CRATFIELD NEWS

February 2023



THANK YOU

I should like to have put this is last month's magazine, but we were a little short of space, which is a good thing.

A huge thank you to everyone who makes our village magazine possible...

- * the regular contributors, in particular Andy, Jeremy, Andrew and Sue Askew (who despite having moved away continues to submit quizzes) without these people we would have a much more limited edition (also Nigel who contributed for many years). We are always grateful for any contributions whether it be a poem, a recipe, an item of local interest or some personal story, in fact anything printable. So, don't forget, if you have a spare minute why not 'put pen to paper' or, more likely fingers to keyboard.
- * Pete for his technical skills in putting the magazine together and printing it off
- * Nick for helping me with stapling and bagging the copies
- * our loyal deliverers Julie, Rebecca & Robert, Linzi & Dan, Mel, Andy & Richard, Andrew, Maisie and Mary who make sure every single household in the village receives a copy
- * Graham, our treasurer, who makes sure we remain financially viable via our adverts, those who advertise with us also deserve our thanks

I'm sure you'll agree with all of the above and hope it may long continue.

Sue (editor)

CARPET BOWLS

February dates Tuesdays 7th and 21st, March dates Tuesdays 7th and 21st
Village Hall 7.00pm
£2.00 donation
All are welcome for a bit of non-serious fun!

COFFEE MORNING

Time for a village get together during these winter months.

Catch up on Christmas and the New Year. Pop along on Tuesday 7th

February to the Village Hall 10-12noon

Christmas may seem a distant memory but I just wanted to acknowledge how after the "Pandemic Years" it was good to see the church fill up again as people came together to celebrate Christmas in Cratfield. Thank you to all the decorators, mince pie bakers, mulled wine suppliers, servers and helpers who made it happen.

One of the things I remember most was the carol singing on Christmas morning. Usually when I stand up at the front you can't hear the singing above the organ, but, whilst it was a pity not to have some accompaniment, the enthusiasm of the carol singing more than made up for it as I was met with the wall of joyful and mostly tuneful noise.

The other moment that struck me was during the carol service when people came forward to light their candles to illuminate the nativity scene. During the first carol, in a darkened church we lit a single candle and placed it at the manger – symbolic of Jesus appearing as a light to the world.

I was keeping a bit of a health and safety watch as I did not want anyone's coat or scarf to go up in flames and what caught my eye was to see how just about everybody took time to light their candle from the "original" candle we brought in, maybe a metaphor of where to go for the source of all life, light and goodness. Some people have said to me how much they appreciated this simple action as it gave them an opportunity to be included in the service at a personal level – bringing before God what mattered to them in the moment. Of course you do not have to wait until next Christmas this can happen at an individual level at any time but there is something very different when as individuals we come together and do this as community and there is a range of worship in Cratfield and in other churches in the benefice where this can happen any week – maybe not in such an obvious way as lighting a candle at the manger but an opportunity for you to bring what matters to you before God none the less.

God Bless

Clive

Village Walk

We are planning another of our Seasonal Village walks for the Spring time. If you would like to be involved in organising the route or helping with the post walk hospitality please do get in touch. We will let you know the date in the next magazine but we are thinking late March.

Clive - 07340 838639

The Utmost Ends of the Earth - Part 1

Following our exercises with the Brazilian Navy and a ten day stopover in Rio de Janeiro (once again I am afraid our activities ashore must remain subject to the Official Secrets Act), the bulk of our group returned to UK whilst HMS Ashanti and the Fleet Tanker RFA Tidepool, were detached to visit the Falkland Islands, the first naval warship to do so for over 20 years. We were to visit Port Stanley, and then Fox Bay in Eastern Falklands and take with us the distinguished Antarctic explorer, Sir Vivian Fuchs to open the new but very small Port Stanley airport, built by the Argentinians and into which the only scheduled passenger and cargo planes to the islands were small airliners, operated by the Argentinian airline, Aerolineas Argentinas. It was too small to operate military aircraft.

