

CRATFIELD NEWS

Aug 2021



THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all those (Don, Ali & Mike, Pam & Steve, Mary, Andy, Clive, Margaret & Ian, Tim A., Tim S., Bruce, Chrissie, Natalie, Linzi & Dan, Sue & Nick) who turned up on Saturday July 3rd to help with the Churchyard Clearance also to Hugh who did his share a few days earlier. (A thousand apologies if I have missed anyone) Whether you gave an hour, or more, your efforts were much appreciated and indeed the churchyard looks immensely more tidy than it did. There is still an area yet to be 'done', so if you ever feel at a loose end you are more than welcome to do a bit more. Clearing around the gravestones would be particularly useful. The area at the back (with no graves) on the right hand side is to be left wild at the moment.

Chrissie took photos on the day, these can be seen at the back of the church.

There will be another working party in the autumn, so as a magazine reader, keep your eyes open for the date and maybe pass the message on to those who never open the cover! There are those who freely admit to this... don't appreciate our efforts!

THE SOUTHWOLD CANDLE CO (this is not an advert)

Many thanks to everyone who supported our little business venture -it was an idea I came up with about 5 years ago and 'parked' due to work at the time. When we picked the idea up again about 18 months ago we had no idea how successful it would be – and we wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone in the village that supported us and bought our candles & reed diffusers at the Christmas Market (way before lockdown) or purchased online, and those who came to our warehouse (OK...OK...our garage...). During lockdown we had huge support from Cratfield residents who used our mail order service to send gift wrapped presents to friends and family they could not visit all over the UK and we received lots of lovely feedback. Recently we were approached by the retailer 'The Pug & Pussycat' with shops in Southwold, Aldeburgh and Woodbridge who wanted to purchase the brand from us – this has now gone through. So apologies to anyone who turns up to our warehouse (OK...OK... our garage...) as we no longer have any stock. However ... you can still purchase online and in their shops. (OK, so I guess this was an advert in the end!)

Andy (Cratfield) & James (Huntingfield)

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
30th August 2021

*Don't join the traffic queue come along to St. Mary's Church
for some fun and laughter 'with heart'*

*Coffee & Cake 10-12
Ploughman's Lunch 12-2
Lots of stalls, raffle, games for children & adults!
Just a village having fun.*

*So please put your thinking caps on.
Can you organise a stall?
We're open to any ideas. Let's come together and help.
MOST IMPORTANTLY PLEASE MAKE US A CAKE*

So now for the 'HEART'

YEMEN

*I'm sure you've seen the distressing crisis scenes in Yemen.
They have conflict, poverty and Covid. They are on the
brink of a major Cholera tragedy. Malnutrition & violence
are a daily reality for the Yemenis. Their health system is at
the point of total collapse. Over 85,000 children have died
during this 6 year war. So EVERYTHING given and raised on
our FUN day will be going to **Médecins Sans Frontières**.
Doctors without borders is a humanitarian aid
organisation that gives medical care across Yemen. They
are independently funded.*

We're very fortunate to live our lives in Cratfield.

*Please come and make a difference.
Ring Margaret on 07906509302*

Sport Quiz Sue A

1. Who won the men's singles at Wimbledon this year?
2. What sport is played at Bramall Lane?
3. How many players are there in a baseball team?
4. What are the 3 disciplines in an Ironman triathlon and the correct order?
5. What are cricket bats traditionally made from?
6. In which weight division did the boxer Chris Eubank compete?
7. In which country would you find the King Baudouin stadium?
8. Who currently holds the men's world record for 100metres?
9. What is the distance of a marathon?
10. What sport is played at Whistling Straits?
11. In the Tour De France, the leader of the sprint competition wears what colour jersey?
12. What do competitors chase down Cooper's Hill near Gloucester on the Spring Bank holiday?
13. Michael Phelps competed in which sport in the Olympics?
14. On a dartboard what numbers are either side of 20?
15. Which snooker player's nickname was 'The Whirlwind'?
16. In what sport would you find a ball called a 'jack' or a 'kitty'?
17. Where does the Grand National horse race take place?
18. Which 2 players are allowed to shoot in a netball match?
19. The Springboks is another name for which country's rugby team?
20. The longest tandem bike had 25 35 or 45 seats?

Apologies for omitting the answers to last month's 'Musicals Quiz' here they are....

