

CRATFIELD NEWS

September 2017



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'ALL IS SAFELY GATHERED IN'

CONGRATULATIONS

Rather belated, but no less sincere, congratulations to Nancy and Murray on the birth of Leni Corin Thompson, born May 20th. A sister for Tadhg. Welcome to Cratfield, Leni.

DOG SITTER REQUIRED

I'm looking for a dog sitter to stay with my Beagle and Golden Retriever for one hour a day, Monday to Thursday (11.30am – 12.30pm), term time only. I would be looking for this to start on Monday 11th September. They are both happy dogs who love human attention!

If you think you may be interested, please get in touch so we can have a chat, discuss pay and arrange for you to meet the hounds! Please note, these are my fur babies so I ask that you have a genuine love for dogs!

I can be contacted via e-mail symone225@hotmail.com

Otherwise please feel free to pop round and see me at The Poacher (you'll have to excuse the state!).

Thanks,
Symone

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Autumn Term Dates:

September 4th & 18th

October 2nd, 16th & 30th

November 13th & 27th

December 11th

To find out more just phone Tracy Sharpe – 014730405625 or Jennie – 07853397215 or e-mail tracysharpe43@internet.com or jenniesings@hotmail.co.uk

A LITTLE BIT OF LOCAL, SOCIAL HISTORY

If it was Tuesday pulling up at Halesworth's White Lion would be three carrier's carts. The year 1908.

As yet the railway, which linked the town with the coast and the metropolis, had not ousted the carriers who provided a sterling service to nearby villages.

There would be Eli Wilby driving in from Heveningham (Tuesday & Friday), Thomas Mudd from Huntingfield (daily) and Mary Harper from Cratfield (Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday). Yes, you read it right, a woman carrier! Mary was one of just seven women in the whole of Suffolk plying her trade, women being outnumbered by the male fraternity by thirty to one.

On Tuesdays and Saturdays she would leave her Cratfield home and first drive to Laxfield before coming into Halesworth, a service Laxfield had to forego on Thursdays. She would convey an assortment of packages and goods and, space permitting, the odd passenger who would have to rough it as best they could, either sitting up front with Mary or sitting in the cart amid the parcels.

Mary was not the only business woman in the Halesworth area at the time, there were many dressmakers and those who kept various shops from drapers to grocers.

At Laxfield, where Mary Harper would no doubt have known and carried for, was Mrs Mary Capon who ran a local farm and Mrs Ann Goram, the local miller who proudly proclaimed her mill was operated by both wind and steam. Using Tom Mudd's carrier service at Huntingfield would have been another woman farmer, Betsy Aldred, while Eli Wilby would no doubt have brought goods into Halesworth for Fanny Le Grys who farmed at Heveningham.

In Halesworth's Chediston Street was a woman pork butcher, Mrs Patience Barber. She was not alone in this trade, in Quay Street Mrs Mary Goodchild was also a pork butcher and at the time was also 'mine host' at the Oriental Inn.

Pam Brown

FOR SALE

For Sale, repair project. Men's Dawes Street Life on/off road bike, grey.
Needs full overhaul. £20.00
Call Natalie 01986 798790

Flies in the Ointment



Life in Cratfield was good this summer save for one fly in the ointment. Well, several hundred million flies.

There were lots in our house. At times, they seemed to dot every free surface. Expose a limb and they explored it, tickling and stinging. They sought out the tiniest breadcrumb and landed on it, claiming it for their territory. They dive bombed cups of tea, glasses of wine and beakers of lemonade.

Neighbours seemed to share the problem. One guy glumly showed me his hundred-megaton horse fly bite.

My wife, who is somewhat more inclined to hygiene than myself, hated them. Even I did not have to experience these creatures long to entertain murderous thoughts about them.

What to do? You can't just sit there and take it. Shakespeare, as so often, holds the key. There is a famous quote that mentions flies.

'As flies to wanton boys are we to the' gods.

They kill us for their sport.'

These lines are generally held to be pretty gloomy. The poor chap speaking them feels that humans are but helpless victims of the cruel gods. But what about the 'wanton boys' that the gods are compared to? They are having a rare old time. And why? Because they have discovered that killing flies is a sport.

