

CRATFIELD NEWS

November 2018



We will remember them
11.11.1918 - 11.11.2018

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am very sorry to be missing, for the first time in 10 years, the Royal British Legion Remembrance Service at Fressingfield and the St. Mary's Remembrance Service. I undertook 18 months ago to speak at my old school (Bradfield College, Berkshire) on the Centenary of the 1918 Armistice. You have very kindly agreed to publish a heavily précised version of that address which appears on pages 4 and 5 of this edition.

May I also draw attention, for those interested, to a public lecture I am giving at The Cut, Halesworth at 2pm on 20th November, entitled "The 1918 Armistice in its context". Details are in The Cut events brochure. It would be very nice to see some Cratfieldians there.

Yours faithfully,
Jeremy Blackham

CRATFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

It is with much regret that the Cratfield Social Club is to close due to insufficient members.

The Social Club was first started in 1998 following a suggestion from Doris Cook. Darts was played (using a borrowed dart board) and table tennis. After a couple of years of fund-raising and with the help of grants we were able to purchase two carpets, two sets of bowls and scoreboards, other items needed were made by members. Gradually carpet bowls took over as the main activity. The club played in tournaments, the Suffolk carpet bowls league and against other village teams in friendly matches. In a corner of the village hall there is a cabinet with competition trophies, if you look at the trophies you will see that sadly they have not been used for several years due to lack of players.

Ideally to play carpet bowls two teams of four are needed and as our numbers declined we were unable to play a proper game.

The club in its heyday, with its large membership, was able to play every week, all year round, thus giving the village hall a regular income. We can no longer afford to do this. The social club will join a list of other clubs which have folded over the years, notably the gardening club, W.I., Nova, yoga and the art club. It is pity that these groups no longer exist as we have a great village hall which is now under-used. I do not know why these social activities have ceased. Have we become more insular? Is it the box in the corner of the living room? Or is it social media? Who know?

The final meeting of the Cratfield Social Club will be held on November 7th 2018.

Geoff Moore

CRATFIELD PAINTING CLUB

Regrettably the Painting Club at Cratfield Village Hall has had to close due to lack of members.

Thank you for your support over the years.

THE GOOD NEWS

Dear gardening enthusiasts,

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Cratfield Gardening Society. I would like to suggest that we hold an initial consultation meeting at my house. Church Farm House, Heveningham Road, Cratfield on Wednesday 7th November at 8pm. I am aware that this date and time will not suit everyone, but hopefully there will be enough of us to start a discussion about the way forward.

RSVP to marfleets@doctors.org.uk or 01986 799048 or 07969 603509

MEET THE AUTHORS

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CRATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Unfortunately there is no room this month to print the Parish Council minutes, a summary of the September meeting can be seen on the Village noticeboard.

The full draft minutes can be found on Cratfield Parish Council's website
www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net

100 CLUB WINNERS

1ST LINZI ELFORD £15.00

2ND RICHARD CHIVERS £10.00

3RD JEAN PEACOCK £5.00

REFLECTIONS ON THE 1918 ARMISTICE

November 11 is the Centenary of the Armistice which ended the dreadful slaughter of the Great War, but sadly only temporarily. The peace terms forced on Germany undoubtedly helped to bring about the Second World War and strongly influenced what has happened since. It sought, understandably but unfortunately, retribution more than reconciliation. This has important lessons for us.

Wars are not started by the soldiers who die in them. They spring from political and diplomatic failure, neglect, miscalculation, or even braggadocio. Sadly, humanity's nature and behaviour are deep-seated and have changed very little in the 6000 years of recorded history, so war remains with us. I share your natural aversion to this. Some of my Service friends and contemporaries are no longer with us, in part at least because of these failures.

One of the things of which we should be proud is the beautifully kept and very respectful war graves of the two World Wars, harbouring the remains of 1.7 million British and Commonwealth casualties in 153 countries. Of course, the British cemeteries are not the only ones. It is to the eternal credit of France that she gave, as a free and perpetual gift, pieces of ground as war cemeteries, often where the dead actually fell, to all the warring nations, including their enemies of the time. A perpetual reminder to us.