We started inauspiciously. Tidepool suffered a generator breakdown which would have prevented her starting from "cold" and I judged that this would be unsafe in the southern winter weather (it was late April), hundreds of miles from any port. I therefore sent her back to Rio for repair, causing one love-struck young sailor to ask me if we could break down too. I asked the MoD to arrange for me to refuel in Montevideo, Uruguay. We implemented measures to reduce our fuel consumption and headed for Montevideo where the wreck of the German battleship KMS Admiral Graf Spee was then still visible.

Our arrival was unusual. A Uruguayan pilot boarded and his first words to me were "Full ahead both engines, Captain." Patiently (I hope) I explained to him that we had only one engine, and that full ahead would produce 25 knots very quickly, obviously unsafe in shallow water in the approach to a relatively small harbour. "OK, OK Captain," he replied, "Full ahead both engines please." I shrugged, decided that I would handle the ship myself² and merely ask him to tell me where I should anchor so that the fuel bowser could come alongside.

Once refuelled we sailed for Port Stanley. We used the same diesel fuel for our main boiler, our gas turbine engine, our diesel electricity generators and our helicopter and so it needed to be of a specific quality and cleanliness. I had asked the Admiralty if fuel was available in the Falklands. Despite their assurances, I was not convinced that the fuel would be good enough, despite being an Admiralty storage; after all who used it, and how often, and from where was it topped up? So, we removed half the lightbulbs on the ship, changed the galley diet to reduce cooking, turned down the hot water temperature and set the engine at a constant speed, always the most economic way to navigate - a bit like government advice this winter and not universally popular on board.

However, it did reduce our fuel consumption and in the end the fuel at Port Stanley was fine. Somehow it was comforting to be accompanied for several days by the same albatross, gliding tirelessly beside us, and occasionally resting on one of our masts; I stopped our radar aerials rotating to prevent injuring it. We saw nothing else. Shades of Coleridge's *Ancient Mariner!*

We reached Port Stanley early one morning. A striking sight – bleak, empty heathland, completely devoid of trees, as is most of the Falklands, with low mountains in the background and throngs of penguins patrolling and swimming off the beaches, just as seagulls do off ours. Almost lost in this vast emptiness was the small town of Port Stanley then with around 1000 inhabitants – more than half the population of the Falklands - perched almost apologetically on the edge of the large expanse of Port Stanley Harbour, looking very much like the edge of the world.

We were welcomed by the Governor in uniform and a feather hat – actually, he was a relatively junior FCO official but was highly aware of his status. He had even imported a London taxi because the roof was high enough to accommodate his feathers! A small group of Falklanders had gathered to meet us, with the Royal Marine garrison, some 40 marines, whose successors were to become famous in 1982. It was all rather surreal, but it turned out both enjoyable and fascinating, as we participated in a sporting and social life that was a couple of generations behind the UK. Miss Marple would have been at home.

Jeremy Blackham

- 1. The RN's tankers food and ammunition are owned by the Navy, but manned by the merchant seamen of The Royal Fleet Auxiliary, usually with naval detachments to operate helicopters and whatever small armament these ships might have. They operate only with the Navy and are indistinguishable in appearance, and in their conduct at sea. They are under the command of whichever RN ships they accompany and sail right in the front line, being exposed in conflict to the same dangers as RN ships.
- 2. Captains of RN vessels are not allowed to give control of their ships to civil pilots

MICHAEL OLIVER

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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



CHIMNEY SWEEP

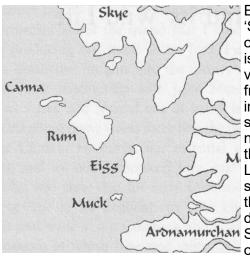


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Exploring the Scottish Islands – with a collapsible bike! Eigg (About 9 miles square. Pop. today: 100) – Part 1



Eigg is another one of the 4 'Small Isles' and is regarded as one of the prettier Hebridean islands. It has no harbour, so visitors have to be transferred from the ferry onto a smaller boat in order to land. There are two settlements: Cleadale in the north-west, and Galmisdale in the south. It's here that 'The Lodge' (the laird's house) is situated: a white, 1920s house, in the Italian style. The island is dominated by the towering 'An Ardnamurchan Squrr': the largest residual mass of columnar pitchstone lava in

Britain.

