

CRATFIELD NEWS

July 2021



REMINDER

St. Elizabeth Open Gardens

Sunday 4th July

11.00am – 4.00pm

**4 The Street
&
Yew Trees – Bell Green**



CHURCHYARD CLEARANCE

We would like to undertake a churchyard clearance this month. The suggested date is **Saturday July 3rd from 10.00am** - until we are exhausted or lunchtime whichever comes first! Please bring your own equipment, strimmers particularly useful, but also rakes, shears, secateurs etc. also your own refreshments. I'm sure we can abide by Covid regulations whatever they may be at the moment!



LINSTEAD FARM WALK

Saturday July 24th – 11.00am

Meet at Linstead Farm buildings at the top of the drive

AND

at noon repair to the Low House for a refreshing pint!

(I know several people expressed an interest in John's kind offer, so put it on the calendar.)

CHARITY NO: 1165817



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Musicals-Stage and Screen Quiz

1. What was the name of the group of girls in "Grease?"
2. In which musical would you find the song "You'll never walk alone?"
3. What was the name of the attorney in "Chicago?"
4. "Nobody puts Baby in a corner" comes from which musical?
5. Deloris Van Cartier is the leading character in which film?
6. Jersey boys is based on which group?
7. Who played Fanny Brice in the 1968 film Funny Girl?
8. Who wrote the music and lyrics for "Oliver?"
9. Which musical caused controversy in 1968 in London's West End?
10. "Bring him home" features in which musical?
11. Brad and Janet seek shelter in a nearby castle belonging to Frank-N-Furter. Which film and musical is this from?
12. What was the first musical written by the duo of Rodgers and Hammerstein?
13. Who was due to play Grizabella in the original cast of "Cats" before injury forced her to be replaced by Elaine Paige?
14. Which musical told the story of Rusty, a steam engine and was performed on roller skates?
15. Who played Baron Von Trapp in the 1965 film "The Sound of Music?"
16. "Buenos Aires and Oh what a circus" feature in which musical?
17. Which 2008 musical features the characters Donna, Rosie and Tanya?
18. Where is the musical "Hairspray" set?
19. The Phantom of the Opera is based on a novel by which author?
20. "It's time to trust my instincts, close my eyes and leap" is a quote from which musical?

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR

Sophie's choice

Ephraim's wife was at home alone when the insurance man called canvassing for new custom.

"I leave that sort of thing to my husband," she told him.

"So you don't know what you'd get if your husband died?" asked the agent.

"Well, no, not exactly," said Ephraim's wife, "but I think I might get either a budgie or a poodle."



Bees and Beans

I am looking forward to that moment in the Cratfield summer when we tuck in to the first tender plate of our runner beans. It is a pleasure that goes back a long way. My parents used to grow them on a wigwam of traditional canes and would eat them in great green pyramids with melting pats of butter and a sprinkling of malt vinegar. I loved them too. Home, summer, and runner beans have always been synonymous.

Every summer since we have been here Anne has gathered up our old garden canes and lashed them together in our own wigwam rows. I, more or less ably, assist her. I love to see the homely architecture rise up – it means that summer is here again. Although the cool May delayed them the beans Anne carefully nurtured from seed are burgeoning at the bottom of the canes ready, we hope, to swarm merrily up them as the summer advances.

Maybe as a consequence of No Mow May or perhaps because we are lucky enough to be situated by a field where the farmer has planted bird and bee friendly crops this is proving to be a vintage year for bees. Some of our shrubs are heavy with bees – all kinds of bees, honeybees, bumble bees, solitary bees – plentiful as raisins in a good fruit cake. In some parts of our garden the massed humming of bees sounds like an electric generator – buzzing with the potency of nature.

We spend hours in select spots on sunshiny evenings with a cup of tea or a glass of wine contemplating the view and revelling in our growing crops – admiring the bean rows and the loud hum of the bees. It is an image of rural tranquillity that makes me think of a favourite Yeats poem. Admittedly it has Innisfree rather than Cratfield in its title and we don't have the full nine bean rows – but our glade is just as 'bee loud'.

