

CRATFIELD NEWS

April 2019

HAPPY
EASTER



Hello and Welcome

A very warm welcome to Vanessa, Andrew, Will and John, who along with Eddie the dog have recently moved into no.6 The Street, Maddie Gallop now of 2 Boxbush Cottages and also to Nicky and Bruce who have come to live at Hill View on Bell Green. We hope they will be very happy here in Cratfield.

THE VINTAGE TRACTORS ARE BACK!

Once again, the annual vintage tractor run will stop at Cratfield village hall for tea and cakes before departing en masse.



It's a spectacular sight!

Arrival time for the convoy is approximately 12.30pm
on Easter Monday, April 22nd.

The time could be a little earlier or later, depending on traffic as they muster at Flixton a few miles away.

Everyone is welcome to come along and see them and to enjoy the refreshments, proceeds from which will go to St. Martin's Housing Trust.

Please note they don't stay much above an hour in Cratfield.



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Please think of pedestrians and do not park on the pavements in Cratfield!

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION



**Chrissie Kitchen, Candy Blackham,
Nick Eade, & Geoff Moore with wildlife,
landscape, church architecture & street
photography**

Friday 12 April 2019, 18.00-20.00

Pay Bar & Nibbles

Saturday 13 April 2019, 10.30-17.00

Tea & Yummy Cakes

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FREE ENTRY

**Donations to Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund &
Macmillan Cancer Support**

Further information: candyblackham@gmail.com

Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market
Saturday 6th April 9.30am -12.00pm

*inside All Saint's Church and in the Royal Oak,
and outside on Church Plain*

The organisers of the Market have been really pleased with continued support from both stallholders and customers over the winter months, turnout has been very good despite at times doubtful weather conditions. The additional all-year- round opening has certainly proved very popular.

No doubt an Easter theme will be heavily featured at April's Market, with it being just under two weeks away. Look for cards, gifts, beautiful flowers, delicious lamb and other local meats, lots of baked goods, and generally items with a cheerful Spring feel, including bird themed items being sold in aid of the Church. There'll be plants and garden items for those itching to make a start on getting their garden into shape for the months ahead.

Amongst all the good things on offer will be lots of individually created crafts and gifts (one of our crafters has successfully gained space at the prestigious Country Living Spring Show at Alexandra Palace in London, so remember where you saw her first!) This does highlight the quality and individuality of our craft offerings at the Market.

If all the shopping and chatting seem tiring, then look out for the super energetic entertainment this month supplied by 'Everything's Jumpin', they will be demonstrating jive and jitterbugging dancing out on Church Plain, weather permitting of course, although joining in will be very warming if the weather is chilly.

As usual plenty of sustenance will be available including tea, coffee and tasty cake inside on the Church refreshment counter, the Royal Oak will be offering breakfasts, bacon butties during the morning and then lunches after, plus all the usual drinks, hot and cold. Why not make a morning of it?

The Market is so popular there is always a waiting list for indoor stall space, but do contact Catherine Cawood on 01986 798852 for info on availability.

*The Laxfield Produce, Craft and Flea Market welcomes you on the first
Saturday morning of every month –
A Suffolk Market run by lovely friendly people -
looking forward to seeing you there!*

EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL

Monday April 1st will see the historic creation of a brand new local authority, replacing Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council.

East Suffolk Council will deliver essential services to local people and communities, from Lowestoft in the north to Felixstowe in the south, and is the natural culmination of a partnership between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney which has seen them save a combined total of over £22 million.

The creation of this new 'super district council' is a historic first for local government. It is the latest step in a meticulously planned journey designed to ensure that local people receive the services they deserve and expect in the face of considerable financial challenges for local government.

The primary reason for creating this new council is to meet the challenges presented by a hugely pressurised financial and service-delivery environment. Compared with the other options considered, it is the most simple to implement and has involved limited transitional costs. It will enable the new council to grasp more opportunities and deliver its priorities for East Suffolk; financial self-sufficiency, economic growth, and enabling communities.

So what will you as taxpayers see that is different? First, the number of councillors is being reduced from 90 across two authorities to 55 and the elections to the new council will take place on May 2nd. A lot of work has gone in to ensuring that it will be 'business as usual' when the new council comes in to force on April 1st.