Like many Scottish islands, Eigg has a turbulent past (and *unlike* other islands, that turbulence has lasted until modern times).



As far back as 1577. MacLeods from Skye came forcibly onto the island and, discovering many islanders hiding in a cave, they lit a fire at the entrance and all 395 suffocated in the smoke: the cave is still known as 'Massacre Cave' today. More recently, the island has undergone a number of different owners. eventually ending with a charity in 1971: this led to a 'rudderless' existence, so when Keith Schellenberg bought the island in 1975

(for £270K), the 39 islanders saw this as a new beginning. Described

as 'colourful and flamboyant', Schellenberg was 'new money': a millionaire playboy, winter Olympian (luge & bobsleigh), powerboat racer, pilot, vintage car rally driver, county cricketer, (failed) MP... the list goes on. But when he arrived, promising new environmentalist and tourism measures, the islanders were impressed. Certainly, one can find articles written from this time, painting an idyllic picture of interisland 'Olympics' (the 'Eigg Games'), "with not only every man, woman and child but also friends from the St Moritz Tobogganing Club with whom he does the Cresta Run."

Another article put it this way: "Within a few years of buying the island Mr Schellenberg had turned the Eigg Games, traditionally an interisland activity, into the tobogganing club's summer excursion for his chums." In fact, the rot had set in early on: Schellenberg was likened to Toad of Toad Hall, as he raced around the island in tweed jacket, goggles and scarf "with little regard for anybody else", in his 1927 Rolls-Royce - with refurbishments to islanders' houses, and various other promises, not materialising. Islanders living in dilapidated, freezing and damp houses, whilst the laird lorded it up with his rich friends was not a good mix. In fact... things were going to get spectacularly worse...

Next month: Things get really nasty and the Schellenberg bubble bursts!

Andrew Weight

Cratfield Quiz

A Fine Romance





- 1. Who was the Roman God of love?
- 2. On which day in February do we celebrate St Valentine's day?
- 3. Who starred in the film Love Story opposite Ryan O Neal?
- 4. In which musical would you find the song "Love Changes everything?"
- 5. Who had a hit in 2010 with the song "Just the way you are?"
- 6. What is a traditional gift for a 30th wedding anniversary?
- 7. Who played the Prime Minister in the film Love Actually?
- 8. Which famous statue is located in Piccadilly Circus?
- 9. Who wrote the novel Women in Love?
- 10. Who created the cartoon strip Love is in the 60s?
- 11. Which character in the musical Oliver sings "As long as he needs me?"
- 12. Who were described as star-crossed lovers in the Shakespearean play?
- 13. Which novel tells the story of Heathcliff and Cathy?
- 14. "Never love anyone who treats you like you're ordinary." Which Irish poet and playwright wrote these lines?
- 15. How many times does the word love appear in "Love Me Do" by the Beatles?
- 16. The Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan built which building in memory of his wife?
- 17. The T.V. series Just Good Friends starred Jan Francis and which actor and singer?
- 18. In Greek mythology who fell in love with his own reflection?
- 19. Who was the American divorcee that Edward VIII fell in love with?
- 20. Much Snogging in the Green is a fictional railway station in which 1970s film?

Answers on page 17

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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – FEBRUARY

WHAT A GREAT START TO THE YEAR!

Usually our January Pop Up Pub is the quietest one of the year, however – last month's saw literally standing room only! We finished the whole barrel (which is unheard of for the January Pop Up) and almost ran out of wine (luckily, only almost) HUGE thanks to everyone behind the scenes and on the rota to help man/woman the bar – it just shows what a wonderful, warm and friendly community we live in. A special thank you to the 'Not-so-Cratfield Kitchen' who stepped in with 48 hours' notice to provide the food for the evening – they did a sterling effect (and no, Andy will not divulge his Vegetarian Cassoulet or Sausage Casserole recipes for love nor money – sorry!)

