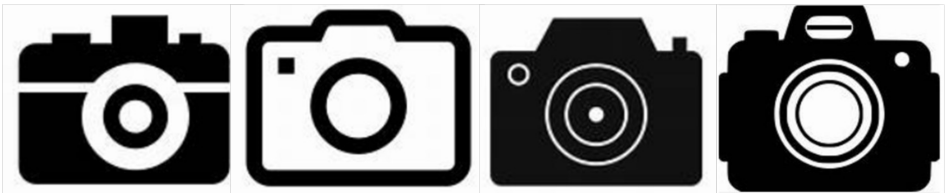


CRATFIELD NEWS

August 2023



CRATFIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2023

SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER / 7 - 9 PM / BAR OPEN !

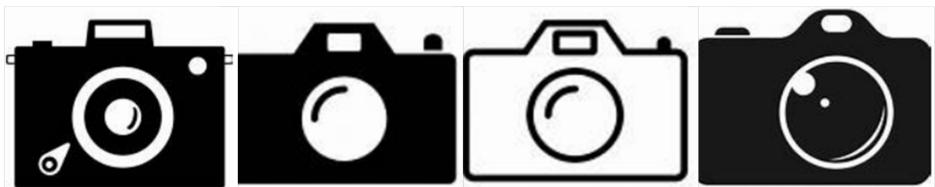
(Awards presented around 8pm)

ENTRY FORM WITHIN THIS MAGAZINE

ENTRY DEADLINE SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

£1 A PHOTO TO ENTER & CHILDREN ENTER FOR FREE!

**CATEGORIES ARE - MY CRATFIELD / SUFFOLK PATTERNS &
ABANDONED SUFFOLK**



WELCOME

A very warm Cratfield welcome to Colin and Jackie Kitchener who have recently moved into Foxglove House (formerly Hill View, next but one to The Poacher). By the time this is read I hope they feel settled and are beginning to enjoy life in our village.

CONCERTS AT CRATFIELD

Just a reminder that the Concerts at Cratfield are in full swing again for the summer season, there are four more to come – July 30th, August 13th, August 27th and September 10th.

The following is an extract from a letter received by the concert organisers:-

“What a joy the Cratfield Concerts are turning out to be. I am having such a good time, And, apart from the wonderful talent and performances, there is such a lovely atmosphere in the church, with all the volunteers serving truly delicious home-made cakes and tea and helping out even with the cushions for the audience. It just felt so intimate in that wonderful setting of an English country church. I sat next to a South African resident of Cratfield. She had made the carrot cake and I was glad to tell her how much I had enjoyed it.

I thought the Janáček especially thrilling. It reminded me that when I first saw Jenufa - I think it was at the Colosseum - I was astounded at such a dark theme and left the theatre feeling like cutting my throat!!

Thank you for this new pleasure.”

As usual the concerts are proving immensely popular with the regular concert goers and, as a sign of appreciation for Cratfield’s hospitality and support, if you turn up at the door and show a Cratfield address you will be offered the regular £15 tickets in the side aisles and the choir stalls for just £8. So why not give it a go.

As the concerts are so popular you are encouraged to turn up early to gain your seat.

Become a shareholder and help secure the future of THE LOW HOUSE



The Low House CIC are Freehold owners of The Low House, they invite you to become a shareholder in the company and a friend of The Low House.

The aims of the share sale are:

- To encourage greater community involvement in the CIC.
- To increase the number of local stakeholders in the pub.
- To help secure the long-term future of this unique Suffolk landmark.

For further information pick up a copy of the prospectus from the pub, or email lowhousefriends@gmail.com to secure your electronic copy.

Back to sea in the “Happy Hermes”

In June 1983, I was appointed to be the Commander (Second in Command) of the aircraft carrier HMS Hermes. I joined her in Gothenburg on Midsummer Day. Midsummer is a big festival and party in Sweden and my first evening with Hermes was spent in a woodland park with Swedish hosts, trying to avoid dancing with strangers round a sort of Maypole and generally being jolly before returning to the ship at about 1 am, still in bright sunlight, on a day I had started at Heathrow in the rain! It was all a little disorienting.