1. Pink Ladies 2. Carousel 3. Billy Flynn 4. Dirty Dancing
5. Sister Act 6. The 4 Seasons 7. Barbra Streisand 8. Lionel Bart 9. Hair 10. Les Misérables
11. The Rocky Horror Picture Show 12. Oklahoma! 13. Judi Dench 14. Starlight Express
15. Christopher Plummer 16. Evita 17. Mama Mia 18. Baltimore 19. Gaston Leroux
20. Wicked

This month's answers can be found at the end of the Village Hall News



LOCAL HISTORY ROADSHOW

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Cratfield Parish Council

Please help clean & tidy up your village

Cratfield Parish Council has now purchased litter picking equipment which can be borrowed anytime.

Your support would be greatly appreciated!

If you would like to litter pick please contact:

Cllr Gloria Steward Tel: 07791 515 016 - collect in village

Cllr Richard Chivers Tel: 07900 187 350 – collect from Silverleys Green



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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – AUGUST 2021

The Cratfield Arms / Pop Up Pub – Saturday 31 July at 5pm

Hopefully this magazine reaches you in time for the planned Pop Up Pub & BBQ (at the time of writing this looks like it will be going ahead....) We really hope the weather will allow us to all be outside – the BBQ will certainly be outside but the bar may have to remain inside – please do bring a mask if you would not mind wearing one while ordering inside at the bar.

The BBQ will be serving a range of locally sourced burgers and sausages (vegan/vegetarian options available) with fresh rolls (gluten free available) and salad.

Please bring cash as we may not yet be set up for the card machine – and we are afraid we cannot offer a ‘tab’ behind the bar

Don't forget – all the information on Village Hall & Church events along with other local information can be found on the Cratfield Village Facebook page – many thanks to everyone who posts content.

More Pop Up Pub dates

Saturday 28th August

Friday 10th September – then we will resume with the first Friday of each month

We also really look forward to welcoming back ‘Cratfield Kitchen’ from the September ‘Pop Up’ onwards, they will be offering their usual fantastic range of starters, main courses and puddings.

Bar Rotas

If you would like to help out behind the bar there are two shifts – please contact Caroline Wisbey-Brown via caroline@wisbey-brown.co.uk

Photographic Competition – Saturday 16th October 7 – 9pm

Who can enter?

ANYONE! Yes – **ANYONE!** It is for anyone in the village who wants to take part as it is a fun event. You do not have to be a professional photographer, and over the years many photos taken on smartphones and tablets have been entered and won in a category, so you do not need to own an expensive camera either.

How do I enter?

There is a yellow submission form in this month's magazine – and on the back of each photo you just need to write your name, contact number, category and photo title.

Where do I send my photos to enter?

Place your completed form and photos in the plastic lidded crate in the side porch at Salisbury House – Manse Lane.

Do my photos need to be a specific size?

Yes – due to the mounts used to display all the photos we can only accept photo sizes of 6" x 8" or 8" x 12" – you can submit landscape or portrait in either size.

Can I e-mail my photos in to the competition?

We are afraid we can only accept hardcopy photo entries

How much does it cost?

It is £1 per photo and children can enter for free

What happens if I have lost or need another entry form?

There are spare forms in the submission box at Salisbury House – Manse Lane, along with some spares at the back of the Church and at the Village Hall during Pop Up Pub evenings.

When is the cut-off date?

All photos and forms must be submitted by Friday 1st October

Who judges the competition?

A totally independent judge who does not live in the village and we use a different judge each year. The photos are all displayed anonymously with numbers instead of names, so the judge has no way of knowing who has submitted which photo/s

Can I enter a photo if I have put it into the competition before?

Even though we change categories each time, there are sometimes photos that can fall into a new category within another year. We ask people not to send in photos they have sent in for previous competitions as we have a different judge each year – and the same photo could be picked again – this helps give a fair event for all.

What happens on Saturday 16th October?

The independent judge will have judged and given feedback/comments on the winning photos- with an insight into why they were chosen. The Village Hall will be open between 7 - 9pm with the bar open too!

What are the categories again?

Suffolk Transport, Black & White Cratfield, Suffolk Skylines and fun category - Suffolk Seaside. All topics are open to your interpretation!

Do I get my photos back?