The hunter in us loves to wield the swatter. We bought ours from Coopers in Halesworth. Provided you creep up on the enemy from behind and limit your back swing it brings success every time. The trapper in us warms to the use of old fashioned fly papers. They provide a peculiar satisfaction, you can count the victims as they mount up. If you have big ambitions there are those red topped plastic containers with liquid contents which replicate the stench of rotting flesh and mop up all the flies in the vicinity if you range them around the garden. These are effective, and whilst they smell a bit, lure hundreds of thousands of the little black critters to their doom. I have not even mentioned the joys of the fly spray and the lethal plug in electric gizmo.

Killing flies, as I discovered this summer, is not just a dull necessity – it is one of life's guilty pleasures.

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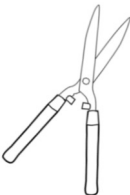
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Michael Glaysher



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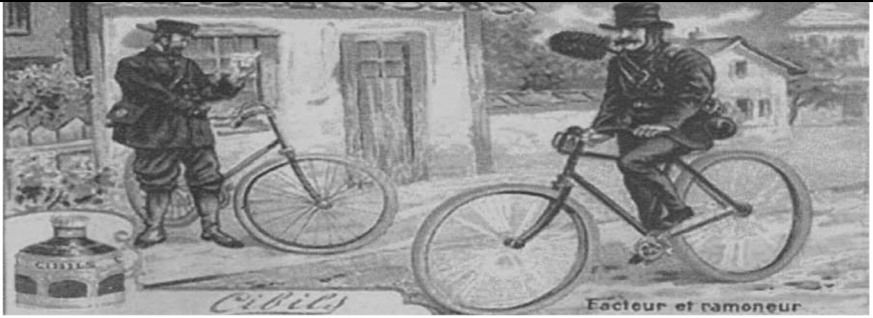
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Fram Broadband Review

In the last issue we were asked our experiences of Fram Broadband's service. In May, as a grumpy BT customer, I couldn't send or open a two-line email in spite of British Telecom assuring me that I had all the bandwidth I needed and that any breakdown of service was entirely imaginary. So desperate to get a connection, I signed up to Fram before my BT contract ran out. I now have Fram's basic tier service which works very well and allows me to run my business. I don't stream or play games, nor do I share my connection with teenagers. Those who do might need the higher tier.

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The Poacher 14.45-15.00

Calling every four weeks on Tuesdays:

12th September, 10th October, 7th November, 5th December

SEASONAL FLU CLINICS FOR 2017

IT IS MUCH EASIER FOR US TO MANAGE THE FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME IF PATIENTS DO ATTEND THE CLINICS. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND A CLINIC PLEASE CONTACT US AFTER THE 16th OCTOBER IN ORDER TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL NOT BE SENDING OUT INDIVIDUAL INVITE LETTERS. PATIENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FLU JAB IF THEY MEET THE CRITERIA BELOW. WE WILL BE HOLDING ADDITIONAL FLU CLINICS FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN UNDER 18 AND ALL 2, & 3 YEAR OLDS. WE WILL WRITE TO PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN DURING OCTOBER ASKING THEM TO RING IN TO BOOK AN APPT. ALL OTHER ELIGIBLE PATIENTS (OVER 18) SHOULD JUST TURN UP TO ONE OF THE WALK-IN CLINICS BELOW IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.

WALK-IN SEASONAL FLU CLINICS AT FRESSINGFIELD

Tues 3 rd October at Fressingfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Tues 3 rd October at Fressingfield	PM	2 pm to 3:30 pm
Fri 6 th October at Fressingfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Fri 6 th October at Fressingfield	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm
Tues 10 th October at Fressingfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Tues 10 th October at Fressingfield	PM	2 pm to 3:30 pm
Fri 13 th October at Fressingfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Fri 13 th October at Fressingfield	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm

WALK-IN SEASONAL FLU CLINICS AT STRADBROKE

Mon 2 nd October at Stradbroke	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Mon 2 nd October at Stradbroke	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm
Wed 4 th October at Stradbroke	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Mon 9 th October at Stradbroke	AM	8:45 am to 11 am
Mon 9 th October at Stradbroke	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm
Wed 11 th October at Stradbroke	AM	8:45 am to 11 am

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A SEASONAL FLU JAB IF:

You have asthma or a chronic respiratory disease	You have chronic heart disease	You have chronic kidney disease	
You have chronic liver disease	You are diabetic	You have a weak immune system/Immunosuppression	
You are over 65 years of age or are 65 prior to the 31/3/2018	You have a history of stroke or TIA or Multiple Sclerosis or a disease of the central nervous system	Adults with a BMI > 40 kg/m ²	You are Pregnant
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 31/8/2017. WE WILL CONTACT PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN TO INVITE THEM TO AN APPT. Please note children aged four will be vaccinated in school this year	

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

THE CRATFIELD HORTICULTURAL AND PRODUCE SHOW, held on Saturday 5th August 2017, was well supported by the residents of Cratfield. The weather was not particularly kind to us but there were enough entries to make a good show in the Village Hall which was, after all, the point of the day! The Show was open to the public who crowded in to see who the big winners were.