Hermes had always had the reputation of being a happy ship. When this happens, people join expecting to be happy, and so it usually becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. I found the ship very buzzy and cheerful with its crew of around 1200, plus any air squadrons or Royal Marines who were embarked. My job was, broadly speaking, to ensure, together with a wonderful team of departmental heads, that the ship was functioning perfectly below the Flight Deck, so that the Captain could focus on the ship's operational and tactical operations without being troubled by administrative detail. I also had to be ready to relieve the Captain if and when needed, as happened once on an unusual occasion which I may well write about later. I was blessed with a Captain who allowed me to get on with it, but had a happy knack of tactfully suggesting that I might perhaps think again when he thought it necessary.

It was in many ways the most fun job I ever had. I hope these stories have made it clear just how enjoyable working with naval sailors is. In Hermes, it was especially enjoyable because of the large numbers and general enthusiastic atmosphere on board. Even better was to be back again in the exciting world of naval aviation, in this case with Sea Harriers embarked, as well as a mix of helicopters. This was my first encounter at sea with this extraordinary aircraft. Watching it take off from the “ski-jump” was always exciting, but landing was even more so. Sea Harriers landed vertically, and could do so facing forward, aft or across the deck, allowing huge flexibility in the course we needed to steer to recover the aircraft.¹ Because of our ability to operate aircraft on a much wider range of courses and even alter course between individual aircraft coming and going, we could launch and recover aircraft much more quickly than the large US Navy carriers, even if not in such numbers. This often allowed us to operate in worse weather or visibility conditions and with less sea room than the larger conventional carriers the US Navy possessed. The Harrier could even fly backwards, sideways or vertically up and down if needed, which made it a very difficult target for a hostile fighter aircraft, as the Falklands War had amply demonstrated. One very popular party trick after a display of aerobatics for visiting VIPs in foreign ports, was to hover at about 100ft off the ship's side opposite the deck and bow to the (usually) applauding audience. And to have it fly past at 400 knots or so and then come into the hover a few feet over the sea was rather like watching a conjuring trick.² I admit that I never really tired of watching it.

We carried a Royal Marine Band as well which was hugely popular on foreign visits, especially when bringing formal receptions to a close with the moving ceremony of “Beat Retreat.” It also allowed the ship’s daily routine to be run by bugle calls rather than voice announcements on the PA system, as was traditional in larger ships. This was a tradition that I always enjoyed and insisted on although not everyone agreed, but of course it required a Royal Marine bugler to achieve it.

I can’t finish without mentioning one other oddity which might at least appeal to Dennis Rockall. I have been, since I was 8, a supporter of Charlton Athletic Football Club – well, someone has to do it. In every ship in which I have served, there has always been one other supporter of the ‘Addicks. But in Hermes there were two Chief Petty Officers, one of whom received by mail every edition of the club’s weekly programme which he shared with me. I have rarely felt so well informed about anything.

Jeremy Blackham



HMS Hermes

1. Operating large conventional jets requires a carrier to steam more or less directly into the wind at high speed, just as an airliner takes off and lands into the wind. It needs a lot of sea room. The Harrier could swivel round whilst hovering, to find the best wind for landing and then drop vertically onto the deck.
2. Most of our flying operations were much more serious and designed to ensure that both ship and aircraft were always at their highest peak of readiness for crisis, which has a way of arriving out of a clear blue sky.

MICHAEL OLIVER

FENCING AND GATES

ALL ASPECTS SUPPLIED ERECTED REPAIRED

ADAPTABLE to your individual requirements

GARDEN FEATURES CONSTRUCTED AND INSTALLED

Arches pergolas trellis paving paths footbridges raised beds log stores

GRAVEL DRIVEWAYS CONSTRUCTED AND REFURBISHED

Including drainage and all types of edging

MINI DIGGER TO: CLEAN SMALL DITCHES TRENCHES DRAINAGE
HOLES AUGERED CONCRETE BREAKING AREAS LEVELLED AND CLEARED

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

FREE WRITTEN ESTIMATES AND SENSIBLE ADVICE

HOME: 01986 798129 MOBILE: 07946 714291

EMAIL:michael700oliver@btinternet.com

Linstead Farm & Garden

For all your gardening equipment and machinery needs

Lawn mowers, ride-ons, chainsaws, hedge trimmers etc

STIHL VIKING MOUNTFIELD COUNTAX STIGA

Sales and service, spares and repairs. Contact Bob or Simon on 01986
785272 or email linsteadfarm@btconnect.com



Cratfield Parish Council

Please help keep your village clean & tidy

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

Your help & support would be greatly appreciated!