I was recently in Sicily near the ancient hilltop town of Agira, in another of these cemeteries. There lie the remains of 500 Canadians, many of them as young as 17, who took part in the invasion of Sicily 75 years ago in pursuit of the defeat of Naziism. They were mainly there voluntarily, fighting for their country and for humanity. If this was the result of political failure, that was not their fault. It doesn't diminish the enormity, selflessness and generosity of their personal sacrifice, or the respect in which we should hold them.

The question is not just "Do we remember them all?" We clearly do. Rather it is "How should we use their sacrifice in a world still torn by evil, argument and conflict?" War is not new. In Syracuse, 80 miles from Agira, in 415-413BC, around 30,000 Athenians and their allies died in another war. Nor is conflict about to disappear. Well over 7,000 British servicemen have died in action since 1945 and today some 30 armed conflicts are under-way in the world, some of them a direct threat to us, in "peacetime".

Moreover, in WW1, tens of thousands of civilian workers were recruited to a Labour Force, to provide battlefield labour and logistic workforces. They came from many places - UK, China, India, South Africa, Egypt, the Caribbean, Canada. They carried forward food, ammunition and stores, dug trenches, built and maintained roads and railways, cleared live ordnance, and tended the wounded. 95,000 of them came from Mainland China alone, of whom at least 20,000 died, a long way from their own homes. Most of these people have no memorial. Even their medals bore their numbers, not their names.

And in WW2 tens of thousands of people, military and civilians, once again came to our aid. People came to fight from the USA, before they entered the war, Poland, Denmark, Norway and elsewhere. They came because they wished to combat the evil they saw. They were under no obligation; they were moved by their personal sense of justice, rightness, generosity, and a commitment to decency and principle, to die for us, people they did not know. This gives us inescapable obligations to them and their descendants. And in both World Wars nearly 50,000 civilian merchant seamen died, bringing vital food and supplies to this country, a casualty rate higher than in any of the armed services. Most of these sailors have no grave but the sea; nothing tangible for their families and descendants to honour. Their sacrifice too should move us.

Of course we should honour the memory of our soldiers, sailors and airmen. We would have lost our freedom and way of life without their courage and sacrifice. But we must also all recognise our great debt to so many other people in our own country, and elsewhere, for our survival, and our free, comfortable, relatively safe and prosperous lives today.

No natural law promises us these things, denied to many people across the globe. They have to be earned and, when necessary, defended. And they must be shared. For the world remains a very dangerous place. There are constant threats to us and to people round the world. As Edmund Burke said **“all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”** The world is a single community – we cannot escape responsibility for what happens or for failing to prevent it. Nor can we ignore our obligation to other people elsewhere. We cannot afford fractious bickering.

Armed conflict is a terrible thing. Tragically that has never prevented it. Sometimes it may even be right to go to war rather than let evil have free rein. But the purpose of war is to achieve, when diplomacy has failed, a better situation than existed previously. The sole moral aim of war is a good, just, fair, and stable peace for all, otherwise nobody wins. The 1918 Armistice did not meet these criteria; it failed to keep the peace. This is something from which we must learn. War, if it happens, must be the precursor to peace and rebuilding, never an end in itself.

Managing it demands understanding, vision, hope, love, intellectual honesty, courage, faith, determination, the ability to stand up for the good and resist the bad whatever that takes, compassion, generosity, humility and, yes, even a sense of humour. And, especially today, the ability to recognise what makes for good long-term relations between nations. These are things not always apparent in contemporary politics. On this Armistice Centenary, we can do no better than to remember what past generations and people have done for us, note where they failed, and learn from and draw on their experience to make the world better.