The Lake Isle of Innisfree **W.B. Yeats**

*I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.*

*And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.*

*I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.*

Nigel Cousins

MICHAEL OLIVER

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Cratfield Parish Council

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

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



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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – JULY **YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU.....**

The Village Hall has evolved and developed over the years to meet the changing demands, wants and needs of the community surrounding it. For example - following the closure of 'The Poacher' pub, the committee went to great lengths to research the legalities and resources required to set up the successful 'pop up pub'. Following on from feedback, there were then residents in the community who wanted a daytime (instead of evening) social event that would be a way to meet other people in the village – so the coffee mornings developed. The 'Pop Up Pub' also generated feedback with regards to noise levels in the village hall – so a lot of time was spent researching and installing a sound baffling system, likewise for the lighting improvements that were asked for – and so on.

A range of other events has formed over the years – all from requests within the community. Such as the regularly booked out food evenings, wine/vineyard talk, dog show, photographic events and calendar, christmas fair and acoustic evenings - to name but a few. We try to put on as many different events as possible to appeal across the board so everyone in the community feels there is something they would be interested in and feel included.

These events (alongside the running of the Village Hall) are all organised by The Village Hall Committee, which is a small group who meet 4 times a year and then 'sub committees' who arrange the events to help spread the workload. However, it is always the same members of the committee who also physically set up, run and then break down these events – often taking up holiday allowance, cutting short a family event or leaving work early for these events to happen for the community. There is a small number of dedicated volunteers who also help out – for which we cannot express enough thanks.

We are appealing for more volunteers who would be able to assist with the setting up and breaking down of events at the Village Hall. Even if you can only spare 2/3 hours just once a year it would be much appreciated and help enable all these events continue.

For example; on the 'Pie & Pud' night (which is always a sell-out and much requested event) the same members of the committee are prepping veg, running to the wholesalers, setting out tables and chairs, collecting the pies, laying the tables, cooking the puddings, manning the bar, running the kitchen, serving the tables and collecting the money at the door, then staying late to clear everything away, wash up and take all the laundry away to do at home later....

If you would like to put yourself forward as a volunteer to help out - for just a

few hours once a year it would be greatly appreciated - and help these events to continue for the community. You may be called on for half an hour to set some tables and chairs out, or to launder the tea-towels or table cloths after an event – any help would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to put yourself forward – even just to help on one event in the year – please email the Village Hall Committee on cratfieldvillagehall@gmail.com or call Natalie Lloyd-Evans on 01986 798790 – many thanks in advance.

The Cratfield Arms / Pop Up Pub – Saturday 31 July & Saturday 28th August

Following the announcement from PM Boris Johnson that the ‘freedom’ date has been delayed till the 19th July we were unable to hold the 1st planned Pop Up Pub & BBQ as planned on the 26th June However.... Keeping everything crossed we all look forward to seeing you at the Pop Up Pub & BBQ on the **31st July & 28th August – bar opens at 5pm with BBQ from 6pm.**

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

Bar Rotas

Many thanks to Paul Marfleet for many years of organising the staffing rotas for the Pop Up Pub. Please note Caroline Wisbey-Brown has now taken over, so if you would like to help behind the bar please do contact her via caroline@wisbey-brown.co.uk

We are slowly getting there with regards to internet provision at the Village Hall along with a card machine - until this is all set up please do remember to bring cash for any pup up pubs and events.

Photographic Competition – PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE - Saturday 16th October

Watch out for the entry form, which will be coming out in the August newsletter!

Pie & Pud evening – Saturday 13th November

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 due to popular demand you can book early to avoid disappointment)

Christmas Fair – PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE - Sunday 5th December

Next Committee Meeting – Thursday 16th September

Open forum 7.15pm / Committee Meeting from 7.30pm

100 CLUB –

Renewal Form for the year July 2021 to June 2020 in inside the Cratfield Magazine this month – please do sign up as soon as possible.