If you would like to litter pick please contact:

Cllr Dan Elford Tel: 01986 798649 - Village collection

Cllr Richard Chivers Tel: 07900 187350 - Silverleys Green collection



SHAUN CHAMBERS
-TRADITIONAL WINDOW CLEANER-
EST. 2001

CALL
07947 860628
FOR A QUOTE

J. FELTON 
CHIMNEY SWEEP

- CLEAN & FRIENDLY SERVICE
- FULLY INSURED
- SMOKE TESTS
- INSURANCE CERTIFICATES
- CCTV INSPECTIONS
- COMPETITIVE RATES

PLEASE CALL 01986 799175

ICS

REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHIMNEY SWEEPS

DIARY OF A NOVICE TRIATHLETE, AGED 53½

An occasional, and occasionally truthful, record of my preparation for my first triathlon.

An absolute disaster at the gym! I had timed my visit, as usual, to coincide with 'Aerobics Oz Style' on the TV, only to find that Mia had dyed her hair brown. Or had stopped dyeing it blonde. Either way, it is so over between us now. And that is not the only reason. Having broken the 2 km barrier on the treadmill I felt confident to run, or jog, on the road. Do I run or do I jog? I used to reckon that anything faster than a 10-minute mile pace counted as running, 10 or longer was jogging. Translated into metric that means the cut-off rate is 6.213711922 minutes per kilometre, or one thigh-burn and half an abdominal series if you are watching 'Aerobics Oz Style'. So I hit the road. Literally. Running along a perfectly flat piece of pavement I stumbled off-balance. That's alright, I thought, I'll straighten up on the next pace. The next pace found me further off-balance. That's alright, I thought, I'll straighten up on the next pace. Two more paces of self-delusion and I fell onto a patch of gravel, rolling in an attempt to break my fall and ending up flat on my back. I limped home with blood running down my arm to find that Susanne was on a work call. So I took a number and waited until nurse was free to pick gravel out of my elbow and call me an idiot.

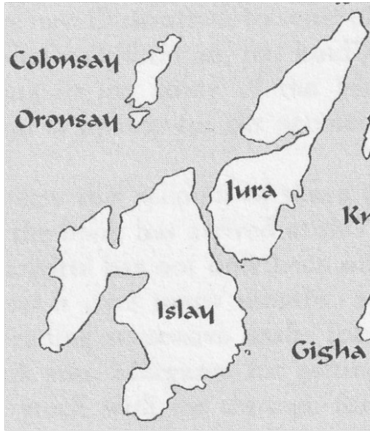
On the plus side, the open water swimming season had started and the triathlon club hired a local lake twice a week for practice sessions. Having been a diver in the navy for over thirty years, zipping myself into some neoprene and jumping into cold water was second-nature to me. I was getting in touch with my inner halibut. Open water swimming is a delight in many ways but it can be a bit stressful to start with. So, in the build-up to the Blenheim triathlon, the club offered training sessions to anyone not sure about the whole idea. One Saturday it was just me and twelve women in wetsuits. Life doesn't get much better.

But I still went to the swimming pool once a week, if only to remind myself how much I preferred swimming in the open. On my next trip, I found the pool being terrorised by a Lane Dragon. A Lane Dragon is an old woman who thinks that anyone who is under 65, swims front crawl or wears goggles should not be allowed in their pool. If you splash her, you should be the subject of an ASBO. I avoided her attempts to turn me to stone by staring at me, completed my session in the guttering at the edge of the pool and then jogged, definitely jogged, home.

Charlie Wilson

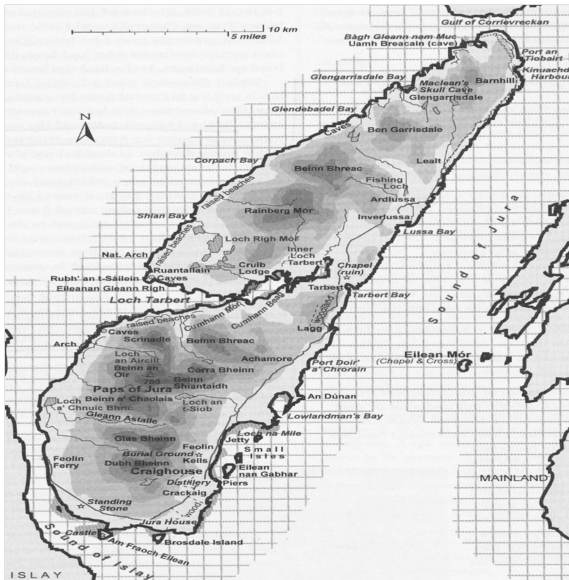
Exploring the Scottish Islands – with a collapsible bike!