Yes – at the end of the evening on Saturday 16th October you can collect your photos

Pie & Pud evening – Saturday 13th November

Bookings area already coming in thick and fast for this popular evening due to the large portions and good quality of pies and puddings – so please book now to avoid disappointment – bookings can be made via phone to Rebecca Sannick on 01986 799006 (Please note the amount per head for the evening has not been finalised as yet, but will be in the same region as previous years - £12.50 TBC)

Christmas Fair - Sunday 5th December

Next Committee Meeting – Thursday 16th September

Open forum 7.15pm / Committee Meeting from 7.30pm

100 CLUB – have you returned your form?!

If you have not yet returned your July 2021 – June 2022 100 Club Form from the last month's magazine please remember to get them back as soon as you can to enter – for only £1 a month you could win £15, £10 or £5 each month. If you have mislaid your form you can put £12 in an envelope with your name and address on the outside and post it in the mail box at Vine Cottage, Bell Green FAO Heather Hargood. The July draw will take place in August.

Village Hall re-cladding project

A full update will be available next month – watch this space!

Sports Quiz Answers

1. Novak Djokovic 2. Football 3. 9 4. Swim Bike Run 5. Willow
6. Middleweight/Supermiddleweight 7. Belgium 8. Usain Bolt 9.
42.195km/26.218 miles 10. Golf 11. Green 12. Double Gloucester cheese
13. Swimming 14. 1 and 5 15. Jimmy White 16. Bowls 17. Aintree
Liverpool 18. Goal attack and Goal shooter 19. South Africa 20. 35

A little bit of childish wisdom

"If I had six apples and wanted to share them among eight children, how would I do it?" asked the village school teacher.

Little Johnny replied as quick as a flash, "You'd make a pie Miss."

Hedgehog bread

A small group of children were obviously attracted by the hedgehog shaped loaves of bread in the bakery window. The shapes were certainly very realistic. One little lad remarked, "It's no use buying one of those, as soon as you pick it up it'll curl up into a bread roll."

2021 Mobile Library Dates

Nothing here as yet.

But watch this space!

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

Back to the Gulf – A Private Navy

On leaving HMS *Naiad* I was appointed to command another minesweeper in the Gulf, HMS *Beachampton*. December 1969 found me, at the age of 26, flying back to Bahrain for 12 months to take up my new appointment, one of the most formative of my career. Nothing is as daunting and challenging as one's first command. The learning curve is very steep.

Beachampton was one of eight ships in the 9th Mine Countermeasures Squadron. She was another of the numerous Ton Class¹ minesweepers built in small shipyards round the country in the 1950's to "kickstart" the ship building industry after WW2. They were 153 feet long displacing about 450 tons, with wooden hulls to protect them against magnetic mines. Their modern equivalents are built of fibre glass for the same reason.

They were fun ships, both to command and to serve in. The small crew of 35 grew very close and necessarily had to be ready to turn their hand to any job and 'muck in together', producing some rather quirky, piratical and frequently bearded sailors. We in the squadron were almost a private navy with our own customs. With their many wires and cables, the Tons were the last repositories of old-fashioned seamanship - an ideal haunt for the disappearing breed of seaman "with every finger a marlin spike."²

I had two such seamen in *Beachampton*. Able Seaman Moscrop was the epitome of this breed. A tall, thin, fit, mild mannered, rather serious salt-of-the-earth pipe-smoking sailor, with a bushy black beard that made his ready smile particularly striking. Trained in the now defunct art of boom defence, he could repair or splice anything, even the heaviest steel wire rope - an invaluable skill in a minesweeper. Nothing to do with wires and ropes was beyond him, although his real trade, one that Nelson would have recognised, had already disappeared from the RN. We were all fascinated by his work. One day I gave each of the crew a length of rope and invited them each to do a back splice at one end and an eye splice at the other, with a prize for the "tidliest,"³ judged by Moscrop. It was won by an engineer!