This year the recipe provided was for Chocolate Brownies and this class was won by Suzanne Eagling. There were two classes in the Men Only category with the Sausage Rolls being the most closely contested – the prize for the best of these went to Dan Elford. The overall winner of the Children's section was Molly Baines and the trowel and seeds were collected by her proud grandmother, Barbara Askew.

From the four main classes, (Produce, Flowers, Making and Baking and Craft Work, with the Men Only class being included in Making and Baking), an overall winner was chosen by the judges. The winners of these were:-

Natalie Lloyd-Evans for her Onions
Judith Mobbs for her Flowers in a Boot or Shoe
Keith Nicol for his Carrot Cake
Heather Hargood for her Quilt.

From these 'The Best in Show' was judged to be Heather Hargood. Congratulations to Heather.

A glass of Pimms made a good accompaniment to the buying of raffle tickets and a critical look at the entries.

The committee would like to thank the judges who spent a considerable time deciding who should gain the top honours and all those who entered, bought raffle tickets, provided raffle prizes or helped with refreshments.

Carolyn White

100 Club Winners

July:- 1st Sue Eade no.11 £15.0.; 2nd Candy Blackham
no.104, 3rd Nigel Cousins no.81 £5.00

August:- 1st Caroline Loades no.17 £15.00, 2nd Robert Sannick
no.49 £10.00, 3rd Doris Cook no.21 £5.00

Congratulations to all the winners.

**The Pie and Pud Evening is back at the Village Hall!
30th September - Sit down for 7.30**

Please call Rebecca on 01986 799006 to book your table in advance, and to book your choice of pie.

Last booking date 23rd September

Steak and Mushroom Pie
Chicken and Leek Pie
Vegetarian Gluten Free Cottage Pie

Syrup Pudding
Chocolate Pudding

£12.00 a head.
Bring your own wine/beer/soft drinks

The next **pop up bar** is on **Friday September 1st at 6pm**. Once again, our friends from the Huntingfield Arms will be running the bar. Cratfield Kitchen will be serving food. August's BBQ was very well attended and we're hoping for another good night, perhaps even a reprise of the spectacular sunset that made such a magnificent backdrop.

October 14th is our colourful photographic competition.

The variety is always astounding, and different themes are chosen each year with a calendar produced from the winning pictures. A form will come with next month's mag explaining how to submit your photos. **The themes this year are: Suffolk Wildlife, Suffolk Nooks & Crannies and Suffolk Reflections.** Everyone may enter, as many pictures as you wish (there is a modest charge for each). People living outside the village may also enter. Exhibited photos will be on show from 7pm on the night and there will be a bar. You will be asked to submit your pictures during the week before the show, so this is the last full month in which to get snapping.

Christmas is coming . . .

As a special event this year, the Village Hall will host a **Christmas Fair on Sat December 9th 10 am. until 3pm**. Please put the date in your diary! More details will be in next month's magazine, but plans are to make it a family event, with stalls, refreshments and a visit from Father Christmas (if he answers our emails). If you think you'd like to take a stall, provide food or in any other way take part, please email Natalie.L.Evans@gmail.com or call Natalie on 798790.

***Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market
Saturday 2nd September 10am -12.30pm
inside All Saint's Church,
inside the Royal Oak, and outside on Church Plain***

The weather was perfect again for last month's Market, and it was a busy and social time. Isabella and Edward Fortescue, visiting from 1751, perused stalls, took tea and cake and graced us with their lovely singing and stories of London life – a long, long way from Laxfield in those days.

At the next Market on Saturday 2nd September look forward to lots of lovely products again, including food items, crafts, toys and clothing for children, and stalls of vintage treasures. Look for Kim with fudge and sweets and Wendy with Simply Suffolk crafts again. With September and early October being the busiest birthday months, it's an ideal opportunity to stock up on unusual gifts not found in the big stores. Stallholders offer some lovely individual items as well as unique greetings cards and wrapping paper. Do all your shopping for family and friends' special days in one sociable morning!