New Year - new improvements at the Village Hall....

Last year saw the installation of the Village Hall sign – many thanks go to Robert Sannick for the installation. We have also recently received a lovely new range of handmade tablecloths (in two sizes for the various table sizes) which received lots of compliments at the last Pop Up Pub – huge thanks go to Heather Hargood for these also. Both of these improvements were funded from the 100 Club money. We also owe a huge debt of thanks to our current chair Natalie for her constant searching and applying for grants to help improve the Village Hall. We are now in receipt of two grants – one to update the antiquated heating units at the village hall along with replacing the strip lights with more efficient LED ones and another to update some equipment and finally sort out the gents' toilets which have had an ongoing issue for many years.

Pop Up Pub – with food by Cratfield Kitchen Friday 3rd February / Friday 3rd March 6pm – 10pm

Don't forget the Pop-Up Pub on the first Friday of every month! Pop along for a drink and some supper (delicious, home-made and locally sourced ingredients!) – saves cooking and no washing up too.

Indoor Bowls - Tuesday 24th January - 7pm / Fortnightly thereafter

7 and 21 February and 7 and 21 March – come along and have a go! Tea & Coffee available and there is a suggested donation of £2 to play. Any queries please contact Nigel 07445351861 or Elliott 07963676207.

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

With 10 years' experience working with award winning designers on main avenue show gardens come along and find out just how long it takes to design and build these breath-taking show gardens. A range of photos, maps of the site and timelapse photography will be used to demonstrate

how the show gardens are built. The talk will also cover the myths of how the gardens are judged and what is the difference between the Gold, Silver Gilt and Silver awards (along with how much some of these gardens cost!) Tickets are limited to 50 and are £6 each (payable on the night) – please book your place with Paul Marfleet - marfleets@doctors.org.uk or leave a message on 01986 799048.

French Bistro Night

Saturday 11 March 2023 7 for 7.30 - BAR OPEN TOO!

Back by very popular demand! For a 3 course French Bistro style meal book your places and menu choices early via cratfieldvillagehall@gmail.com – places limited to 50. Bring your own drinks or the bar will be open too - £15 per head. Starter – Pate with crusty bread (vegetarian option - mushroom pate) / Main Course - Coq au vin or Boeuf bourguignon (vegetarian option – vegetable cassoulet) / Desert – tarte au pomme / tarte au citron with cream (Large servings promised!)

Acoustic Night

Saturday 22nd April 2023 (*NEW DATE*) – doors open 7.15

More details to follow – watch this space and the village facebook for more information.

Photographic Competition 2023 - The categories for 2023 are

My Cratfield / Suffolk Patterns / Abandoned Suffolk – remember anyone can have a go and it is only £1 a photo to enter – and children can enter for free. Photos can be black or white, landscape or portrait and any interpretation of the three categories is welcomed!

100 CLUB

The 100 club draw results are in for January – with the draw taken by C Sayle-

1st prize (£15) number 59 - Mark Aryaeenia / 2nd prize (£10) number 17 - Carole Loades and 3rd prize (£5) number 29 - Andy Edmonds. Well done to all of them!

Committee Meetings for 2023 - 7pm

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

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Benefice Services for February 2023

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|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| February 2023 | 5th | 12th | 19th | 26th |
| Bedfield | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30am Family Worship | | 10.30am Morning Praise |
| Brundish | 9.00am Holy Communion | 10.00am Village Worship | | 10.30am Holy Commun- ion |
| Cratfield | | 6.00pm Evening Prayer | 9.00am Village Worship | 9.00am Holy Commun- ion |
| Laxfield | 10.30am Celtic Morning Service | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30am Holy Commun- ion | 10.30am Fourth Sunday Worship |
| Monk Soham | 11.00am Family Service | 11.00am Morning Prayer | 11.00am Holy Commun- ion | 11.00am Morning Prayer |
| Tannington | 11.00am Holy Communion | | | |
| Wilby | 10.30am Village Worship | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30am Village Worship | 10.30am Morning Prayer |
| Worlingworth | Support Tannington | 11.00am Let's Celebrate | 11.00am Holy Commun- ion | 11.00am Morning Prayer |