100 Club numbers drawn by members of the Cratfield Village Hall Committee

–

1st Shirley Symonds No: 100 £15.00

2nd Caroline Marfleet No: 44 £10.00

3rd Mark Aryaenia No: 59 £5.00

Congratulations to all the winners!

If you have not signed up for the 100 Club before, please do give it a thought. For every month entered you could win either £15, £10 or £5 – just for an outlay of £1 a month! The 100 Club is a great way to enter a small private lottery that benefits the Village Hall and also gives you a chance to win. Previous items purchased by the proceeds from the 100 Club for the Village Hall include picnic benches, decorating, dishwasher, tree benches and water heaters, most recently 2018/2019 funded the glass washer for the Pop Up Pub. If you have any suggestions for the 2019/2021 funds please do let Heather Hargood know (Vine Cottage, Bell Green) Thank you to everyone who supports the Village Hall.

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Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0BI

'HOMELESS'

Homelessness is often in the news, which brought to mind the 1930-40's when being homeless was widespread, but more so in the countryside, the homeless were called 'tramps'. I remember one well-known tramp called 'Lion Vay' – it could be said he was Halesworth's own tramp. He was a tall gaunt man who walked with a particular gait. It's said he gained his name in his younger days when he accepting a challenge to go into the ring with a circus lion.

In the summer 'Lion' would sleep rough, he would curl up in a hedgerow or haystack. In winter he would walk to Blythburgh to the Workhouse, then known as the Red House Bulcamp. There he would wangle a night's kip; I say 'wangle' because it was the order that tramps should travel a certain distance each day, the distance from one workhouse to the next, at least. Somehow 'Lion' used to get round that rule. The Red House gave shelter to many homeless wanderers. Tramps then were a common sight on the roads that led to the Red House.

Also, of course at Bulcamp there would be the more permanent residents, they were drawn from a variety of sources, loss of a tied cottage when employment ceased, utter poverty – elderly people with nobody to care for them, children who were orphaned and girls too, bearing the result of some 'ill-advised' relationship. It was a common threat in those days in many families for a daughter to be told, "If you get into trouble, you will go to the workhouse." And many a poor girl did.

Back then, before the verges were cut and the wild flowers grew in abundance old 'road-men' used to settle down in the wayside bank with their bread and cheese. Past Blyford Church would come, in the late afternoon, a straggling array of 'gentlemen of the road'. They too would take a breather on the roadside bank – perhaps to smoke a thin handmade cigarette, or just to lie and stare at the sky until the Red House bell rang, then they would gather together their bundles and make for the workhouse gate with some speed lest they be too late to get a place for the night.

Next morning they would be back on the road. Local people were used to seeing the daily trek or to receiving a knock on the back door where they would find one of the 'gentlemen' standing with an old cocoa tin, known as a 'drum', in his hand. A cocoa tin was a valued possession on the road as they were not easy to come by.

There were also female tramps, usually ladies past their prime who always seemed to have acquired an old pram in which to put their few belongings. They were generally known as 'duchesses'. They were not usually as polite as their male counterparts, any refusal of help was likely to be answered by the foulest of language.

The workhouse was a grim and forbidding place, yet one cannot but feel it may have offered more comfort than today's urban cardboard-box cities.

P.B.

LOOKING BACK

We met and married a long time ago,
We worked long hours when wages were low.
No TV, no wireless, no bath, times were hard,
Just a cold water tap and a walk up the yard.
No holidays abroad, no posh carpets on floors,
But we had coal on the fire, and we didn't lock doors.
Our children arrived, no pill in those days
And we brought them up without state aid.
They were safe to go out and play in the park,
Old folk could go for a walk after dark.
No valium, no drugs, no LSD
We cured our ills with a good cup of tea.
But if you were sick you were treated at once,
Not 'fill in that form and come back in six months'.
No vandals, no muggings, there was nothing to rob,
But we felt rich with a couple of bob.
People seemed happier in those far off days,
Kinder and caring in so many ways.
Milkmen and paper boys would whistle and sing
And most were grateful for the least little thing.
We all got our share of trouble and strife,
And just had to face it, that was the pattern of life.
But now I'm alone I look back through the years,
I don't think of the bad times, the trouble, the tears.
I remember the blessings, our house and our love
and we shared them together, I thank God above.