As entertainment we are delighted to announce the return of the Spiral Tribal Belly Dancers (formerly called the Hara Tribal Dancers). They caused quite a stir on their previous visit with exciting modern folkloric dance inspired by the haunting music of North Africa, Spain and the Middle East, performed with their very individual flair.

Again seek out lots of delicious food items including fresh fish, organic vegetables and fruit, local goats cheese, cakes and bakes, home-made bread on different stalls this month, and delicious Suffolk free-range pork.

Visitors will find stalls inside the Church, inside the Royal Oak and outside on Church Plain so make sure to see all the available goodies.

Tea, coffee and cake will be available inside the Church, and The Royal Oak will be offering breakfasts, bacon rolls, liquid refreshment, and lunches.

Please contact Catherine Cawood on 01986 798852 for info on pitch spaces.

Laxfield Market - on the first Saturday morning of every month – all local, all individual and all very friendly! Come and see us



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Please state any dietary requirements when booking

In aid of CRATFIELDCHURCH

Thanks to everyone who came to my book launch at Halesworth Library on the 10th of August. It was lovely to see so many friends and a fine inauguration for The Wardrobe Mistress. The library, which keeps track of footfall, counted 75 visitors to the event. Such things help the library's claim for public funding, so for that reason alone it was good to see a crowd. Peter Barron who runs Halesworth's independent book shop had a good evening too, selling copies of the book. He has a few left, as do I, in case anybody else would like one.

Natalie Lloyd-Evans (Natalie Meg Evans)

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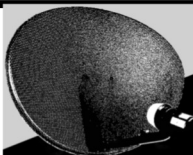
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Confessions of a... Whatever I was at the time.

Part 2... This times it's personal!

The enthralling tale of my past life continued from last month.

Exclusively in the Cratfield News!!

Get your copy at all good letter boxes, NOW!

Now if you remember I have just started working at EDF Energy, if you don't remember go read last months Cratfield News again (it's really good!).

One Christmas I remember particularly well was in 2001. Every shift we would have a competition to see who could fit certain phrases into the conversation with callers and get away with. There was the usual Star Wars references – “Don't worry Mrs Smith, we shall return The Force to you as soon as we can!” “Yes we are aware of a power failure in your area, Yoda knows all!” and “Our engineer will be there soon and will get the power back on, the force is strong with this one!” and so on.

My absolute favourite was the “say the stupidest thing” thing, where we would give out outrageous advice! These are absolutely genuine, as close to word for word as I can remember, obviously names have been changed for privacy reasons (and because I can't remember them!).

Customer 1 - “I have a power failure and I'm scared, I've never had a power cut before. Do you have any advice?”

Agent – “Yes, Mrs Smith, when moving between rooms in the dark, don't walk into the walls!”

Customer 2 – “The powers off and we live in the middle of nowhere, you'll have trouble finding me.”

Agent – “Don't worry sir, just go out front of your property, flip your car onto its roof and set fire to it. We'll know exactly where you are then!”

Customer 3 – “We have no power, can you hurry it up, I'm hungry and my kids are cold!”

Agent – “Well, all you need to do pile your kids up out front, pour on petrol and light a match. Your kids won't be cold anymore and when they done, you can eat them!”

Customer 4 – “There's no power, it's dark and cold and I don't know what to do!”

Me – “Well, sir, all you need is about 1000 gallons of molten wax and 30 foot of rope.”

Customer 4 – “What do I do with those?”

Me – “Put the rope down your chimney, pour in the wax and you'll have a big candle, light it and you'll have light.”

Customer 4 – “But my house will burn down!”

Me – “Well, you won't be cold then will you?”

And my absolute personal favourite:

Customer 5 – “I have a power failure, all the lights are off. It’s dark and the TV isn’t working. What do I do?”

Me – “Well, Mr Smith, we should have your power back within 3 hours, it may be a great opportunity to have a romantic evening with the wife. Light some candles, a little drink and a snuggle up.”

Customer 5 – “No, I’m too old for that sort of thing!”

Me – “You’re only as old as you feel!”

Customer 5 – “Yes but I can’t feel it anymore, that’s the problem!”

It’s amazing what we used to get away with! It’s not surprising that when I tried to apply for a job there again after I’d left for a few years that they didn’t take me back on!