Jura (Pop. today: 196)



Given that Jura is such a close neighbour of Islay (you have to get the ferry from Islay and the crossing takes just 5 mins), the islands could not be more different from each other. Jura is 28 miles long, 8 miles at its widest and is the wildest island in the Inner Hebrides: containing vast areas of rock and blanket bog, off-piste exploration is very hard-going – oh, and then there's the adders! 3 mountains called 'The Paps of Jura' dominate the skyline, adding to the drama.

The ferry lands on the SW side of Jura; the single road then curves around the south, entering Craighouse 8 miles later (on the east), where most of the population live. Essential amenities are here, including the Jura hotel and the distillery. (Jura whisky is silky smooth!)



The west coast (which has spectacular caves, arches etc) is now deserted, but there were settlements there, the last being abandoned only in 1947. Like many islands, it was once much busier: in the 1700s, the island consisted of 27 farms, though 1767 saw 50 islanders leaving for Canada - a trend which continued. Jura later became a Highland cattle centre, and the population peaked at 1,312 in 1831 - but later, more crofters were cleared to make way

for sheep. Currently 7,000 red deer inhabit the island and it's thought that the name 'Jura' is derived from Norse for 'deer island'. One book states, "It is dangerous to wander about during stag shooting season..."! The only public road on Jura continues up the east coast, with stunning views of the

coastline below. You go through attractive woodland at Lagg, where I encountered a golden eagle silently swooping through the branches – and evading my every attempt at filming it! The narrow road becomes a roller-coaster, as it climbs and drops abruptly, with only a crash barrier preventing a plummet down to the rocks below. The road becomes a private track but beyond lies the Ardlussa Estate (now 15 miles from Craighouse) – home of Lussa Gin. A further 7½ miles on is the utterly remote ‘Barnhill’, a farmhouse where the author Eric Arthur Blair (better known as **George Orwell**, one-time resident of Southwold who, incidentally, named himself after the River Orwell) wrote his novel ‘1984’. Nearby, past the northern tip of Jura, lies the Gulf of Corryvreckan with its treacherous whirlpool which nearly claimed Orwell’s life in 1949.

A regular visitor to Jura is ex-PM **David Cameron** and family: Samantha’s stepfather, Viscount Astor, owns a cottage there. In 2010, **Greg Coffey** bought the Ardfin Estate in the SW for £3.5m, invested £50m(!) renovating Jura House and farm buildings into luxury accommodation and a further £20m creating an 18-hole golf course. At £20,000 per night to stay in Jura House(!), exclusivity is guaranteed, giving the (rave-reviewed) course its ‘semi-private’ status that Mr Coffey desires.

All this going on in a place that has a population of 100 people *fewer* than Cratfield! When I first visited rainy Jura, I found the place rather creepy. Subsequent visits, in bright sunshine, have been glorious. In fact, this is an island that has magnetism: I could go back again and again...

Next month: Colonsay and Oronsay.

Andrew Weight

Cratfield Quiz - Pot Luck answers on page 15

1. Which country's flag has a map on it?
2. On which continent are the Atlas mountains?
3. Where is Corona beer brewed?
4. How many countries border South Africa?
5. Who wrote the novel "Three Men in a Boat?"
6. Which Bond film had a theme tune performed by Madonna?
7. What is an appaloosa?
8. Which musical term means very loud?
9. Eva Peron was the First lady of which country?
10. Erinsborough is the setting for which T.V. series?
11. What is a female badger called?
12. Which Monopoly token was replaced by a cat in 2013?
13. What is the line called behind which darts players stand?
14. Which sign of the Zodiac is represented by an archer?
15. Who was the 'doubting' apostle?
16. Which wading bird was worshipped by the Ancient Egyptians?
17. When did the American Civil War start?
18. Where in the world is the Atacama desert?
19. Who played Chandler in the T.V. series Friends?
20. What is the national fruit of India?

GOT A DRIP?

Need a plumber?

40 years experience.

Water filters and softeners

Heating and plumbing

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Locally based

Call Derek 07971 007846

email:

Dcknight67@yahoo.co.uk

CHARLES GLENNON

AERIAL & SATELLITE
INSTALLATION & REPAIRS

AUDIO • VISUAL • CCTV • WIFI

01728 603376

07786 363 832

2023 Mobile Library Dates

Tuesdays

Silverleys Green 14.15 – 14.35 and The Poacher 14.45 – 14.55

21st March, 18th April, 16th May, 13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 5th September, 3rd October, 31st October, 28th November **No service in December**

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. Wi-Fi available.