Jeremy Blackham

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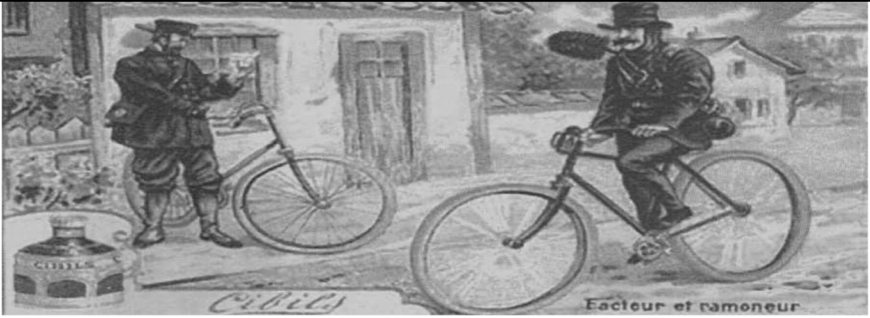
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CRATFIELD COMING TOGETHER

On Sunday November 11th the nation will be celebrating
100 years since the signing of WW1 Armistice

Cratfield Parish Council and St. Mary's Church invite
you to join together in this commemoration

**St. Mary's Church
Remembrance Service 6.00pm**

Followed by
Bonfire, Refreshments and WW1 Sing-along

Come and join with the rest of the Nation

******* STOP PRESS *******

If you have any WW1 artefacts that would help build an
exhibition at the back of the church for this special
evening, please bring them along

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our AGM takes place on November 15th at 7pm. The meeting is open during the first half hour when new officers are elected. Anyone wishing to stand to the committee is cordially invited to put their name forward to the chairperson Rebecca Sannick.

Upcoming events:-

We had another convivial evening at our **October pop-up**. As the night draw, in and we meet each other less around the village, these evenings offer a welcome focus, a friendly place to be. The next pop-up is on Friday November 2nd, starting at 6pm. All welcome. Hot food will be served by the Cratfield Kitchen.

Thank you everyone who attended the **Photo Competition** night on October 13th. Our judge, Kerry Tarrant, was delighted, not only with the standard, but with the range of interpretations from traditional to abstract. We are indebted to Kerry, who some of you will know as the photographer at the Cratfield Dog Show. She gives her time for free and can be contacted at <https://www.kerrytarrantphotography.co.uk/>

The overall winner with her image of a burning building in Halesworth, in the Suffolk Architecture category, was Chrissie Kitchen. Winner of the Suffolk Produce category was Wendy Thomas with 'A Cratfield Breakfast', proving that photographing your plate can be appetising and visually appealing! Winner of the Suffolk Coast section was Geoff Moore with an evocative view of Sizewell Beach. Chrissie's picture will grace the cover of the 2019 calendar while the other two winners will be seen inside.

Ten other pictures were selected for the inside:

"Great Hall Wingfield Barn" - Sue Seabon, "Last Orders" - Andy Barringer, "Beauty Before Age" - Sue Eade, "Sea Spray Southwold" - Chrissie Kitchen, "Interior of St. Andrew's Church Wingfield" - Candy Blackham, "Shingle Street Trail" - Andy Barringer, "Sandy Shore" - Linzi Elford, "Field of Gold" - Richard Turberville, "The Heart of the Veg Patch" - Natalie Lloyd-Evans, "Fruity Conifer" - Linzi Elford

News of the next year's competition and the categories, will appear in the December magazine. Meanwhile, the new calendar is being hot-footed off the press in time for the pop-up, so make sure you grab yours. They make lovely presents! As well as at the hall they can be had from Rebecca Sannick, phone number at the back of the mag. Cratfield Christmas cards will also be at the next pub night.

Our Christmas fair is on **Sunday December 9th**, another opportunity for us all to come together. Mulled wine, mince pies, tea, coffee and bacon butties will be on sale along with vegetarian options. There will be a range of stalls for early Christmas presents, a chance to pick up something unusual or to stock up the larder ahead of the big day. Just to reiterate, the fair is on SUNDAY and is a morning event. Open from 10am until 2pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.



