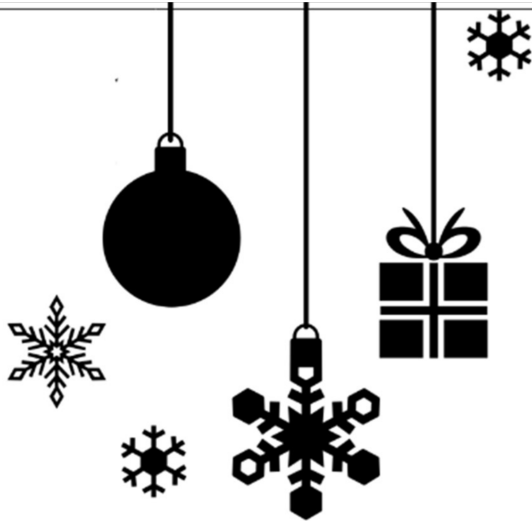


# CRATFIELD NEWS

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## CRATFIELD CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday 4th December - 10 am - 1 pm  
Cratfield Village Hall - Manse Lane

**Locally hand-made interesting gifts,  
beautiful stocking fillers and thoughtful  
presents from crafters and makers  
surrounding Cratfield**

Richard's big breakfast / brunch baps !  
Tea / Freshly ground Coffee / Mulled Wine



## Cratfield Parish Council

*Become a Parish Councillor*

### What's Involved?

- *Not a huge commitment although it will require some input*
- *Attend bi-monthly meetings*
- *Get actively involved in projects to deliver benefits for the community*
- *Review and comment on planning applications*
- *Training and support will be provided*

Are you  
passionate about  
your local area?

---

Do you enjoy being  
part of a team?

---

Would you like to  
offer your skills  
and experience?

---

Do you have some  
free time?

---

Would you want to  
make a difference  
in your local  
community?

**Call for a chat or to apply, please submit your name and contact details along with some information about yourself and why you would want to be a Councillor to**

**The Clerk Sally Chapman**

**phone 07774 734411 or email [cratfieldpc@gmail.com](mailto:cratfieldpc@gmail.com)**

**website: <http://cratfield.onesuffolk.net>**

The Children of Cratfield  
present



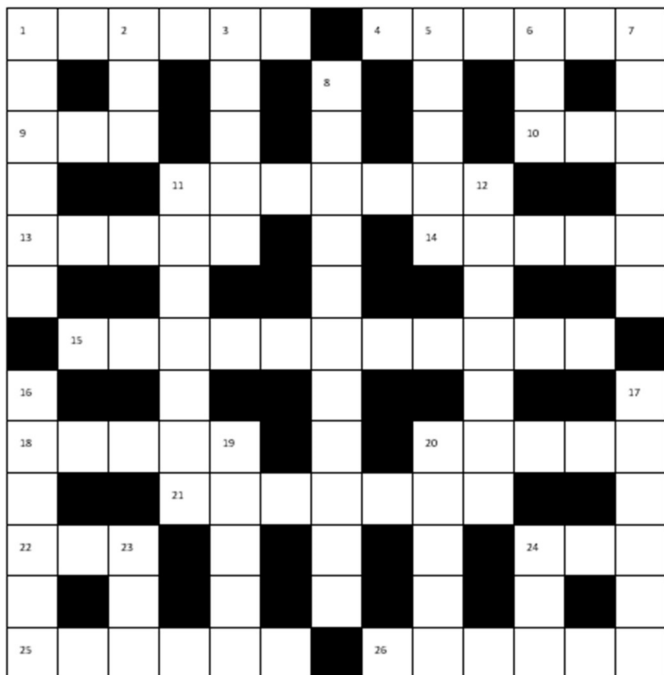
# **OLIVER!**

*...WITH A TWIST*

*Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
Rookery Farm, Swan green Lane, Cratfield*

*Performances at 4pm and 6pm*

*Booking is essential -please phone 07906 509302  
Booking deadline is 6pm on 4<sup>th</sup> December*