For bookings apply to:

Chris Kitchen tel. no. 01986 798 764, email: chrissie.kitchen@yahoo.com or write to Bell Green Cottage, Cratfield, Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0BI

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – AUGUST

POP UP PUB – FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST – THE VILLAGE HALL BBQ!

Back by popular demand with locally sourced Cratfield Beef Burgers and gigantic sausages from PJ Sands (Linstead) – cooked by Richard & Andy and served in a roll with salad and coleslaw on the side.

Order your food and drink at the bar in one easy payment (card and cash payments taken) then sit back and enjoy!

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION – SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 7 - 9PM / BAR OPEN TOO

The entry forms are included within this magazine, don't forget to set the entry forms aside somewhere safe such as a notice board or on the front of the fridge!

Who can enter? Anyone – yes anyone! You do not need to be a professional photographer or have professional equipment, over the years many winning photos have been taken on phones and tablets – it is just £1 a photo and children can enter for FREE!

How do I enter? Ensure your printed photos are either 6"x 8" or 8"x 12" and submit them with the payment details and entry form included in this magazine in an envelope to the address on the form. To ensure the competition is judged fairly please only submit the stated sizes and please do not submit any mounted photographs. Spare forms are at the back of the church and available at the Pop-Up pub nights in August and September.

What happens on the night? The bar is open and you are able to view all the other photos, the winners will be announced around 8pm and prizes given out. You are able to take your submitted photos away on the night. Feedback from the judges on why each photo was selected will be read out – along with any highly commended photos. If you have not entered, please do feel free to come along for a drink and see the entries!

I have some photos to enter, how do I get them printed? There are a number of online sites you can upload your photos to (Photobox, Snapfish Boots Photo etc)

What are the categories again? My Cratfield / Suffolk Patterns and Abandoned Suffolk – keep an eye on the village Facebook page for suggestions and hints and tips on the categories.

Last year we had over 120 entries – lets see how many we get this year!

CRATFIELD VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

Hopefully you have completed your entry form and dropped it off with your payment – **don't forget – you have to be in it to win it!** For just £1 a month you can win either £15, £10 or £5 each month. If you have mislaid your form, spares are at the Pop-Up Pub or from Helen at Yew Trees on Bell Green. Please note the July and August winners for 2023 will be published in the September magazine.

CRATFIELD DOG SHOW

Sadly now postponed for 2023, date for 2024 to be announced.

INDOOR BOWLS – ALTERNATE TUESDAYS

8th and 22nd August / 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. Come along and have a go!

VILLAGE HALL TALK – SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Topic and speaker to be confirmed, but put the date in your diary now to not miss out on what will be another fantastic evening.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2023 / 7PM

Thursday 17th Aug / Thursday 9th Nov (and AGM)

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?!

For any future booking enquiries please contact us on cratfieldvillagehall@gmail.com or Robert King on 01986 798975

D. M. BULLOCK
GENERAL BUILDER

All building work undertaken



Extensions

New Build Renovations

Patios Brickwork

Plastering

Carpentry

Ceramic Tiling

Mobile: 07766 063601

R. Gritton

**Professional
Decorators**

**High Quality, reliable
service for all your
interior and exterior
requirements**

**Telephone: 01379
586768**

Cratfield Beef



Quality Home Produced Beef

A large selection of fresh & frozen beef
readily available

Come and visit the Cratfield beef stand
at Halesworth produce market every
second Saturday of each month

A full price list is available on request.

Further details from Lotty 01986
798099

orders@cratfieldbeef.co.uk



- MOT
- Servicing
- Repairs
- Diagnostics
- All makes welcome
- Land Rover Specialists

**All mechanical work guaranteed for 12
months or 12,000 miles**

**Hillcrest Garage, Cratfield Road
Huntingfield Tel: 01986 798668**

Janet Bright
Holistic Therapies

Reflexology
Reiki
Indian Head Massage

This beautiful Ayurvedic treatment incorporates massage of the upper back, shoulders, neck, head and face