CRATFIELD

ACOUSTIC NIGHT!



Saturday 17th November
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The practice is running its flu clinics differently this year. Every GP Practice is receiving their supply of flu vaccinations much later than in previous years due to the changes that the Government have made to the flu vaccination programme. Further information is available on the practice website – www.fressingfieldmedicalcentre.co.uk.

- We have written to all patients that are eligible for the flu vaccination this year inviting them to a flu clinic. If you have not received an invitation letter and feel that you
- are eligible for the flu vaccination then please do contact us.
- It is much easier for us to manage the flu vaccination programme if patients do attend the clinic. If you are unable to attend the clinic below please contact us after the
- 17th November in order to book for an alternative clinic.
- If you have already had your flu vaccination please ignore this information.

ADULT FLU CLINIC FOR ALL ELIGIBLE PATIENTS THAT HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER TO CONFIRM THEY ARE ELIGIBLE:

AT FRESSINGFIELD MEDICAL CENTRE

SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2018

8:30am to 9:30am – Those with a Surname that starts with – A & B

9:30am to 10:30am - Those with a Surname that starts with – C & D

10:30am to 11:30am - Those with a Surname that starts with – E, F & G

11:30am to 12:30pm – Those with a Surname that starts with – H, I, J, K & L

1pm to 2pm – Those with a Surname that starts with – M, N & O

2pm to 3pm – Those with a Surname that starts with - P, Q, R & S

3pm to 4pm - Those with a Surname that starts with – T, U, V, W, X, Y & Z

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You have chronic liver disease	You are diabetic	You have a weak immune system/ Immunosuppression	
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Those who are in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an older or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.		Children aged two & three years, but not yet four on 31/8/2018. WE HAVE CONTACTED PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN TO INVITE THEM TO A CLINIC. Please note children aged four will be vaccinated in school this year	

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Pond Technology

I wanted to make a wildlife pond in our garden. It seemed such a green and fun thing to do. I did not want to keep fish: I just wanted a little haven for pond plants and wandering amphibians looking for a home. It was partly a way of atoning for those shameful jam jars full of newts and frogs' spawn my childish self looted from the local brook and thoughtlessly abandoned to a grim fate in a forgotten corner of the garden shed.

Videos made by those rather smug people that inhabit the internet suggested I could transform a corner of the garden into a fully formed little dream of a pond in a couple of hours. This did not prove to be the case. The digging took days. Cratfield clay is sometimes soft, sometimes liquid and mostly rock hard. This April it was hard. Once I got to below 30 centimetres I found myself chipping away at brown granite. Excavating an escape tunnel from Colditz with a dessert spoon would have been easier.

After the excavation, it took two attempts to put down a waterproof membrane. After my first attempt I painstakingly filled the pond with heavy buckets of rainwater. That evening my newly filled pond's surface rippled and flashed with promise. By morning it was empty. The faultily installed rubber liner leered accusingly up at me, dry as a bone.

Hornwort, a vital oxygenating plant ordered online at great expense, vanished the day after I put it in. Apparently, spontaneous disappearance, the aquatic plant chat-rooms say, is a well-known characteristic of Hornwort ordered online. I had to spend a fortune buying suitable rocks and pebbles for the pond and to surround it – I never realised nice round little rocks cost £5 a throw. It was all a lot less simple than in the videos.

A little internet research revealed that pond technology can get a great deal more complicated than my little project. There are pond obsessives out there endlessly scooping out huge new bodies of water with giant mechanical diggers. Lining a pond, it turns out, is a field of sophisticated engineering with a bewildering range of products. There are hundreds of different pumps and filters to choose from. You can buy a long flight of artificial rapids, turning your back yard into a Grand Canyon. There are towering plastic waterfalls, flashing electric waterwheels and aquatic statues that spout water from unlikely places. You can light up your pond from below. You can change the colour of the water to look more attractive - black, blue, green, orange, yellow – any colour you like. The dyes are non-toxic, so you can keep Koi carp in it. Advertisements enjoin pond owners to bejewel the surface of their ponds with plastic lilies; much more attractive and long lasting than the rather tatty natural ones, the blurb proudly announces. Fish tend to disfigure real lilies by nibbling them thus reducing the shade. Plastic lilies are a joy forever.