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BIRD SUPERSTITIONS

People once thought that birds had a direct connection with God because they flew so high they were able to whizz in and out of Heaven. The Ancient Romans practised augury, which is a form of divination based on the flight and behaviour of birds. This helped give rise to many superstitions about birds, many of which are still quoted today.

Valentine's Day February 14th – Women should keep a special lookout for birds in flight on Valentine's Day. If a woman sees a robin, it means she will marry a sailor. If she sees a sparrow, she'll marry someone poor, but who will make her happy. But best of all, if she sees a goldfinch she will marry a rich man!

Blackbirds are good news, it's considered to be very fortunate if a blackbird makes a nest in your home. You can expect to receive some good luck if you see two blackbirds sitting together.

Cuckoo! When you hear the distinct call of the cuckoo it's one of the signs that spring has finally arrived. Tradition has it that the cuckoo can be heard between St. Tiburtius' Day (April 14th) and St. John's Day (June 24th). If you hear a cuckoo singing on St. Tibertius' Day itself, you must turn over all the money in your pockets, while spitting and not looking at the ground. You'll enjoy good luck of you are standing on soft ground at the time, but bad luck will arrive of the ground you are standing on is hard.

Magpies – are generally regarded as unlucky birds because it was once thought they were the Devil in disguise. Whenever you see a magpie you should deflect any potential bad luck it may bring by greeting it politely.

Owls – it's unlucky to see an owl in daylight. You don't want to hear and owl hooting before sunset either, because it means bad luck is on the way.

Sparrows – never kill a sparrow because these are the birds that carry the souls of the dead. Another theory is that a sparrow sat beside Jesus during his crucifixion, so the birds are blessed and should therefore never be harmed.

Answers to Romance Quiz

1. Venus/Cupid 2. 14th 3.Ali MacGraw 4. Aspects of Love 5. Bruno Mars 6. Pearl 7. Hugh Grant 8. Eros 9. DH Lawrence 10. Kim Casali 11. Nancy 12. Romeo and Juliet 13. Wuthering Heights 14. Oscar Wilde 15. 24 16. Taj Mahal 17. Paul Nicholas 18. Narcissus 19. Wallis Simpson 20. Carry on Loving

February Recipe - Greek Chicken with Lemons

Ingredients (serves 4)

8 chicken thighs

2 lemons

1 onion

2 carrots

2 celery stalks

3 tbsp olive oil

salt

pinch of cayenne pepper

150ml/¼ pint vegetable stock fresh parsley





Ingredients tip

When buying lemons, choose those that feel heavy for their size as they will be the most juicy. To extract the maximum amount of juice, use at room temperature and roll n a work surface with the palm of your hand before squeezing out the juice.

- 1. Peel off the lemon rind from both lemons and cut into thin strips then squeeze out the juice.
- 2. Peel and finely chop the onion. Peel the carrots and trim the celery, reserving the green leaves. Slice the carrots and the celery.
- 3. Heat the oil in a pan with a tightly fitting lid. Add the chicken pieces and fry over a high heat for 8 minutes on each side, until golden.
- **4.** Remove the chicken from the pan. Add the onion, carrots and celery to the pan and fry for 5 minutes. Return the chicken and season with salt and cayenne pepper.
- 5. Stir the lemon rind and lemon juice into the vegetable stock and stir into the pan. Finley chop 2 tablespoons of parsley and half the celery leaves and stir into the chicken. Reduce the heat to low, cover the
- 6. pan and simmer for another 30 minutes.
- 7. Pick off another tablespoon of parsley leaves and chop with the rest of the celery leaves and use to garish the dish.