Residents will continue to pay their council tax in the same way, refuse and recycling will be collected by the same friendly and efficient teams and a range of important services from Planning and Coastal Management to Housing and Environmental Health will continue in exactly the same way.

There will of course be some changes. A new telephone number is being introduced for the Council's switchboard and customer contact centre:

03330 162 000.

This will be a non-geographic number, meaning callers will be charged at a local rate, no matter where they call from in East Suffolk. And of course, there will be new signs – from the largest logos on the side of our main buildings, to car parks and vehicles.

These changes will be made gradually to keep costs down; another example of how the creation of a brand new council has been carefully planned with the taxpayer and public money in mind.

MICHAEL OLIVER

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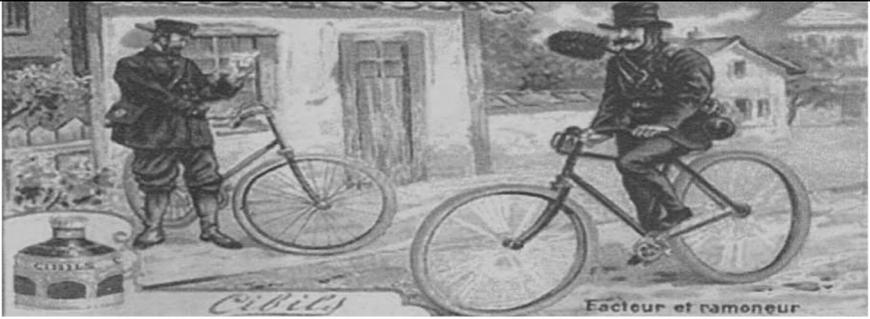
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FIBRE BROADBAND FINALLY



We have, over some considerable time, as with others I'm sure, been battling with BT and OpenReach on improvements to our frankly laughable internet services within the village. I am very dependent on this service for my line of work and my ability to access, download/send information to and from my clients. It has restricted us

and many families in the village (quite severely) in any essence of normality in today's modern society particularly in allowing us to access the benefits of today's digital era and in allowing our children (and ourselves) to interact and engage with friends, whether through gaming or accessing the world beyond Cratfield. To this end I've been constantly managing issues with my provider and where possible with OpenReach in the performance of the service, regardless of the measly compensation the ISPs have been able to provide.

Over the past 2 to 3 years, my son, Cole has been hounding BT/OpenReach through enquiries as to when our services within the village will be upgraded to Fibre. He's been monitoring road closure alerts, websites and writing to other sources of information to establish signals of progress. Following numerous letters and email exchanges with BT, he's slowly managed to get himself further and further connected with individuals who have been progressively more and more helpful and apparently more knowledgeable. The last 6 months have seen a real escalation in activity and promises, not all recorded on the fibre update sites. Last month they provided what seemed more certainty than we had heard previously about Fibre arriving before the end of March. I'm sure many of the people in the village have been pursuing BT/OpenReach over some time and finally those efforts have been rewarded.

We now have Fibre live to the village (I assume this is to the whole village). I've checked with my ISP (EE), the product appears to be available across all providers from what we can see. I have placed my order and received confirmation that my service will be switched over within 2 weeks.

The minimum guaranteed speed to my property will be 30Mb, considering my current 1Mb it's a substantial increase. Other properties will of course vary depending on their distance from the new cabinet installed at the top of Church Road, but it demonstrates a whole new level of connectivity. This level of performance means that lagging on internet searches would in theory be a thing of the past, browsing and website interrogations will be much quicker. Music and video downloads will be substantially quicker. It also means that we can all start to subscribe to and use added services such as Netflix and Amazon TV etc. without buffering. I also believe (but let's wait and see) that with circa 30+Mb speed, we can actually watch

proper HD and 4K movies and films on our TVs (if it's an HD TV and prepared for 4K) without buffering, fuzziness or drag on the screen. I believe it will also mean that services such as Skype can now be effectively used without glitching and buffering if downloading other data at the same time or if someone else is using bandwidth from the same service.