I’ve had a few more jobs since then, door to door sales (I hated it) warehouse operative for a picture and mirror framer (also hated it) call centre sales for an insurance company (terrible at it and didn’t like it), internal movement vehicle operator at the Port of Felixstowe (soooo boring), working at Haverhill (Haverhole to anyone but the locals) dump (where I found £100 in a handbag someone had thrown out, I couldn’t locate the owner *cough cough*), some minor work in other Call Centres (absolutely terrible) and now as a Highways Inspector (tolerable) and part-time self-employed IT Technician (wahoo, the dream!)

So all-in-all I have done a few things and had some good fun along the way, some of which I have been able to tell you about here.

Peter Sparrow

Four Star Rated
Whipple Tree Cottage
Bell Green, Cratfield

This carefully restored timbered former stable and hayloft includes 1 x double, 1 x twin bedroom (1 cot on request). 1 single bed downstairs.

Wet room, dining room, lounge and large kitchen. All level ground floor for easy wheelchair access. Pretty cottage garden, summerhouse plus off road parking for two cars.

For bookings apply to:

Chris Kitchen tel. no. 01986 798 764 or write to Bell Green Cottage, Cratfield,
Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0BI

Crane Lodge, Bickers Hill, Laxfield, IP13 8DP

Telephone: 01986-798901

September 2017

Dear Friends,

As summer draws to a close and we start looking ahead to harvest celebrations and the many festivals leading up to Christmas, this month marks the start of the new academic year; children will be starting school, others moving up a year and many will be starting vocational training. Among this last group are two people from our Benefice, Rebecca Artiss and David Mulrenan.

Rebecca and David have for many years been exploring with the church their calling to Ordained ministry, that is to say, to the priesthood. I am very pleased to say that this exploration culminated in an interview with Bishop Martin a few weeks ago during which he said one word which has a life changing effect; it was 'Yes'. So, these two people will start their training this month, for them and us, it is a new beginning, and all being well, they will be ordained as Deacons sometime next year, either Petertide or Michaelmas. Their training will continue until at some time in the future they will be ordained as priests.

For those of you who don't know Rebecca, she is an elder at St Peter's Church, Monk Soham. She teaches mathematics and (trust me) she is a gifted musician along with her brother Tim. She comes from a long-established church family who, I think most will agree, are the mainstay members of that Church.

David is an elder at St Lawrence' church Brundish, he is a member of the choir and has also lead the worship as an elder in other parishes within the Benefice. He has for many years been a prominent figure in Brundish and has worked hard for the community. He is employed as a teaching assistant in Framlingham.

Rebecca and David deserve our support and our prayers as they go forward into this new phase of our Christian community, please keep them in your prayers

With my prayers and best wishes,

Ron

ST. MARY'S CHURCH - SEPTEMBER SERVICES

SUNDAY 10th	SUNDAY 17th	SUNDAY 24th
6.30pm Evensong Lay Elder	9.30am Village Worship Lay Elder	8.00am Holy Communion DB
Reader E. Dix	Reader A. Edmonds	Reader P. Baker
Sidesperson A Edmonds	Sidesperson A. Edmonds	Sidesperson D. Peacock
Exodus 12:1-14 Romans 13:8-end Matthew 18:15-20	Exodus 14:19-end Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 16:2-15 Phil 1:21-3rd Matthew 20:1-16

If you cannot fulfill these requirements please contact Margaret Thompson

NEWS FROM ST.MARY'S

HARVEST SUPPER.

If you are new to Cratfield please come along to one of our great village events. See our main ad. In the magazine.

CHURCH TREES

Most of you will recall that Hurricane Doris, on 23rd February, brought down one of the four large horse chestnuts in front of the church. Fortunately it was the one furthest from the church and so caused no damage to the building. However, as all the trees are the same age and the victim was found to be rotting from the centre, it was a warning call; were one of the others to come down the damage to the church would be considerable.

We propose, therefore, to pollard the three remaining trees, reducing their height by about two thirds, and hope they will survive. Depending on the condition they are found to be in it is possible that they may have to come down altogether, but we feel it is at least worth giving them a chance.

If you have a view on this do let one of us on the PCC know; all comments from the village will be taken seriously.

St. Mary's PCC

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—Bob Stratford		01986 798143
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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 Act. Head Teacher - Mrs Hammond		01986 798344
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Nova Group - Heather Hargood		01986 798180
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peter-sparrow@outlook.com

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