was lovely to see them in our garden (got some good photos) and they did appear to be healthy, we put water out which they drank. However there was no sign of the Mum and the fact that they were out in the day time was a bit concerning, so we contacted Tiggywinkles. They confirmed that it wasn't natural for them to be out at this time and as they were so young and advised us to take them to a rescue centre.

They put us in contact with Bungay Wildlife Rescue and on Friday we managed to pick up all six and put them in a box and off they went on their travels.

We are pleased that they will be looked after until they're big enough to be released back into the wild (I do miss seeing them pottering about on the front lawn though!)

Gillian Booty

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## **Summer Term Report 2018 – All Saints Primary School**

Hard to believe that it is that time again when we head towards the end of the academic year. It feels particularly strange to me as I approach my career break and am preparing to hand over to Mrs Minns. As I am writing this I have five days left as Head of School. I do have some holidays booked (in term time – don't tell anybody) and lots of plans made.

So what have we been up to?

Well, back in May, you may have seen our year 5s practising their cycling skills around the village as part of Bikeability. We really appreciate those car drivers who slowed down and took extra care as the pupils learnt about positioning and signalling.

KS2 SATS week arrived mid May, with results week in July. Once again our Year 6s have impressed with excellent scores and we will remain well above national average as a school. Congratulations to them and all those adults both in school and at home who have supported their learning.

They are a super group of pupils, with lots of talents (besides being excellent readers, writers and mathematicians) including singing, acting, playing musical instruments and being great sports people. In-fact, our Year 6 rounders team won a recent inter-school competition. They will be great assets to their new high schools and we wish them all the best as they take the next step in their educational journeys.

Art's week (June) this year was themed around 'Into the Woods' and saw Wren Class and Robin Class den building at Jimmy's farm in addition to learning about living creatures both on the farm and in the tropical butterfly house. Kingfishers, Owls and Eagles spent a day at Bewilderwood crossing the broken bridge and looking out for Mildred the Crocklebog on the Scary Lake. Probably the biggest excitement of the visit was coming down the extremely fast Slippery Slopes (I decided it was time for me to take the photographs at this point). Other activities that week included making mini treehouses out of wood with Mr Gionis, cooking, painting, drawing, mask making, drama, dance and singing.

The KS2 play was entitled 'Aladdin Trouble' and was absolutely brilliant. The standard of acting, singing and dancing was very high and we have some definite comedians in the making with some excellent comic timing. The pupils decided that the charity they wished to support with 'hat' donations was Cancer Research. The costumes, set and props were superb. Special mention must be made to those dedicated parents, carers, pupils and staff who missed the first ten minutes of the England match on the Tuesday night.

Changeover Day went smoothly with our 2018 reception pupils joining us and all the pupils visiting their new classrooms and teachers. It is brilliant that the pre-school pupils visit regularly, which helps the new children to feel so at home.

Our sports day was won by our blue team this year. The parents/carers and pre-school races were particularly popular and we introduced a staff versus Year 6 relay race this year which was most competitive as you can

imagine (the staff won by a whisker). It was extremely hot and we were most appreciative to parents and carers who lent marquees so that a little shade could be found. Sports Day was followed by the Friends' Summer Fair where making slime and throwing sponges seemed to be the biggest hit along with eating burgers.

The Year 6s have just returned from their residential in Derbyshire sporting new school leavers hoodies bought for them by the Friends (who bought me one too!). They conquered the cave and the high ropes, weaselled, climbed Mam Tor, walked, built rafts, visited Peveril Castle and even took part in an inter-school talent show.

Our final school day is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, where we look forward to having our Leavers service in All Saints Church. Pupils return to school on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

I would like to thank the pupils, staff, parents, carers and all of Laxfield village and its surrounds for making me so welcome at the school and in the community for these past five years. I leave the school in very good hands and have no doubt that it will continue to go onwards and upwards.