This is a total result for both home and business. It means that people can balance home working opportunities more effectively and dare I say it, improve for some the viability and attractiveness of more remote living, thus increasing property values....but that's subjective and for another discussion.

Mark Aryaenia (15.03.2019)

Note from Sue Seabon and Peter Baker (See also Village Hall News)

For a few years now I have been researching the people who owned and lived in Bell Corner Cottage and Barn over the years. I'm afraid by now people probably cross over the road to avoid me as I can drone on for ages, but it is turning out to be a fascinating exercise, with much social history involved. Whenever I have been at a village hall event I have stared at the photos and had to resist the urge to take them off the wall, turn them over and see if there is any information on the back and that's how it started. I mentioned this to Chrissie and one afternoon we had a session doing just that with all the added knowledge that Chrissie has. It soon moved on to having them re-photographed and re-framed; we are thrilled with the result. Peter did the DIY involved in hanging them, but we do need to do a little re-adjustment after they have settled down. We are particularly short of dates, and, as we all probably know from our own family photos, dates were rarely added to the backs, so if you have any further information, please do feel free to add it into the folder. Chrissie has also been researching Cratfield's past inhabitants and it certainly does give one a sense of our own short place in Cratfield's history. The people in the photos very much belonged to Cratfield; it is good to have them refurbished and back on the walls of the village hall.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Saturday 30th March Acoustic Night 2!

Doors open 7.15pm, admission is free – there will be a collection for the Air Ambulance Service

Included in the line-up will be one of the best harmonica players you are ever likely to hear, plus Skylark – an acoustic duo from Norwich – and Rosewood (Simon and Val Haines who also run a folk club in Hadleigh)... Definitely not to be missed! Add to that some local talent and we should have another fine Acoustic Night.

The bar will be open, so do come along and enjoy an evening of music and song – join in and sing along or just relax and listen.

Wednesday 3rd April – Cratfield Garden Club

The inaugural meeting of the Cratfield Garden Club will take place on Wednesday 3rd April in the Village Hall starting at 7.00pm. All members need to bring £30 which was the agreed sum for the annual subscription; this will cover the cost of the hall. If there are any particular topics you would like to discuss, please let me know, but I will do a presentation on my time at Chelsea Physic Garden, London. I will bring some tea, coffee, milk and biscuits. Hope to see lots of you there! Any queries please contact Caroline Marfleet on 07969603509

Friday 5th April – Pop-up Bar with food by Cratfield Kitchen

Many thanks to Denis and Lesley Rockall, Tim Cerullo and Lesley and Robert King who helped out behind the bar last month and anyone else 'behind the scenes' – your help is very much appreciated!

If you fancy a turn as landlord or landlady for one of the evenings please do let Natalie know on 01986 798790.

First orders at 6.30pm with last orders at 9.45pm – please note the bar closes at 10.00pm and the hall will close at 10.30pm.

Thursday 25th April – Westminster Abbey & Canterbury Cathedral – their stone skeletons

John Burton (MBE) is the first Surveyor since Henry Yevley in the 1390s to concurrently care for both Westminster Abbey and Canterbury Cathedral.

He has great knowledge of both these astonishing buildings; their structure, their history, stories, legends and much more – come along to this fascinating talk to find out more – entry is free and the bar will be open before and after the talk.

7 for 7.30pm – there will be a collection for the Air Ambulance Service.

Sunday May 12th – Dog Show

More details to follow

Sunday 1st September – Horticultural Show

The full details, schedule and entry form were included in last month's magazine – any queries please contact Carolyn White on 01986 799187

Saturday 12th October – Cratfield Photography Competition

Now spring is officially here(!) and we are all able to get out and about with more daylight don't forget the three categories for the photography competition this year are

Suffolk Seasons

My Suffolk Weekend

Secret Cratfield

fun category – Cratfield Pets

Further details to follow regarding how and when to enter, the size of photographs etc. - the viewing and announcement of the winners will be held on Saturday 12th October – time to be announced.

The winning photos and runners up are all used in the Cratfield Calendar which is a great earner for the village hall with local businesses using it to advertise it also makes a great present at Christmas time.