**CHRISTMAS  
CRYPTIC  
CROSSWORD** by  
Liebre

Answers will be published  
next month

**ACROSS**

1. Circler from the war is ropey (6)
4. Add pepper, perhaps, for jolly interval (6)
9. Danish king not cold if in Brazil, for example (3)
10. Sailor's stern later, without hesitation (3)
11. Suspect flora needs ultraviolet to get the hint (7)
13. Written piece proves saying that it's an inside job (5)
14. Hot or cold, this pudding matured for at least nine days? (5)
15. Confuses coordinates but gets commendations (11)
18. The first dancing angels made everyone sing, especially women (5)
20. How a Poirot case contained setback for performer (5)
21. Skinflint in disarray that rocks ego and loses king (7)
22. Deer would be last of rare rural stock (3)
24. Urge on start of excellent horse, they say (3)
25. If not left at the end, can hawk become decorative? (6)

26. Little one has troops but no railway (6)

**DOWN**

1. 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'? No, this is too late for that (6)
2. Warm up, head off, and fill up (3)
3. Hotel lying inside the box (5)
5. Appraise with look to heaven (5)
6. Relax here in sumptuous pacific spring (3)
7. It's spicy where a wildebeest met dangerous cocktail (6)
8. Drunken visit to an inn dropped gin finally, but resulted in friendly overtures (11)
11. Is café amiss, with not beginning to sell these? (7)
12. With regards to woman, it was announced, follow instruction of angels at Christmas (7)
16. It's coming from the heart of mad ventricle (6)
17. May your days be merry and clever (6)
19. Set's visible, we hear (5)
20. One more time is a plus (5)
23. Broke, dropping cover for family (3)
24. Middlemen are bad in this day and age (3)



**December Quiz Christmas songs and Carols**  
**Can you identify the song from the lyrics?**

**Christmas Songs**

1. The boys of the NYPD choir were singing Galway Bay. And the bells were ringing out for Christmas day.
2. He's making a list. He's checking it twice. He's gonna find out who's naughty or nice.
3. I'm holding very tight. I'm riding in the midnight blue.
4. Where the tree tops glisten and children listen, to hear the sleigh bells in the snow.
5. Just slip a Sable under the tree for me. Been an awful good girl.
6. Later we'll have some pumpkin pie and we'll do some carolling.
7. I don't want a lot for Christmas. There is just one thing I need.
8. So this is Christmas. And what have you done? Another year over.
9. Happy Christmas, I wrapped it up and sent it. With a note saying I love you, I meant it.
10. I'll protect you from the hooded claw. Keep the vampires from your door.

**Carols**

11. Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
12. When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.
13. O, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer.
14. The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes.
15. All is calm, all is bright. Round yon Virgin Mother and child.
16. Gotta keep on plodding onward with your precious load.
17. Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
18. Joyful all ye nations rise. Join the triumph of the skies.
19. O star of wonder, star of light. Star with royal beauty bright.
20. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

**100 Club Winners**

**The Cratfield 100 Club draw for November has happened (draw by E Rae) and the results are: First prize (£15) to Natalie Lloyd-Evans (number 20); Second prize (£10) to Paul Taylor (number 68); and Third prize (£5) to Sara Saunders (number 90). Congratulations to all the winners!**

MICHAEL OLIVER

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785272 or email [linsteadfarm@btconnect.com](mailto: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*



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## Man Overboard!

Over my career I always seemed to attract heavy weather. The first time was in the Training Squadron in early 1962 and, being my first, it was a very scary storm between the Virgin Islands and Bermuda. It was followed in HMS Cavalier a year later by a similar storm *en route* from Auckland to Tahiti – yes, I know it's tough to visit these places, but someone has to do it!

In February 1979, HMS Ashanti sailed with others for exercises off the coast of Morocco, followed by exercises with the Brazilian Navy off Rio de Janeiro and then, in Ashanti's case, a visit to the Falkland Islands. We sailed straight into another Force 10 storm and had an extremely unpleasant trip to Gibraltar, unable to train much and thoroughly battered down. The upper deck was strictly out of bounds. We even suffered significant structural damage.

One very rough morning in the middle of the Bay of Biscay, I was holding a brief meeting behind the bridge when I suddenly heard six short blasts on the siren and the PA broadcast "Man Overboard."<sup>1</sup> I rushed back to the bridge.