Lucy Hammond (Mrs)  
Head of School

## **FRESSINGFIELD BOWLS CLUB IN CRISIS**

The Fressingfield Bowls Club (FBC) has been in existence for well over 100 years and is now facing a crisis in terms of membership that will be below 18 by September. If we are unable to attract more new bowlers and/or encourage the many bowlers that live in Fressingfield and the surrounding areas, but choose to play for other clubs there is every likelihood that the Club will fold. Once a bowling green is not maintained the forces of nature rapidly take over. The Club is financially sound and able to pay for the annual maintenance which takes place in September, from then it will be necessary to maintain the green and that requires input by the members. To enable the future of the Club to be discussed by all those who value this facility a Special General Meeting will be held at the Sports and Social Club on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. If you want to see the club survive please make every effort to attend. Fressingfield and surrounding villages are not towns and good villages preserve their heritage/ Fressingfield Bowls Club is an important part of that heritage.

## The Vicarage, Noyes Avenue, Laxfield

Dear Friends

There was a time when a good harvest was a matter of life and death. No surprise, then, that cutting the first corn was a cause for celebration, when hope and anticipation displaced the gnawing anxiety that was most people's daily fare. Lammas (from the old English hlafmaesse – loaf-mass) has its origins in the pagan lughnasadh and was at one time an important festival. It marked the arrival of ample food supplies (at least for a while) and a period of community labour with good company for the teams of reapers.

In some English-speaking countries the festival of the wheat harvest is the first harvest festival of the year. On this day it was customary to bring to church a loaf made from the new crop of wheat harvested at Lammastide. The loaf was blessed, and in Anglo-Saxon England it might be employed afterwards to work magic: a book of Anglo-Saxon charms directed that the lammas bread be broken into four bits, which were to be placed at the four corners of the barn, to protect the garnered grain. In many parts of England, tenants were bound to present freshly harvested wheat to their landlords on or before the first day of August. In the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, where it is referred to regularly, it is called "the feast of first fruits".

Because people lived hand to mouth the arrival of the Harvest was a big thing right from pagan times through to early Christian times. People were literally starving by the time harvest came so you can imagine the great joy they felt when the first bread was made and fields stood thick with the promise of more to come. Later on when food was imported in greater amounts the harvest celebration became more of a job well done rather than thanking God that empty barns and cellars were once more full. This was the point at which the supply of food was removed from its point of production. The shops always seemed to have food, July is no longer that anxious month in which people starve. We have lost the feeling that we need to thank God for his bounty.

It is strange that the more we have the less we feel we need to thank God for it. This year may not be a good harvest and although we will not starve it could mean great hardship for some farmers. It is all too easy to assume our food will always be there but if you listen to some experts there is a chance that one day we will be back to depending upon our harvest. Why not come along and enjoy singing those wonderful old harvest hymns and just say thank you to God for our food, show our gratitude and remember those who do not share in our plenty.

See the service grids for the times of harvest some will be held in September and October.

David

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH - AUGUST SERVICES

<b>SUNDAY 12th</b>	<b>SUNDAY 19th</b>	<b>SUNDAY 26th</b>
<b>6.30pm Evensong DB</b>	<b>9.30am Village Worship CM</b>	<b>8.00am Holy Communion DB</b>
<b>Reader Liz Dix</b>	<b>Reader P. Baker</b>	<b>Reader E. Cook</b>
<b>Sidesperson A. Edmonds</b>	<b>Sidesperson A. Edmonds</b>	<b>Sidesperson D. Peacock</b>
2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15,31-33 Ephesians 4:25, 5:2 John 6:35, 41-51	1 kings 2:10-12, 3:3- 14 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58	1 Kings 8:(1,6,10- 11), 22-30, 41-43 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69

### Sunshine quotes

'Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows.' (Helen Keller)

'What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity'. (Joseph Addison)

'Oh sunlight! The most precious gold to be found on earth.' (Roman Payne)

'Laughter is the sunshine of the soul.' Thomas Mann

'Sunshine will guide your heart even on the most darkest of days.' (Anthony Hinks)

'Some old fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat.' (Laura Ingalls Wilder)

'A smile is a sunny spirit.' (Lailah Gifty Akita)

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Parish Council - Lotty Barbour 01986 798099

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PC Website [www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net](http://www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net)

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All information must arrive by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Advertising rates p/a: Full page £60; half page £30; quarter £20; eighth £10; directory £8; flyer £10.

Please contact Sue, Geoff, Molly or Peter for more information