His direct boss was Leading Seaman "Smudge" Smith, the ship's "Buffer", a title given to the senior rating in the seaman department. He was responsible for all upper deck and outside maintenance, the rigging, boats and other seamanship equipment, and for regulating the seaman department. Smudge was the opposite of Moscrop. A man of few words or smiles, very short and grizzled looking with white hair, he looked about 60 but had hardly reached 40. He was always busy with some detail, however small, making sure that everything on his "part of ship" was tiddly and worked perfectly. He rarely took a break or went ashore but spent his time prowling round his upper deck, looking for stray pieces of rope which had dared to get

¹ 119 of these sturdy vessels were built. They saw world-wide service with permanent squadrons based in Scotland, Portsmouth, Malta, Bahrain, Singapore and Hong Kong. With their shallow draft they were ideal for all sorts of inshore tasks as well as minesweeping.

² A tool used in working, repairing and splicing rope and steel cables.

³ "Tiddly", a naval expression meaning especially smart or shipshape.

out of place, or drops of oil trespassing on his beloved paintwork or white scrubbed deck. He too was of an ancient, now long vanished naval breed. Their shared love of the ancient craft of seamanship made Smudge and Moscrop natural allies. They could often be seen testing equipment, mending wires and ropes and communicating in nods and grunts. One morning in Bahrain, Smudge was ferreting around in his little storeroom, when Moscrop came up to him and said "Buffer, the Base Dentist is on the phone saying you have an appointment." "I'm busy," replied Smudge. "He says it's essential," said Moscrop, just as I happened by. Without even looking up, Smudge whipped out of his mouth a full set of dentures and handed them to Moscrop saying "Leap up there and get them fixed for me, Mossie." Without further ado Moscrop took them and set off ashore.

I tried to chat to Smudge for a while but unfortunately, without a tooth in his mouth, I couldn't understand a word! It was difficult at the best of times but now it was impossible. As I said, Smudge was rather uncommunicative! But oh how I valued his seamanship.

I should add that the dentist, a delightful man, had the appropriate name of Keith Pendrill. He was known as "Keith, the teeth" by the sailors but to his fellow officers he was always "Tooth, the uncouth," and he did his best to live up to it in the club bar.

Happy days indeed.

Jeremy Blackham



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Such stuff as dreams are made on

On a recent summer's evening we went with some Cratfield friends to Thorrington Theatre. It was an easy drive and very well signposted too. At a well-marked turn off we drove down a wide track through the woods. Helpers everywhere spirited us towards an enormous field where more stewards enabled us to park easily. It was a mild evening and the motley audience moved through the forest bearing cushions and picnics and extra layers for when evening fell. The odd dog on a lead also joined the throng. A broad path cushioned with chippings leads you noiselessly past ornamental displays of hewn hunks of wood, beneath an arch of large branches, to the clearing where the amphitheatre sits.

It smells pleasantly of sawdust and trees. The wooden auditorium sits so naturally and easily in its place that, if it were not for the fact that it smells so fresh and new, you would think it had been there for years. Refreshments are served from a neat wooden pavilion – beer, wine gin and tonic, lemonade. There is an ice cream stand also constructed from wood. Burgers, which smelt and looked delicious were being served - a popular option that looked tempting. On balmy evenings it would be a perfect place for a picnic.

I don't think it would be accurate to say that Thorrington Theatre was an impressive building because that description has connotations of being imposing. It is not a structure that imposes – it is something which looks as if it has emerged naturally from the woods where it is situated. It sits very happily in a pre-existing dip which it is thought was a bomb crater. It put me in mind of a much beloved secret childhood den tucked away in a forest.

It is appealingly plain and simple in its construction – what ornamentation around the auditorium there is, arises from the naturally twisted shapes of the tree branches which have been used to make the wooden rails which surround it. It is entirely constructed from very local materials and so has a minimal ecological footprint.

The Theatre has had a packed and exciting variety of productions in this its first summer. I have seen two of them – wildly contrasting and highly enjoyable - played out on the wooden apron with its background of tall trees. One was **The Tempest** by **Roughcast Theatre**. It was a magical production of a magical play which was greatly enhanced by being produced in such a suitably magical arena. For two hours the woods were inhabited by Shakespeare's sprites and strange visions – truly it was 'Such stuff as dreams are made on.'

The other production was part of the comedy series **Stand Up Under the Stars** featuring **Milton Jones**, **Desiree Burch** and **Shapi Khorsandi**. These three quite different comedy professionals transformed the

amphitheatre seamlessly into a sylvan setting for stand up. **Shapi Khorsandi** excelled in warming up the audience and interacting with them – she was especially good at involving the dogs– though her attempt to buy their applause by dispensing doggy treats was, amusingly, not entirely successful! **Desiree Burch** was brash, rude and in your face hilarious. **Milton Jones**, a huge favourite of mine, span his usual web of surreal humour.