When recovering a man overboard, ship handling is critical. You need to stop to windward of the man, with him amidships and the wind on the opposite beam so that you drift down onto him, and he can be recovered by a swimmer and a crane, or a boat. Two things are crucial. Firstly, to turn the right way, depending on the relative wind direction so that you can circle round to the right position. Secondly, to actually spot the man in the water so that you can get alongside him. Although a life buoy and flare were dropped immediately, the wind had blown them far from the man.

Wonderfully, the young Officer of the Watch had turned the right way, although we couldn't see the man in the mountainous seas with the ship pitching and rolling heavily. I took over the con;<sup>2</sup> I could not leave a very young, and as yet unqualified, officer with a responsibility that was mine. Suddenly the First Lieutenant spotted him, a small speck in the sea about half a mile ahead. It was his brightly coloured life jacket. I had no time to think and conned the ship to stop about 15 yards up wind of him, with him alongside our scrambling net so that the wind would drift us onto him. As I did this, we were pitching violently so that the bow came out of the water and crashed down – another hazard. An officer approached me and said that the sailor who was to jump in on a line to rescue the man looked too nervous, and asked my permission to climb down the scrambling net with a colleague to pull the man from the water.

I nodded, concentrating on the steering and, to cut a long story short, we stopped with the man right alongside the scrambling net and he was

soon on board and taken to the Sick Bay to be checked out. I handed the ship back to the Officer of the Watch with a “well done,” and went below to my cabin to draw breath. It had taken about 15 minutes.

I should have been angry with the man. He was on the upper deck when it was out of bounds and had no life-line attached - he was after all a Chief Petty Officer, should have known better and was certainly guilty of a disciplinary offence. However, I was so relieved to have recovered him that I took a large brandy down to the sick bay for him, told him he was very lucky and owed me one. He said “Oh, I never doubted you’d get me, Sir. The only time I worried was when you were approaching me, pitching so much that a third of the keel was out of the water and I was afraid the ship might come down on me. Otherwise, I’m fine.”<sup>3</sup>

There was no sensible reply to that. I returned to my cabin, wondering if he really knew how lucky he had been. This was not the last scary moment on that very stormy passage to Gib, but oddly it had the effect of improving everyone’s morale. Still, I made it plain that I wasn’t likely to be as lucky next time, so they had better keep off the upper deck!

## Jeremy Blackham

1. I was told later that my face was a picture as I heard those words.
2. The ship is physically steered by the helmsman. In those days the wheelhouse was in the bowels of the ship, not on the bridge. “Conning “ the ship was to give the helmsman, over an intercom, the necessary wheel and engine orders to achieve what you wanted.
3. I later realised that he trusted me to get the ship in exactly the right place in that wind and I felt flattered. But I suppose he had no choice! Sadly, men overboard are not always that fortunate.

---

## Answers to Christmas Songs and Carols Quiz

1. Fairytale of New York
2. Santa Claus is coming to town
3. Walking in the air
4. White Christmas
5. Santa Baby
6. Rocking around the Christmas tree
7. All I want for Christmas is you.
8. Happy Xmas(War is over)
9. Last Christmas
10. The power of love
11. O little town of Bethlehem
12. Good King Wenceslas
13. The holly and the ivy
14. Away in a manger
15. Silent Night
16. Little donkey
17. In the bleak midwinter
18. Hark the herald angels sing.
19. We three kings
20. Ding dong merrily on high.



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## VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – DECEMBER

Despite several appeals recently no one has stepped forward to join the Village Hall Committee and we now find ourselves in a tricky situation and unable to continue as we are.

We currently have no Minutes Secretary and our Booking Secretary is looking to step down as soon as possible. At the recent AGM our Treasurer and Chair also indicated they would stand for one more term. **None of these members are stepping down due to issues with the hall, its finances or the committee – but due to having ‘done their time’ for the Village and the Village Hall.** On the plus side we are very lucky to have someone willing to take on the Treasurer role and look forward to welcoming them to the committee shortly. For reference, the village hall finances are in, and have always been in, a very healthy state.

We **desperately** need people to fill these roles urgently or, put quite simply, the Village Hall and the events it provides for the village will have to cease in its current form.