Serve with fresh crusty bread, rice or pasta.

Cratfield Parish Council Meeting Dates 2023 Cratfield Village Hall

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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Supper and Stargazing with DASH Astro. Sat. 18th March 2023

Join us for a delicious spring supper with after supper star gazing led by experienced astronomers £30

CHEF'S TABLE at Fire and Feast with Journal Dining's Michelin Trained Chef Nathan Rackham Sat. 13th May 2023

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Mace

Dear friends,

It does not seem possible that it is almost a year since The Reverend David Burrell left us to retire to Somerset, yet here we are forty plus days since Christmas and travelling quickly towards Easter once again. So much has happened. We have lost many dear family members and friends, attended baptisms and weddings, observed the challenges of climate change and war and unrest throughout the world to name but a few. In the reading from John on the Second Sunday of Epiphany it was clear that he recognised the change taking place and that it was for the greater good. John was not diminished by what he gave up when it was time to do so – what a sound example to us all!

And we also have an opportunity to recognise a space for new members in God's economy. A new prism through which to see Jesus. How do you think folk needed to see Jesus then and engage and fully come into relationship with God? How might this relate to us in the Church here and now? Can we see the Lamb of God in what is happening in new forms of ministry and worship, and be prepared to point others towards them? I hope and pray that like me, you are looking forward to welcoming Reverend Enid, because I firmly believe that we have a wonderful opportunity, to open our doors, open our hearts and learn how we can grow our communities within the Four Rivers. Thank you all for the support given to the Ministry Team during the vacancy. I feel confident that you will also give warm support to Reverend Enid – see below for news of the licensing service. Prayers and blessings as always, Reverend Chrissie



Reverend Enid Pow will be joining us in February as Priest-in-Charge of the Four Rivers Benefice. Her official institution and induction will be at Wilby Church

on Thursday 23rd February, 7.30pm. Please join us

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES FEBRUARY 2023

| Sunday 12th | Sunday 19th | Sunday 26th |
|---|--|--|
| 6.00pm | 9.00am | 9.00am |
| Evening Prayer | Village Worship | Holy Communion |
| Sidesperson | Sidesperson | Sidesperson |
| C. Marfleet | C. Marfleet | D. Peacock |
| Reader | Reader | Reader |
| A. Edmunds | D. Peacock | P. Baker |
| Readings Deut 30:15-20 1 Corinth 3:1-9 Matt 5:21-37 | Readings Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9 | Readings Gen 3:15-17, 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11 |

Zoom Services - Celtic Prayer 7.00pm Wednesdays, 9.00am Fridays

To join us email Chrissie Smart – rev.chrissiesmart@gmail.com and you will be sent details

Ash Wednesday 22nd February 7.00pm Brundish

We look forward to welcoming the Rev Enid Pow as the new Priest in Charge (Vicar!) of the Four Rivers Benefice.

Enid will be moving into the Benefice during February but will not officially start her duties until her Induction Service at 19:30 hours on Thursday February 23rd at Wilby Church.

All are invited to come and give Enid a warm welcome. Refreshments will be served at Wilby Coronation Hall after the Service.

DIRECTORY:

| Doctor's Surgery | Fressingfield | 01379 586 227 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Stradbroke | 01379 384 220 |
| Local officers: | | |

Church Rev. Susan Loxton 01379 388 493

revloxton@gmail.com

Church Offices:

| Lay Elder for Cratfield - Margaret Thompson | 07906 509302 |
|---|------------------------------|
| Assistant Curate Four Rivers Benefice - Rev Clive | e Mobbs 07340 838639 |
| Parish Council - 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:

| Chair Person - Natalie Lloyd-Evans | 01986 798790 |
|--|--------------|
| Vice Chair - Andy Barringer | 01986 798346 |
| Bookings - Jo Nunn | 01986 799181 |
| Laxfield School Head of School- Mrs Minns | 01986 798344 |
| Nova Ladies Luncheon 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.

Please contact Sue, Graham or Peter for more information