How lovely after both visits to drive home down darkening country lanes where rabbits, hares, muntjacs and the occasional ghostly barn owl dance through your headlights. You can't beat Thorrington Theatre. You should check it out!

Nigel Cousins

Blackberry baked oats serves 3-4

porridge oats 100g
baking powder 1 tsp
runny honey or maple syrup 1 tbsp, plus extra to serve
orange 1, zested
eggs 2
banana 1, peeled and chopped
flavourless oil for the tin
blackberries 100g
ice cream or yoghurt to serve

1. Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160/gas 4. Put the oats in a food processor with a small pinch of salt and whizz until they resemble wholemeal flour. Add the baking powder, honey or maple syrup, orange zest, eggs and banana, and blend again until smooth.
2. Lightly oil a medium baking dish (about 15cm x 20cm x 5cm deep) and pour in the batter. Dot the blackberries over the top, pushing them into the batter slightly. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until the oats are a golden brown and risen, and a skewer comes out clean. Top with a drizzle more honey or maple syrup and serve with ice cream or yoghurt.

Cratfield Parish Council Meeting Dates 2021

Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 7.30pm – APM & AGM
Tuesday 13th July 2021 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 9th November 2021 at 7.30pm

The Planning meetings are arranged as and when required.

The meeting's agenda is displayed 3 days before the meeting on the

noticeboards & website: www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net

The meetings are currently held via Zoom (*until further notice*) contact the Clerk for the link or in the village hall.

For further details contact the Clerk email: cratfieldpc@gmail.com

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Mace

Dear Friends,

As a community we have been through a difficult time. Not because of tumult or disaster but simply for the ability of people to get out meet one another. We all need to feel loved or part of something. The poet Rupert Brooke paid a 'dirty little boy' sixpence to wave to him from the Liverpool quay as he set forth to the United States. It was just a longing for friendliness in a lonely hour.

We are complex individuals and our interior space can be so different from our exterior persona. The point is we all need to be loved. Tolstoy said, 'People think there are circumstances when one may deal with human beings without love, but no such circumstances ever exist. Inanimate objects may be dealt with without love, you can bake a brick or hammer iron without love but human beings cannot be handled without love. If you handle bees without care you cause harm to the bees and yourself. So it is with people, because mutual love is the fundamental law of human life'.

During lock down many people would have gone without love if it had not been for those individuals who went out of their way to do their shopping, to bring them needed supplies and very much needed human interaction, all be it socially distanced. I am not going to mention a long list of names but I am going to say thank you. Thank you for being there, thank you for showing that you cared and most of all thank you for showing someone who may have felt isolated that they are cared for and loved.

We are not out of the woods yet the virus goes on causing illness and disquiet. Some of us may feel great joy that lock down has been lifted but this is not universally welcomed. Let us make sure that in the coming weeks and months we keep an eye out for those for whom lifting of restrictions is a fearful thing.

Lock down has finished and we are opening up. The churches will be open and we will soon be able to sing hymns once more. The wearing of masks is down to individual choice but should you see someone wearing a mask please be aware of their personal space. Remember what Jesus said Truly I say to you what you did for the least of these my children you did for me. God Bless

David

St. Mary's Church Services August 2021

Sunday 8th	Sunday 15th	Sunday 22nd
6.00pm Evensong	9.00am Village Worship	9.00am Holy Communion
Sidesperson D. Peacock	Sidesperson A. Edmunds	Sidesperson A. Edmunds
Reader M. Powell	Reader P. Baker	Reader D. Peacock
2 Sam 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 1 Kings 19:4-8 John 6:35, 41-51	Is 61:10-end Rev 11:19, 12:6 Luke 1:46-55	2 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 Josh 24:1-2a, 14 -18 Eph 6: 10-20

We are attempting to have our services outside, but in the event of bad weather please remember your mask and be assured we will be socially distanced inside the church.

Please find our ad on page 3 and come along to St. Mary's on Bank Holiday Monday to support the people of Yemen who have been devastated by 6 years of war. We can't wear their shoes but we can make a difference

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Advertising rates p/a: Full page £60; half page £30; quarter £20.

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