**Minutes Secretary** – what is involved? Coming along to the 4 committee meetings across the year and yearly AGM and noting the minutes and typing them up and distributing them via e mail. The committee meetings are around an hour and a half long and the AGM is around 15 minutes long.

**Booking Secretary** – what is involved? Just a few hours each month, dealing with enquiries and bookings – all the systems, diary and procedures are set up and just need handing over. Jo Nunn has done a sterling job with this over the past 7 years and really would like to hand this onto someone else – which is quite understandable. You do not need to stand for 7 years as Jo has – just a few years would be brilliant.

Neither roles are taxing nor time consuming and you do not have to come along to all 4 committee meetings if you have something else on. If you would like to join the committee but feel neither of these roles would suit you then we would also love to hear from you. We are a small and efficient committee and in the 5 years I have been on it, there has been no squabbling or arguments and we have formed a lovely working relationship with the Church – often swapping equipment, resources and helping each other out.

To find out more or step forward please e-mail [cratfieldvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:cratfieldvillagehall@gmail.com)

### **Indoor Bowls – Tuesdays**

Started again on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7pm and fortnightly thereafter – come along and have a go! Tea and coffee available; there is a suggested donation of £2 to play. Future dates are 6<sup>th</sup> December and 20<sup>th</sup> December. Starting again on 10<sup>th</sup> January. Any queries please contact Nigel 07445351861 or Elliot 07963676207

### **Christmas Fair – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December / 10am – 1pm**

Stalls are sold out and we have a waiting list for our ever-popular Christmas Fair! There are a range of local crafters, makers and bakers who will be at the fair with a beautiful selection of presents, stocking fillers and gift ideas. **RICHARD'S BIG BAPS** will be back with his huge brunch baps – and freshly ground coffee too, so come along for breakfast or brunch and shop local alongside supporting small businesses. Keep an eye on the village facebook page where we will be showcasing all the local makers and crafters and what they will be bringing along to the fair. Again, if no new members come forward this will most likely be our last Christmas Fair



## **Pop Up Pub**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December / Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 6pm – 10pm – with food by Cratfield Kitchen**

Don't forget the Pop-Up Pub on the first Friday of every month! Pop along for a drink and some supper – saves cooking and no washing up too! Doors open 6pm with delicious food from Cratfield Kitchen. Bar takes cash and card payments – so fear not if you have no cash, we will take plastic money too! Again, this event forms part a huge part of our rural community life and we receive lots of feedback on how much it is appreciated, however, if no new members come forward the Pop up Pub will cease to happen.

**'Behind the scenes' at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show – Sat 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 7 for 7.30pm**

With 10 years' experience working on main avenue show gardens come along and find out just how long it takes to design and build these breath-taking show gardens. How long in advance are plants grown and trees sourced? What are the logistics like on site during the 6 week build period and how do designers find sponsors? Most importantly... how much does it all cost? Come along and find out all the answers to the above and more – with an illustrated talk using timelapse photography of several gold medal winning gardens, design breakdowns and video footage of the show across the past 10 years. Tickets are limited to 50 and are £6 each (payable on the night) – please book your place with Paul Marfleet -[marfleets@doctors.org.uk](mailto:marfleets@doctors.org.uk) or leave a message on 01986 799048. Again (you know what is coming...) these talks are always well attended – but if no new members come forward this may well be the last village hall talk.

**French Bistro Night – Saturday 11 March 2023**

Back by very popular demand! Pop the date in your diary now – menu to follow next month.

**Acoustic Night – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – doors open 7.15**

**Committee Meetings for 2023 – 7pm**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb / Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May / Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Aug / Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov (and AGM)

## **Photographic Competition**

Drum roll please – the categories for 2023 are My Cratfield, Suffolk Patterns and Abandoned Suffolk – more details to follow soon. **The CRATFIELD CALENDAR will be available at the Christmas Fair on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December.** Again... If no new members come forward for the committee, then this will be the last photographic competition and village calendar

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## Benefice Services for December