If you have not entered before please do have a go – it's very much a fun activity for the village (and do you know, one entrant who has won several years in a row takes all their photos with their phone and does not own an actual camera.)

100 Club Draw held at Nova

1st Natalie Lloyd-Evans No:20 £15.00

2nd Suzanne Eagling No:23 £10.00

3rd Paul Marfleet No:76 £5.00

Congratulations to all the winners

Finally a massive thank you to Chrissie Kitchen, Sue Seabon and Peter Baker

If you have visited the hall recently you will notice that all the photographs adorning the walls have been sorted out and remounted/framed. Previously the photos on display were all from the Poacher and when Roger and Margaret bought the property Chrissie asked to have them copied for the village hall. At the time the frames were purchased from charity shops and short descriptions were put on the photos with the information known at the time – out of interest, the old, large aerial view of the village that hangs just inside the door was taken in 1967, it was quite tatty so it was printed onto a canvas – at a costly sum of £40 –11 years ago! When Margaret and Roger sold The Poacher they passed on the box of original photos to Chrissie. Sue Seabon thought it would be a good idea to index the pieces as these photos are a wonderful archive of Cratfield's past. With reproduction and technology improving over the years it also meant the grainy copies were able to be revitalised. This amounted to just over 30 pieces of work – which all deserved mounts and frames to help display them to their full effect and preserve them for the future – with the help of Robinson's Stationers in Harleston and The Framing Place in Beccles we now have an amazing exhibition of these photos.

The pieces are all numbered with a folder pertaining to the information known about each photo, please do feel free to make any amendments for future generations if you know of any extra information about the location or the people within the photos, as unfortunately many that we could have asked are no longer with us.

Chrissie, Sue and Peter all worked on this massive project which took a huge amount of time and effort – so many, many thanks.

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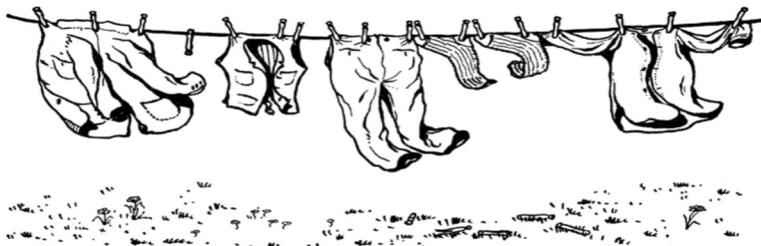
'We must take care of our garden.'

Monday February 25th was a gorgeous day. The sun shone on sparkling green branches, the birds seemed to be busy nesting, flowers were appearing. I brushed down the picnic table in the garden and artistically arranged bread, a bottle of wine and a green salad and we enjoyed an alfresco meal.

Flowers started to bloom early. Birds seemed to be stirring to make their nests. The sky was blue. Bees buzzed. I closed my eyes and luxuriated like a reptile in the warmth of a generous sun. This was not Cratfield in winter. This was Provence in springtime!



And the washing I did! We had had guests for a week. I did eight full loads in a couple of days and dried the lot in the sunshine. What luxury. And those lovely sunny walks in the short winter afternoons.



As we all know this was the hottest February day on record – ever. I loved it and yet, for the first time in my life, my pleasure in the sunshine felt tainted. I gloried in it and yet at the same time felt uncomfortable. At the end of that period of freak weather I felt guilty and a bit queasy - as if I had gorged on a box of childhood chocolates that I had been warned against having in one go. I felt guilty and a little bit sick at the same time.

Was the unseasonably warm weather due to climate change? Scientists seem to be saying so. I tend to believe them. But even if it was just down to chance, the wildly unusual weather gave me pause to think. If the climate does change – this is what we will have. But this time the disruption will be damaging and prolonged. That freak weather – no matter what the cause was – brought it home to me how unsettling a change in climate could be. It was nice but it didn't feel right. I recall living in London with bright street lights, hearing birds singing all through the hours of darkness because as far as they were concerned the day lasted twenty-four hours. It felt very unnatural, surely it must have been harmful for the birds.

If the climate changes, nature will be confused. Animals, birds, insects – everything - will be radically affected. And we will not be able to recover what we have lost. I have no intention of preaching politics but what I

would say is that the warm weather in February reminded me how caring for the environment should be an important part of life. Part of what it is to try to be a to be a good person.