Author unknown – copied from a notice board in sheltered accommodation.

Pam Brown

2021 Mobile Library Dates

Nothing here as yet.

But watch this space!

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A Peep into the Past

‘Ship me somewheres east of Suez, where the best is like the worst,
Where there aren’t no Ten Commandments, an’ a man can get a thirst’¹

In the 1960’s the tourist boom with its airports, cruise liners and hotels had not yet arrived. “East of Suez” was out of reach to all but the most intrepid traveller. But it was a major British area of interest whose history had been inextricably entwined with ours for 150 years.

The Gulf was still entirely Arab, non-alcoholic and deeply mysterious. The sound of the muezzin and the aromas of the suq, and preparations for the evening meal, were everywhere. Women moved silently, covered from head to foot in black burqa and hijab. India in contrast was teeming with people, rich in noise and wonderful colours, especially the beautiful saris worn by Indian women. Occasionally one needed a strong stomach when badly mutilated beggars appeared, arms outstretched. Parsee Towers of Silence dominated the western beaches of Bombay (Mumbai). Malaya was the land of Somerset Maugham’s sometimes dark stories. Singapore was mainly jungle outside the city; in the city the heat and humidity, combined with the ubiquitous aromas of Chinese cooking felt like a steam laundry! Most afternoons it pelted with rain, but once it stopped you could play tennis straightaway! Hong Kong was another mysterious world where you could buy exquisite “rabbits.”² In back street restaurants interminable games of Mah Jong went on in silence, broken only by the click of the tiles being laid down. The Wanchai area was still the world of Suzie Wong. Japan had different, very graceful, but impenetrable customs. A visit there was less common but in HMS Naiad we visited three Japanese ports

At sea, beautiful Arabian sailing dhows plied their ancient trade in the Gulf and beyond, as far as Mombasa, Pakistani Baluchistan and Karachi. They used small, picturesque harbours, surrounded by date palms, sailing long distances skilfully with primitive sextants made of sticks and string. Their cargo was usually handled by camels. In far eastern waters the ubiquitous, and by night often invisible, sampans and junks made navigation hazardous. Finding a clear route near the coast of Hong Kong or Japan, with countless fishing boats milling about in the dark, was a nightmare.

¹Rudyard Kipling-‘The Road to Mandalay’

²Sailors call gifts for families “rabbits”, hence a “rabbit run” ashore, to buy presents. “Rabbiting” also meant finding just the thing your ship needed, “liberating” it from its current undeserving owner, usually the Dockyard and putting it to better use on the principle that the government was a big firm who could afford it. Sadly this rarely happens in today’s bureaucratic and righteous world. We called it “initiative”!

Our military presence was then almost worldwide. The RN had bases in Bahrain, Aden, Singapore (a vast base, which my father commanded in 1961-3) and Hong Kong. The Far East Fleet had more ships of every kind than the whole navy today. There were ten RAF stations and four or five Army garrisons east of Suez, and a full Royal Marine brigade in Singapore. During the 1960s our forces supported several minor but fierce conflicts; the war with Indonesia from 1963-66, known as “confrontation”; anti-piracy patrols in then British North Borneo; a long war against insurgents in Aden and another in Dhofar in Oman. We exercised with the US, Japanese, Australian and New Zealand navies and helped train from humble beginnings what today are the fully fledged navies of the Trucial Oman (now the UAE), Iran, Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei. Fierce war raged in Vietnam, but we saw only glimpses as when I visited Saigon (then an elegant French city) in HMS Woodbridge Haven in 1962, just after President Diem’s palace was bombed.