	4th	11th	18th	24th	25th
St. Nicholas Bedfield	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Family Service		11.15pm Midnight Mass	
St. Lawrence Brundish	9.00am Holy Communion	10.00am Village Worship		6.30pm Carols 11.15pm Midnight Mass	
All Saints Laxfield	10.30am Celtic Morning Service	10.30am Holy Commun- ion	10.30am Holy Communion	4.00pm Carol Service	10.30am Family Communion
St. Peter Monk Soham	11.00am Family Service	11.00am Morning Prayer	2.30pm Carol Service		10.30am Family Service + HC
St. Ethelbert Tannington	11.00am Holy Communion				
St. Mary Wilby	10.30am Village Worship	10.30am Holy Commun- ion	6.00pm Carols by Candle- light		10.30am Family Communion
St. Mary W'worth		11.00am Let's Celebrate	11.00am Carol Service	3.00pm Crib 9.30pm 1 <sup>st</sup> HC of Xmas	

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## Exploring the Scottish Islands – with a collapsible bike!

### Rum (Pop. 30): Part 2

**Recap:** One of the ‘Small Isles’ off the western coast, Rum has often gone through dramatic change, from violent volcanic activity to much of its population being ‘cleared’ and sent abroad. From a highpoint of 443 inhabitants (1795 census), the population has waned over the years. In 1885, John Bullough bought Rum as a holiday home, having made a fortune in textiles, but the dwindling population took another hit, as he retained only 3 island families and brought in new staff. Bullough, however, died at the age of 53 and his 21 year old son, George inherited the island.

Now the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of his family to be extremely wealthy, **George Bullough** was a Harrow-educated cavalry officer, groomed for the upper echelons of society. His time was divided between learning the family business and going on a spending spree, much of it on Rum. First on his list was building a mausoleum for his father’s remains: in the style of a Doric temple, it still stands today, on the S.W. of Rum at ‘Harris’ – 7 ½ miles from Kinloch where the family home stood.

Next was the design of his castle: a four-square, turreted mansion on two floors. No expense was spared, as load after load of red Dumfriesshire sandstone was shipped to the island, together with 250,000 tons of Ayrshire soil for the gardens. Completed in 1897, it took 300 men nearly 3 years to construct. Smokers were paid an extra 2d a day ‘midge money’ (the midges at Rum are notorious, but detest smoke!) and men were also paid extra money if they wore the Bullough tweed kilts.

Outside, many exotic plants were set into the imported soil; there were formal gardens and a Japanese garden; there was a walled garden with hot-houses where grapes, peaches, nectarines and figs were grown; a bowling green and golf course were laid, together with paths and roads. Even more exotically, there were Palm houses in which humming birds were kept, turtles too – and, wait for it: alligators! ...Which, for extra entertainment, duly escaped and had to be shot because ‘they might be interfering with the comfort of the guests’!

This third generation inventor made sure that every mod con was added: a turbine generated electricity, there was central heating – and it was the first private residence with an internal telephone system. Bathrooms were equipped with a vast array of pipework, so that numerous choices were

available to the bather and, of course, the internal woodwork and fittings of the house were palatial. Perhaps the icing on the cake was the Orchestrion: a vast, complex machine that could mimic a 40-piece orchestra, with organ pipes, drums, trumpets, you name it – and, believe me, it's loud! This mechanical orchestra sits under the main staircase, is one of only three, and is believed to have been originally ordered by Queen Victoria for Balmoral. Everything was made or built on site at a cost of £250,000: £34.6m in today's money.

In 1903, Sir George married Monique (Lady Monica) and they had one child: Hermione, who subsequently married the Earl of Durham (their granddaughter is one-time TV presenter, Lucinda Lambton). Sir George and Lady Monica played host to high society in their opulent castle, but it was used only for 3 weeks each year! The outbreak of war in 1914 ended the frivolity abruptly: Rum's able-bodied staff went to the trenches and only two returned. Peacetime brought the Bulloughs back to their castle, but less frequently. Staff dwindled, the humming birds died when the heating failed, and glasshouses collapsed. Sir George died whilst golfing in 1939, but Lady Monica made occasional visits to Rum: at 85, she made her last visit and drove an old Austin the 7.5 miles to the family mausoleum – where, in 1967, she was interred alongside her husband and father-in-law.