One Firs Cottage
Stradbroke Road
Brundish IP13 8BG

07776 234947

01379 671315

jan.bright@hotmail.co.uk

Quiz answers

1. Cyprus
2. Africa
3. Mexico
4. Six
5. Jerome K Jerome
6. Die another Day
7. A horse
8. Fortissimo
9. Argentina
10. Neighbours
11. Sow
12. An iron
13. Oche
14. Sagittarius
15. Thomas
16. Ibis
17. 1861
18. Chile (S.America)
19. Matthew Perry
20. Mango

LAXFIELD PRE-SCHOOL

Framlingham Road, Laxfield. IP13 8HD

Sessions available 8.00am - 5.00pm

(Funding available subject to criteria)

Open all year round (Closed 2wks at

Christmas) : **6mths - 5yrs**

Holiday Club available T & C's

Call Lizzie on; 01986 798091 or email

At: office.laxfieldpreschool@gmail.com



Paul's fish supplies
Mobile fishmonger
Door to Door sales
07881 686282
Email : pmg@griffleet1777.plus.com

**T.W. Tree and Gardening
Services**

All aspects of tree
surgery

Hedges trimmed, rough
areas strimmed, garden
rubbish cleared

Tel: 01986 798928

Mob: 07787 753525

**BOOTY BUILDERS
LAXFIELD**

**For all types of
building work**

Contact Terry

01986 798753

Or 07889 116448

D.C. PATRICK

26 Market Place, Halesworth

YOUR LOCAL NEWSAGENT

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME 7 DAYS

A WEEK

TELEPHONE 01986 875229

Pete's

Computer

Services

Reliable, helpful and local!

Assistance, maintenance and repairs.

PCs, laptops, tablets and phones.

NO FIX NO FEE.

Tel: 01986 888505



T. L. PLANT HIRE

*If you are in a hole...
...we'll dig you out*

**07881
642232**

**MINI & MICRO DIGGERS
DUMPERS • BREAKERS • MIXERS
TELEPORTERS • SMALL PLANT
SCARIFIERS • TURF CUTTERS
WACKERS • ROTAVATORS
STRIMMERS • TOOL HIRE**

tom@tlplanthire.co.uk

*Diggers can be provided
with operator, if required.*

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



AN IMAGE OF INDIA Part 4

Namascaram

That Saturday came, as did Mr Madhu and the Toyota - we make the usual 90 minute journey out to Idinjar. At Palode twenty minutes from our destination Mr Madhu has a call on his cell phone, the conversation is in Malayalam but we guess it is from Chandra. Madhu stops the car for a few minutes and then proceeds, but slowly. Ten minutes later and the whole process is repeated, we are now hardly moving at all. In a very limited exchange of conversation, we ask what the Malayalam word for tortoise is! Madhu smiles, we are suspicious! Even more so as we eventually roll down the hill above the village and can hear loud-speaker music at Bollywood decibel level drifting up to us; see flashes of bunting and balloons across the village street below and catch sight of the top of a large marquee at the roadside. The Toyota comes to a stop beneath the bunting and amidst a gathering of more people in the village centre than we would normally expect. Madhu opens the car doors and we get out to a riot of colour, a blast of noise, and a professional photographer with assistant! The loudspeaker music has been supplemented by a band with very enthusiastic drummer boys. Chandra and a large number of children and young adults, who we guess are our ex-students (more than the few we expected,) guide us into two decorated throne like chairs in the marquee, the interior of which has been lined with plaited coconut tree branches,

posters and large banners bearing messages of welcome to 'Peter Sir and Sue Madam'.

We are enthroned and surrounded, the music has been turned down, the drummer boys are mercifully resting, the speeches begin. Indians, even children it seems, love speeches. The lady vice-chair of the Panchayat, Mr Wilson the vice-chair of CDSA, and a tall, impressive, handsome young man who turns out to be Hari one of our ex-students; now a customer care representative for 'Indigo,' one of the internal airlines, (we learn later Hari has been very instrumental in all the arrangement for this day.) Peter has to reply and has limited Malayalam, but Chandra comes to the rescue and translates. All this takes the better part of thirty minutes during which time the professional photographer has been gently active, now he gets quite excited because he realises that it is parade time! Something else that Indians love, so we all line up led by the drummer boys' band. Two or three children carry the largest banner in front of the two of us and the rest of the children, students and some villagers form up behind and we are off on the half a mile from the village centre to our CDSA building. We have often walked it before but never like this, villagers wave and clap, the drummer boys ply their task with amazing vigour, the professional camera man has a field day. Sue says, "How did I get here? I grew up in a semi-detached in Greater London!"