It reminded me of how important to me it feels to try and do something for the environment. Recycling, gardening, growing our own vegetables, a constant awareness of this issue. To me these things feel to me like important political acts. There are many issues in the world but surely caring for the environment is the most portentous issue of them all.



'We must take care of our garden.' is the final lesson learned by the hero at the end of Voltaire's novel **Candide**. We will try and look after our garden in Cratfield in order to make our contribution to caring for the garden which comprises the whole of creation. That is the lesson I have learned from those record-breaking warm days in February.

Nigel Cousins

What is the origin of the Easter Bunny

The Easter Bunny (also known as the Easter Rabbit or Easter Hare) is a folkloric figure and symbol of Easter depicted as a rabbit bringing Easter eggs. Originating among German Lutherans, the 'Easter Hare' originally played the role of judge, evaluating whether children were good or disobedient in behaviour at the start of the season of Eastertide. The Easter bunny is sometimes depicted with clothes. In legend the creature carries coloured eggs in his basket, sweets and also sometimes toys to the homes of children.

It is commonly thought that the word *Easter* comes from the pagan figure called *Eastre* (or *Oestre*) who was celebrated as the goddess of spring by the Saxons of Northern Europe. The only problem with this theory is that it has no basis in history, it is pure conjecture. The same is true of the origin of the Easter bunny and Easter eggs, no one knows for sure how these things became a part of the Easter observances. The most we can say is that the word Easter is probably related to the word east (*ost* in German) and that the Saxons had a month they called *Eosturmononath*

The Rectory, Noyes Avenue, Laxfield

Dear Friends,

One of the less attractive traits of human beings is the way we load expectations on to people that are unrealistic and unfair. Then, when the expectations are not met, we criticise the others, not ourselves.

Jesus was well aware of what people wanted him to be and do. He knew he could not be the conquering liberator of their imagination because his path was to lead to defeat and death – something very hard for his followers to accept. St Luke tells us that even when Jesus hung on the cross ‘the leaders scoffed at him, saying “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” (Luke 23:35-37.) These must have been bitter words for the Son of God to hear, when he knew that he could have summoned legions of angels to release him from the cross, but chose not to.

In that choice he in fact exceeded all expectation. Instead of liberating the nation he sacrificed himself so that every man, woman and child in the world could come back to God. That’s how much he loved us.

Sometimes if we let our relatives, friends, the local school, the NHS or whoever it may be off the hook and not pile a weight of expectation upon them, they may in fact deliver in a way that we had never thought of. No-one on that first Good Friday believed that Jesus would rise again, although he had told them he would. On Easter Day he turned defeat into victory and silenced the mockery of his enemies by a far greater miracle than stepping down from the cross would have been. However, he still didn’t do what we might have expected, namely to appear to the Jewish leaders and Roman soldiers. Instead he appeared secretly to his friends, that not very wonderful bunch of disciples. Gradually the message that he was alive again spread and spread, so that now all round the world people can rejoice in God’s great work in saving lost humanity. He has done far more than we could ask, or think, or deserve. It’s a secret that we can all share in one of our churches this Holy Week and Easter as we proclaim ‘Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!’

David

St. Mary's Church Services – April 2019

Palm Sunday 14th	Maundy Thursday	Easter Sunday 21st
10.30am Benefice Holy Communion AV	7.00pm Agapé Bring and Share DB	9.00am Holy Communion DB
Sidesperson A. Edmonds		Sidesperson D. Peacock
Reader E. Cook		Reader P. Baker
Zachariah 9:9-12 Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 19:28-40		Isaiah 65:17-25 Acts 10:34-43 Luke 24:1-12

NOTES

Please come along to our Lenten talks. No need to book, just arrive at 7.00pm.
Refreshments included.

3rd April The Dean of Edmondsbury Cathedral

10th April A representative from the Emmaus Homeless Charity from Ditchingham

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 - Natalie Lloyd-Evans		01986 798790
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Vice Chair - Richard Turberville		01986 798346
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Bookings - Jo Nunn		01986 799181
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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