

photos are judged by an independent judge from outside of the village. It is a fun event – so go on, have a go! The categories are My Cratfield / Suffolk Patterns and Abandoned Suffolk – any interpretation of the categories welcome!

INDOOR BOWLS – ALTERNATE TUESDAYS

5th and 19th September / 3rd and 17th October. Do come along and have a go – no experience required – all good fun! Tea & Coffee available and there is a suggested donation of £2 to play. Any queries please contact Nigel 07445351861 or Elliott 07963676207.

VILLAGE HALL TALK – SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER – CONFIRMED

Behind the scenes on the restoration of Lincoln Castle – hear about the major £22m restoration project and how the project involved the restoration of the castle's curtain wall and creation of a new 360 degree Medieval Wall Walk among a wide range of other major works!

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2023 / 7PM

Thursday 9th Nov (& AGM)

CHRISTMAS FAIR – SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER FROM 10 – 1

Following a number of requests from last years stall holders to book, we have set a date for the 2023 Christmas Fair (with Richards Big Bap Brunches again!) Pop along for a range of locally sourced gifts, food and presents – and you can even pick up a locally grown Christmas tree!

VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE

Don't forget our hall is available for hire for a very reasonable price! We are also able to hire out tables, chairs and crockery too – so if you are having a large party why not consider hiring everything from the village hall – or the hall itself?!

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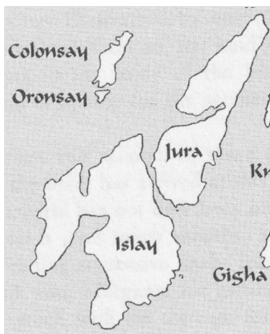
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with operator, if required.*

Bridge House, Denmark Hill, Palgrave, Diss IP22 1AB



Exploring the Scottish Islands – with a collapsible bike!
Colonsay (8 miles long, 1-3 miles wide - Pop: 135)



In our 'tour' of the Scottish islands, we're heading gradually westwards: next stop, Colonsay and Oronsay which, depending on the tide is either one, or two, islands! However, raised beaches on the west coast and beach debris in the interior mark a time when the sea was higher and there were actually 4 separate islands. Humans have been here for 7,000 years – and, in 1882, a Viking warrior who had been given a ship burial in 855 was uncovered in the sand dunes – together with his weapons, horse and coins. (On other islands, ancient buildings, even entire villages, have been revealed by shifting sands, often after a powerful storm...)

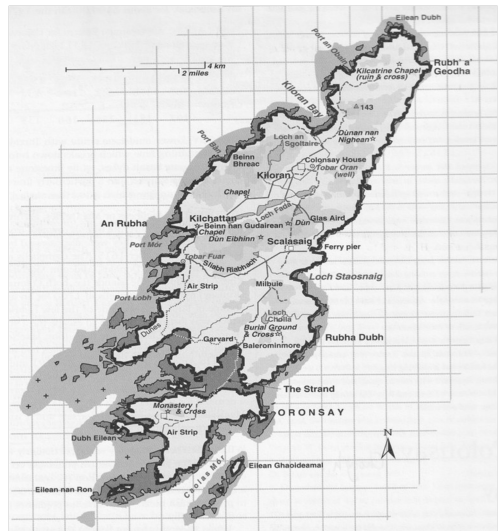
These islands have been in the family of Margaret Thatcher's one-time Minister of Defence, Lord Strathcona, since 1905. Colonsay House was built in 1722 and the sheltered Kiloran valley hosts palm trees, bamboo and many other exotics: and, with over 500 species, Colonsay has the greatest variety of flora in the Hebrides. It also hosts the extremely rare Chough (which looks like a blackbird with red legs and beak). To get to Colonsay, the ferry leaves from Oban - 40 miles to the NE – and it takes 2½ hours. Anyone you see on the ferry is going to Colonsay and no-where else! I was on the ferry in 2001 with a party I had befriended on a previous trip to a different island: there were a dozen of us and we were going to spend a week on Colonsay. We spotted a large silver Mercedes estate on the ferry and its rather glamorous owners: the ladies in our group were very taken with the man, who looked younger

than his 40 years. It later transpired that this was Alex Howard, 5th Baron Strathcona, and his wife!

Colonsay has undemanding contours, so one activity is to hire bicycles to go exploring: one immense surprise is to discover the Colonsay Bookshop, which looks far out to sea! One day, our old range expired and we had to ring the emergency number we were given: about 20 minutes later, a large silver Mercedes estate car pulled up. Our ladies excitedly shouted: "It's him, it's HIM!" We answered the door to our Laird ("Just call me Alex...") and, as he made his way to the kitchen, I heard one of our ladies in the front room mutter to another, "He's too sexy for his shirt!" There then followed a raucous, dirty cackle that the Laird must surely have heard himself! He was obviously a hands-on Laird and, as he crouched to inspect the southern reaches of the range, the northern reaches of his aristocratic posterior started to glimpse the daylight over his low-cut jeans - like dawn sunshine glancing the Paps of Jura. I caught sight of one of our female members fanning herself with her hand, in a mock attempt at swoon-evasion. The kitchen was now filled with people, as Alex dismantled the range: the men were interested to learn about the mechanics of it all and the women, also, seemed equally enthusiastic – but they developed a knack of learning about the engineering side without actually looking at the cooker. The men – clearly put out by the attention that 'Alex' was getting – had, I think, their own opinions about where the sun shone from this particular Laird! Happy memories!

Next month: Walking from Colonsay to Oronsay at low tide.