Communication home was difficult. Mail was slow; a reply to a letter might easily take three weeks. When my sister was badly injured in a road accident in Singapore, I received concerned telegrams from UK friends who had seen it in the press well before my mother’s letter arrived - rather disconcerting. Telephone calls were impossible at sea and difficult on crackly HF radio links when ashore. Strangely, whilst it emphasised the huge distance between East and West, it also made life easier, more fun and less fraught than today’s constant bombardment by messages demanding instant replies. You were on your own, able and required to make personal and operational decisions on the spot. We visited some unlikely places that way.

In 1968 Harold Wilson’s government announced our withdrawal from East of Suez and largely from the Mediterranean, initially by 1975, advanced to 1971. A long century of global British naval power ended. Inevitable, but we missed it; today it often seems forgotten.

As it happened, a decade later the RN was back in the Gulf, in very different circumstances.

Jeremy Blackham



³There were also naval bases in Gibraltar, Malta, Bermuda, Liberia, Cape Town and Mauritius.

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,

The other day I was looking at an old map of Suffolk and Norfolk dated 1648. The thing that struck me most was the age of the churches in both counties. They were all there pretty much as we know them today. The spelling of their names may have changed and the communities that they serve may have changed but the churches have remained pretty much the same. This map was drawn up fourteen years before the Book of Common Prayer was finally produced, one year before Charles I was beheaded and five years before Cromwell became Lord Protector of England. These churches, our churches have stood with congregations of ordinary folk like you and me, worshipping God from week to week, month to month, year to year.

Their towers and spires stood out like light houses silently reminding generation after generation, there is a God. These churches have stood through thick and thin, they have seen revolution, war and peace.

Since the map was drawn, we as a nation have gained an empire and then given back a commonwealth, we have learned to fly, even to the moon. Fashions have changed from the sombre puritan black to the many colours and layers we see today. Electricity has replaced candle and oil light, the car has replaced the horse. Since 1648 when the map was made the world has changed many times. However one thing that has not changed, and this is represented by our church buildings and that is the Good News given to us from God via Jesus Christ. Society may have changed its attitude to God but God has remained constant and loving to us.

Next time you are in the church, for whatever reason, just think of those countless thousands who, just like us have used these buildings for our prayers or family occasions, happy or sad. Are we worthy successors? Do we show the care that is represented in our churches? Don't worry, the church building is there to remind us of God's love and that that love is constant.

If you have not set foot in church for many years or even ever! Please come, you are welcome, most of our churches are now open each day,

(I think only Monk Soham is closed, even so it has a beautiful church yard), come and enjoy the quiet and the welcome. God loves you and the churches have stood and will stand as evidence of his presence in each community for many years to come.

David



Services for July

Sunday 18th	Sunday 25th
9.00am Village Worship	9.00am Holy Communion
Sides person D. Peacock	Sides person A. Edmonds
Reader P. Baker	Reader M. Powell
Readings 2 Sam 7:1-14a Eph 2:11-end Mark 6:30-34, 53-end	Readings 2 Sam 11:1-15 Eph 3:14-end Matt 20:20-28

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

July 11th Benefice Service at Bedfield. This service is ticket only, please contact Margaret Thompson (07906 509302) if you wish to go.

DIRECTORY:

Doctor's Surgery	Fressingfield	01379 586 227
	Stradbroke	01379 384 220
Local officers:		
Church Rev. David Burrell		01986 798 136
'The Vicarage, Noyes Avenue, Laxfield		
theparsnips@googlemail.com		
Church Wardens:		
Andy Edmunds		01986 798523
Lay Elder for Cratfield - Margaret Thompson		07906 509302
Parish Council - Lotty Barbour		01986 798099
PC Clerk Sally Chapman		01379 855486
PC Website	www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net	
Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator - Nick Eade		01986 798725
Village Hall:		
Chair Person - Natalie Lloyd-Evans		01986 798790
Vice Chair - Richard Turberville		01986 798346
Bookings - Jo Nunn		01986 799181
Laxfield School Head of School- Mrs Minns		01986 798344
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Please contact Sue, Graham or Peter for more information