Kinloch Castle's fall from grace is now complete: needing an estimated £20m in renovation costs, it's for sale today. Price: £1.00.

**Next month:** What it was like to be born and raised on Rum: and Rum in the late 1990s.



## 2022 Mobile Library Dates

Tuesdays

Silverleys Green 14.15 – 14.35

The Poacher 14.45 – 14.55

**Cratfield Parish Council**  
**Meeting Dates 2023**  
Cratfield Village Hall

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net)**  
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**Mace**

Back in the 1970s when I was just a lad(!), I remember that on Saturday evenings during the summer, the BBC aired a series called Summertime Special. It was a fairly low budget affair and wasn't that exciting, to be honest, but the one thing I remember was its theme tunes.

These changed every year but the one I remember most was a catchy tune with even more catchy lyrics, something like this:

*"I'm feeling so tired now, the going's been rough,  
I need a break now, I've had enough,  
I want to feel the warmth of the sun on my back again,  
I've never needed summer more than this."*

So what has all that to do with this time of year? Well, you could very easily apply some of those words to the Christmas season. Whatever you believe or don't believe in, the fact is Christmas still matters. We need it and it remains something that most of us can look forward to. It's a time to take our foot off the throttle and wind down a bit for a few days.

However, this year might be a bit different as we look to our bank accounts to see how much everything is costing. For many, Christmas will be possibly less merry as we learn to budget a bit more effectively. The question I ask, therefore, is "Do we have to spend so much money during the festive season?" I agree it is a time for children and the temptation to spoil them is great but could we adults give effectively and generously without breaking the bank? Perhaps the very birth of the Christ child may provide an answer.

Christ's birth was foretold for thousands of years. This anticipation is what we commemorate during Advent. When the prophecy actually came about, the Holy Child was seen as a gift through the generosity of God; a child who would grow up to show us all the value of the giving of his time, his love and his compassion to all who accepted him as the Saviour and, in some cases, to those who didn't!

With that in mind, my message to you this Christmas, a time of giving, is not to measure your generosity in pounds and pence, but to measure your giving in how loving, caring and compassionate you can be, not only to those who are close to you but even to those who, on the face of it, aren't. That way the essential message of Christmas: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and goodwill to all" may be written in your hearts as we celebrate this most holy of seasons.

I wish you all a most happy and blessed Christmas with the ones you love.

David M.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES DECEMBER 2022**

<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Village Worship</b>	<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Carol Service</b>	<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day</b>
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Sidesperson</b> C. Marfleet	<b>Sidesperson</b> C.Marfleet	<b>Sidesperson</b> D. Peacock
<b>Reader</b> D. Peacock	<b>Reader</b> TBA	<b>Reader</b> P. Baker
<b>Readings</b> Isaiah 7:10-16 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25	<b>Readings</b> TBA	<b>Readings</b> TBA

**NOTES**

Please note timings have changed from previous years for the Carol Service and on Christmas Day

Join St. Mary's as we celebrate this special season together

**Christmas Midnight Mass**  
**Brundish Church**  
**11.15 pm**  
**Christmas Eve**

Everyone is welcome.

# DIRECTORY:

Doctor's Surgery  
Fressingfield 01379 586 227  
Stradbroke 01379 384 220

## Local officers:

Church Rev. Susan Loxton 01379 388 493  
[revloxton@gmail.com](mailto:revloxton@gmail.com)

## Church Wardens:

Lay Elder for Cratfield - Margaret Thompson 07906 509302  
Parish Council - Lotty Barbour 01986 798099  
Parish Clerk Sally Chapman 07774 734411  
Parish Council Website [www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net](http://www.cratfield.onesuffolk.net)  
Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator - Nick Eade 01986 798725

## Village Hall:

Chair Person - Natalie Lloyd-Evans 01986 798790  
Vice Chair - Rebecca Sannick 01986 799006  
Bookings - Jo Nunn 01986 799181  
Laxfield School Head of School- Mrs Minns 01986 798344  
Nova Ladies Luncheon Group - Heather Hargood 01986 798180

## Magazine Editors:

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All information must arrive by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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

Please contact Sue, Graham or Peter for more information