You can build a home lake, set in a fantasy futuristic landscape that resembles a colony on Mars – with complicated life support systems, filters and pumps – and controls that look like the flight deck of a star ship. Pond Technology can transform your back garden into a lair fit for a Bond villain.

It all helps put our modest little achievement in perspective. After some effort we have a chummy little pond. We have plants in it and surrounding it. We have already noticed the appearance of larvae, water snails and aquatic insects. In Spring we will be looking out for frogs, toads and newts and perhaps I will finally be able to put the memory of those shameful jam jars of my childhood behind me.

Nigel Cousins

Dear Friends

Guy Fawkes was a trained soldier, who, because he was a catholic, fought under King Philip II of Spain in the Low Countries. He was described at this time as a man "of excellent good natural parts, very resolute and universally learned", and was "sought by all the most distinguished in the King's camp for nobility and virtue". In May of 1604, Guy Fawkes met with Robert Catesby, Thomas Percy, John Wright and Thomas Wintour at an inn called the Duck and Drake in the fashionable Strand district of London, and agreed under oath along with Percy to join the other three in the gunpowder conspiracy. This oath was then sanctified by the performing of mass and the administering of the sacraments by the Jesuit priest John Gerard in an adjoining room. Fawkes assumed the identity of John Johnson, a servant of Percy. About March 1605, the conspirators hired a cellar beneath Parliament, once again through Thomas Percy, and Fawkes assisted in filling the room with barrels of powder, hidden beneath iron bars and faggots.

On 26 October, the now famous Monteagle Letter was delivered into the hands of William Parker, 4th Baron Monteagle. Concern quickly erupted amongst the conspirators, but the letter's apparent vagueness prompted Catesby to continue with their plans.

On Sunday 3 November, a few of the leading conspirators met in London and agreed that the authorities were still unaware of their actions. However, all except Fawkes made plans for a speedy exit from London. Fawkes had agreed to watch the cellar by himself, having already been given the task of firing the powder. His orders were to embark for Flanders as soon as the powder was fired, and to spread the news of the explosion on the continent.

On the following Monday afternoon, the Lord Chamberlain, Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, searched the parliament buildings accompanied by Monteagle and John Whynniard. In the cellar they came upon an unusually large pile of billets and faggots, and perceived Fawkes whom they described as "a very bad and desperate fellow". They again searched the cellar, a little before midnight the following night, this time led by Sir Thomas Knyvett, a Westminster magistrate and Gentleman of the Privy Chamber. Once again, the pile of billets and faggots was searched but this time the powder was discovered, and Fawkes was arrested. On his person they discovered a watch, slow matches and flints.

Early in the morning of 5 November, the Privy Council met in the King's bedchamber, and Fawkes was brought in under guard. He declined to give any information beyond that his name was Johnson and he was a servant of Thomas Percy. When questioned by the King how he could conspire such a hideous treason, Fawkes replied that "a dangerous disease required a desperate remedy, and that his intentions were to blow the Scotsmen present back into Scotland". King James indicated that torture should be used to loosen his tongue and eventually he broke down and informed on his fellow conspirators. On Friday, 31

January 1606, Fawkes, and three others were taken to the Old Palace Yard at Westminster and hanged, drawn and quartered

David Jardine, in his book "A Narrative of the Gunpowder Plot", says that "according to the accounts of Guy Fawkes, he is not to be regarded as a mercenary ruffian, ready for hire to do any deed of blood; but as a zealot, misled by misguided fanaticism, who was, however, by no means destitute of piety or humanity". This sad episode of English history has through the years been turned into a jolly celebration and no doubt we all enjoy our fireworks but does this story not have very modern overtones, especially so when we think of Guy Fawkes as a misguided fanatic. Today we call them terrorists or insurgents and we tend to think of Islamic fundamentalists but any form of fundamentalism is dangerous. Even Christian fundamentalists can be extreme in their actions. Fundamentalism means that there can be no admission of wrong, no understanding, compassion or insight of goodness in anyone other than one's own sect. It cannot allow questions on acceptance of stated beliefs.