After a beginning like this the rest of the day could be anti-climax, but it is not so, it continues to be another wonderfully fulfilling experience. "Incredible India" the advertising slogan says but for us another precious day to rejoice, laugh, talk and join with people we have had the good fortune to know and work with for over sixteen years. A humbling day but one to be proud of: questioning and listening with ex-students and staff, enjoying another meal on a banana leaf served by the ex-students for the present ones, sitting through another round of speeches, listening and watching children, some of the ex-students and staff singing and taking part in dance routines – Bollywood is very much the 'in' thing – all the while keeping the photographer busy! Although he seemed to be quite enjoying the day. Realising again how lucky and privileged we are to be able to do what we do with people {who indirectly are the cause of sleepless nights for us from time to time} we love and admire.

It is 6.30pm the setting sun is beginning to cast shadows on Ponmudi (4000ft a.s.l.) which presides majestically over Idinjar, we give it a last lingering glance and leave with Mr Madhu for the return road to TRV and our hotel. Tomorrow early morning he will drive us to the airport for an 03.00 am. departure. We will leave India again with the hope and belief that we shall return; in the interim as James Cameron so aptly wrote, "Half of me is there still".

Porgamo

Peter Baker Sue Seabon

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.

website: www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net

Email: cratfieldpc@gmail.com or Tel: 07774 734411

**Tank
Change**
Limited

Does your Oil Tank need replacing?
We are your local oil tank installer established since
1989 with over 16,000 installations to date

- New oil tank installations, relocations and servicing
- Emergency pump out service available for leaking oil tanks
- Kingspan Titan polyethylene tanks and steel tanks held in stock
- OFTEC registered
- Kingspan Titan Accredited
- Fully insured
- Parish magazine discount
- Free surveys

Tel. 01449 781210

Email: enquiries@tankchange.co.uk

www.tankchange.co.uk



PAINTING AND DECORATING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

**FOR A CONSCIENTIOUS, RELIABLE
SERVICE**

23 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PAUL GODDARD

Tel: 01986 784594

paul@pablo101.plus.com

ACORN FOOT HEALTH

Roger C. Griffiths, BSc (Econ), Dip Soc Sci,
PGCE, MCFHP, MAFHP

FOOT HEALTH CONSULTANT

HOME VISITS, CARE HOMES & PRIVATE CLINIC

Verruca treatments, ingrown toenails, calluses,
fungal Infection, corns, nail cutting, bunions
and Foot Care for diabetics.

Foot health checks and all nail conditions.

For an appointment

Tel. 01379 384873 Mob. 07724 073328

Email: griffithstwo@aol.com

Some evening appointments available

MAN & MACHINE



LOCAL PLANT & DRIVER HIRE – REASONABLE RATES.

SITE WORKS, DRIVES, AGRICULTURAL, DITCHING, DRAINAGE, HARDCORE
SUPPLIED AND REMOVED, INCLUDING CONCRETE CRUSH.

FOR SALE SAWN TIMBER OF DIFFERENT SIZES & TELEGRAPH.

ALL JOBS UNDERTAKEN. TRACTOR, TRAILER, SITE WASTE REMOVED.

CALL DAVID ABELL FOR QUOTATION: 07966 725001

LOWER HALL FARM, MARY'S LANE, LINSTED MAGNA, IP19 0QN



SUMMER TIPI DINING at Fire and Feast

Rustic Suppers every Saturday

June to September

Join us for delicious local food served in our giant tipi under the wide Suffolk skies, beside a roaring fire

2 courses £25; 3 course £29 Booking by phone, email, text essential

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

www.fireandfeastsuffolk.co.uk email: judith@fireandfeastsuffolk.co.uk Phone/text 0777 5706002



FRESSINGFIELD STORES

YOUR FRESH AND LOCAL VILLAGE STORE

NEW
'INDEPENDENT'
RANGE OF
OWN BRAND
SPECIAL
VALUE
GOODS



- ★ 3 Weekly Special Offers
- ★ Off-Licence, Dry Cleaning, Gas & Coal
- ★ Open 7 Days a Week until 8pm (Sunday 6pm)

01379 588188

Mace

Letter from Rev. Enid

All over the Arctic you will find strange stone markers. When I first lived there they made no sense to me whatsoever. However, once they have been explained, it becomes obvious. First there are either one or two very tall rocks standing together. These have the purpose of either keeping meat safe from the dogs or wild animals, or sometimes to form a safe storage area for winter clothes and winter tents during the brief arctic summer (Inuit people didn't always live in igloos and very rarely do so now.)