Andrew Weight



Quiz Answers

1. Dorset 2. Norfolk 3. Suffolk 4. Derbyshire 5. Devon 6. Essex 7. Surrey 8. Staffordshire 9. Kent 10. Hampshire 11. Cambridgeshire 12. Lincolnshire 13. Hertfordshire 14. Sussex 15. Berkshire 16. Northumberland 17. Lancashire 18. Cheshire 19. Wiltshire 20. Leicestershire

Cratfield Parish Council
Meeting Dates 2023
Cratfield Village Hall

Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7.30pm
Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7.30pm

~ Planning meetings are arranged when required ~
All Parishioners Welcome!

The agenda is displayed 3 days before the meeting on the noticeboards & website. If you would like to add anything to the agenda please contact the Clerk 7 days before the meeting.

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Autumn Events:

Join us for these exciting events in the tipi from October...

7th October Supper & Stargazing with DASH Astro

A delicious autumn supper alongside stargazing led by our local astronomy society.

21st October Autumn Game Feast with Noble Prawn's Lily Benbow

Another delicious feast night based around game and created over fire.

11th November Supper & Tavern Yard Tales

The Yarnsmith of Norwich will be spinning some tall tales in our Tipi around the fire

Keep an eye out for many more evening events and workshops on our website or follow us on Instagram @fireandfeastsuffolk



For more information or to buy tickets for our special events visit our website

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Letter from Rev. Enid

Our God is overwhelmingly generous towards us in his provision of all we have. We know from our scriptures, that whenever God provides it is never second rate, and you never see God holding back the best for himself. He simply keeps giving in abundance to us, all that we need and more.

It can be tempting because of the influences of the world, to behave like consumers of a product when we go to church, rather than as servants of God. Instead of giving regularly, we may be inclined instead, to pay a little for each service we actually experience, forgetting that in our absence money is still required.

Our churches are our powerhouses of mission to build God's Kingdom. To keep them active, running, and growing we need ministry, and ministry costs money. It is no good us worrying about church improvements, if the ministry is disregarded.

Without ministry our churches are just old buildings.

Our parish share primarily pays for our ministry. The small amount left over pays for things like training, and the administration that needs to happen in any organisation. It has very little to do with the affairs of the national church.

We know to our cost don't we, that especially in village life, such things as our pubs and village shops closing, because of lack of use and cash flow, is devastating.

Similarly, the church is not immune to lack of use and cash flow.

It is heart breaking if we have to start thinking like that, and it is absolutely the last thing I want to even contemplate. However, if we want to keep our churches open for worship, available for the community for important things like weddings, baptisms, and funerals, we do already have the answer. We need to worship regularly, use the building and be realistic about our giving. This is a working together answer.

God keeps giving to us and wants us in full relationship with him, because that is the model for how we relate to others. Part of that process is about money, time, generosity and losing our fear of being as generous with God, as he is with us. In my experience when I have hesitated to give to God, but given anyway, I have never been left short. God just blesses us again and again when we are generous. I thank all those who already give generously, but I am appealing to us all, to prayerfully re-evaluate our giving. God keeps giving generously to us, so let us be generous in return.

God bless you

Revd. Enid

You are invited to join an Alpha Course If you are curious about the big questions of life and want to find out more, Alpha is the course for you. Alpha, an 11 week course, looks at the Christian faith and is a fun and interesting way to discover and discuss things you maybe never knew before. It will also be a useful refresher.

Dates and venues

Worlingworth Tuesdays, starting 19th September, 6.30pm at the Community Centre

Laxfield Wednesdays, starting 20th September, 6.30pm at The Vicarage

Online Thursdays, starting 21st September, 6.30pm

For more details or to sign up for any of these, please contact Revd Enid Pow, 01986 743093 or revid4drivers@gmail.com

Benefice Services for September 2023

September	3rd	10th	17th	24th
Bedfield	10.30am Holy Communion CS	10.30am Family Services SP		10.330am Harvest Festival SP
Brundish	6.00pm Village Worship SP	6.00pm Village Worship EP		6.00pm Holy Communion CM
Laxfield	10.30am Celtic Morning Service LE	10.30am Morning Praise CS	10.30am Harvest + HC EP	10.30am Fourth Sunday Wor- ship FS Team
Monk So- ham	11.00am Family Service RA	11.00am BCP Morning Prayer CM	11am BCP Holy Communion RA	11.00am Morning Prayer RA
Tannington				
Wilby	10.30am Village Worship SP	10.30am Holy Communion EP	10.30am Village Worship CM	6.00pm Harvest Festival EP
Worling- worth	11.00am Morning Prayer BS	4.00pm Celebrate Wed- ding RO	11.00am Holy Communion CS	4.00pm Harvest Festival BS

CRATFIELD

3rd	10th	17th
<p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 3:1-15 Romans 12:9-end Matthew 16:21-end</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6.00pm Holy Communion CS Reader P. Baker Sidesperson A. Edmunds</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 12:1-14 Romans 13:8-end Matthew 18:15-20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6.00pm Evening Prayer CM Reader M. Powell Sidesperson A. Edmunds</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 14:19-end Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;">9.00am Village Worship CS Reader J. Klingels Sidesperson C. Marfleet</p>

DIRECTORY:

Local Officers:

Church:

Priest in Charge of the Four Rivers Benefice
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The Vicarage, 15 Noyes Avenue Laxfield IP13 8EB
Assistant Curate Rev. Clive Mobbs 07340 838639

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Parish Clerk Sally Chapman 07774 734411
Parish Council Website www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Nick Eade 01986 798725

Village Hall:

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