God is so great it does not surprise me that others will see and experience him differently we cannot contain him within a set of tight strictures but must accept others may know him too. Our task as Christians in this world should not be to fight against difference but to celebrate the unfathomable depth of God and his love, which we believe was revealed in his Son Jesus Christ. This is a love that by its very definition leaves us vulnerable to the whims of others but one cannot accept another in love without our arms wide open.

David

HEVENINGHAM HALL SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS SHOW **Saturday 3rd November from 4.30pm**

Indie rock band **The Noisettes** will headline alongside **Gary Mullen & The Works** 'One night of Queen', a leading tribute act to the legendary rock band. Also playing The **Vagaband** and **Black Cat Poppers**. This stellar line-up will go on late into the evening.

The live music begins as soon as the gates open at 4.30pm and the huge bonfire is lit at 4.45pm, whilst the spectacular fireworks display, once again by Full Effects Fireworks, takes place between 7 and 8pm. The LED Drummers, magical live music, movement and lighting spectacular, will also perform during the evening.

There is also a traditional funfair including dodgem cars and a large bar, plus fish & chips, hog roast, BBQ and a variety of other tasty local foods.

The event sees ALL proceeds raised going to local charities and the estate does not take any of its expenses, including the cost of the fireworks.

Tickets are available in advance from the following outlets: Halesworth Wine Shop, Halesworth Golf Club, The Huntingfield Arms, Laxfield Co-op and now online at www.suffolk-fireworks.co.uk where you can also find out more information about the event.

2018 Ticket Prices:

Vehicle Ticket (includes all passengers): £25 in advance/£30 on the gate.

Pedestrians on the gate £10 (Adult)/£5 (Children aged 4-14)

ST. MARY'S CHURCH - NOVEMBER SERVICES

SUNDAY 11th	SUNDAY 18th	SUNDAY 25th
6.00pm Remembrance Service	9.30am Village Worship CW Lay Elder	8.00am Holy Communion DB
Reader TBA	Reader D. Peacock	Reader P Baker
Sidesperson A. Edmonds	Sidesperson A. Edmonds	Sidesperson D. Peacock
TBA	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrew 10:11-14,(15 -18),19-25 Mark 13:1-8	Daniel 7:9-10.13- 14 Revelations 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37

**Please read the full page poster for this
 year's Remembrance Service at St. Mary's
 especially the added “Stop Press”
 Also note revised time of this service**

DIRECTORY:

Doctor's Surgery	Fressingfield	01379 586 227
	Stradbroke	01379 384 220

Local officers:

Church Rev. David Burrell		01986 798 136
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'The Vicarage, Noyes Avenue, Laxfield

theparsnips@googlemail.com

Church Wardens:

Andy Edmunds		01986 798523
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Lay Elder for Cratfield - Margaret Thompson		07906 509302
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Parish Council - Lotty Barbour		01986 798099
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PC Clerk Sally Chapman		01379 855486
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PC Website	www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net	
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Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator - Nick Eade		01986 798725
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Village Hall:

Chair Person - Rebecca Sannick		01986 799006
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Vice Chair - Richard Turberville		01986 798346
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Bookings - Jo Nunn		01986 799181
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Painting Club - Mick Chave		01986 798771
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Laxfield School Head of School- Mrs Hammond		01986 798344
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Nova Group - Heather Hargood		01986 798180
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All information must arrive by 20th 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