Then there are Inuksuk which are indicators of the past. These might just indicate where to hunt caribou for instance (in which case they are often in the shape of a human being, supposedly to scare the caribou,) where a good fishing spot is, or where to locate caches of food. They may even be a warning making you aware of danger or hazardous conditions. Inuksuk are also used to record significant human events. Unsurprisingly, Inuksuit (plural) are treated with great respect.

This tradition arose over thousands of years in an oral culture, so it had to be visual of course. When you think about it, that is not so very different to us. Our culture has evolved on a different time line, but in the distant past we had cairns, stone markers of significant places and even structures like Stonehenge. Today, we still have markers of a kind, in the form of things like statues, plaques, grave headstones, and ancient buildings, including churches.

We can however, get overly attached to old things and old ways of being, especially as we ourselves age; but it is a fact that everything has to adapt or face the reality of diminishing and then dying. Christians believe that God gives us very clear sign posts to follow into the future, and equally quite stern warnings to those who drag their heels or seek to return to the past. In fact, Christians believe that there really is no new ground, because Jesus always goes before us preparing the way. We build on the past constantly, and in doing so, honour both it and the future we are working towards. Keep looking for the new sign posts!

Blessings. Rev'd Enid

Statement from the Rural Dean, Revd Canon Susan Loxton

First, I want to apologise for not letting you all know sooner what was happening with Rev'd David Mulrenan. I did not want to act in haste, and wanted to give us all time to think things through.

Most of us appreciate that the Church needs to change in order to thrive and be fit for purpose. We also recognise that sometimes there will be different and strongly held views on how this should be accomplished, and this can lead to disagreements.

Some of these changes will, also be very demanding of the time and resources of those directly involved in delivering them, at least initially. However, we believe that we are building a team in the benefice that can identify and deliver those necessary changes.

David holds different views on some aspects of the project and was also concerned about the amount of his limited free time it would consume and decided that it was not something he wished to commit to. However, he remains supportive of Rev'd Enid and her team. In the meantime, David is being deployed elsewhere in the deanery where we are short of clergy. This is not only helpful to the parishes but will also give David experience in other churches, which I know he is enjoying.

Please pray for the ministry of all our churches.

God bless,
Rev'd Susan

Services for August 2023

August	6th	13th	20th
	Gen. 32:22-31 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	Gen. 37:1-4,12-28 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	Gen. 45:1-15 Romans 11: 1-2a,29-32 Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28
	6.00pm Holy Communion EP	6.00pm Evening Prayer EP	9.00am Village Worship EP
	Sidesperson C.Marfleet	Sidesperson C. Marfleet	Sidesperson A. Edmonds
	Reader P. Marfleet	Reader P. Marfleet	Reader J. Klingels

For Benefice services this month please see church noticeboard

**If anyone is interested in becoming a reader or sidesperson at St. Mary's please contact Caroline Marfleet. Your help would be invaluable and much appreciated by our small regular team.
Caroline:- 01986 799048 carolinemarfleet@me.com**

DIRECTORY:

Local Officers:

Church:

Priest in Charge of the Four Rivers Benefice
Rev. Enid Pow revenid4rivers@gmail.com 01986 743093
The Vicarage, 15 Noyes Avenue Laxfield IP13 8EB
Assistant Curate Rev. Clive Mobbs 07340 838639

Parish Council:

Chairperson Lotty Barbour 01986 798099
Parish Clerk Sally Chapman 07774 734411
Parish Council Website www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Nick Eade 01986 798725

Village Hall:

Chairperson Natalie Lloyd-Evans 01986 798790
Vice Chair Andy Barringer 01986 798346
Bookings Robert King 01986 798975

Laxfield All Saints C of E Primary School

Head of School Mrs Minns 01986 798344

Nova Ladies Luncheon Group Heather Hargood 01986 798180

Doctors' Surgery

Fressingfield -1379 586227
Stradbroke 01379 384220

Cratfield News

Editor Sue Eade 01986 798725
suecratmag@aol.com
Treasurer Graham Nixey 07748 907099
Production Manager Peter Sparrow 01986 888505
peter-sparrow@outlook.com

All information must arrive at the latest by 20th of the month
Advertising rates per annum: Full page £60, Half page £30, Quarter £20
Please contact Sue, Graham or Peter for more information.