

# CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

*With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information*

## January '24



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*Any views and opinions expressed in the Cranham Magazine are  
attributable only to individual contributors*

*Advertisements in this magazine do not imply recommendation*

**Church & Benefice**

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**Cranham Church of England Primary School**

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## *A Letter from The Clergy*



Happy New Year, everyone! Hasn't it been a busy Christmas? - but now the trees have been removed and the decorations taken down, and a sort of normality resumes. What does 2024 hold in store? What resolutions have you made? And maybe already broken....? What to expect?

On the Church's timeline the festival to immediately follow Christmas is The Epiphany (Jan 6th on the Julian Calendar). It's the day when the three kings, or wise men (depending on how you understand the Bible text) finally completed their journey and arrived to give their gifts and worship to Jesus. They had spent a long time studying the stars and Scriptures, working out their meaning and looking for One who, they hoped, would change the destiny of the world. They weren't far wrong; we still date our calendar from that momentous, world-changing event - even if these days we label the date CE (Common Era) rather than AD (*anno domini*: in the year of Our Lord)!

In France the Epiphany is called The Day of The Kings and tradition involves "la galette des rois" - which is a cake usually made of puff pastry filled with frangipane. It's also traditional to hide a small charm in the cake (called the 'fève'). The youngest child hides under the table and distributes the slices randomly. The person who finds the 'fève' in their slice is the King or Queen and wears a crown for the rest of the day. Does that mean they are meant to be a little bit wiser for the day? - let's hope!

Actually, the event has the potential of being extended; some countries still use the Gregorian Calendar, and so for them the wise men don't arrive until 19th Jan. The searching goes on....

As someone has said: "Wise men (& women?) still seek Him".  
Have a blessed 2024!

*Paul Kenchington*

## Worship in Cranham - January 2024

<b>Sunday 7th</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion at Painswick</b>	
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b>	<b>Sue Hartley</b>
		Sidesman	Mike Wakeman
		Readers	John Bentley Janet Gazzard
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Christingle</b>	<b>Canon Helen &amp; Karen R</b>
		Sidesman	tba
		Readers	tba
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evensong (BCP)</b>	<b>Revd. Sarah</b>
		Sidesman	Ian Wotherspoon
		Readers	Julie Berry Sarah Taylor
<b>Sunday 28th</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Sue Hartley</b>
		Sidesman	Phil Stick
		Readers	Phil Stick Roger Moore

**Please see pages 6 for other Benefice Service's**

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### **Cranham Parish Council website**

lots of information including the minutes of meetings

<https://cranhampc.org.uk/>

### Church Flowers

Jan 7th & 14th Gillian Smith  
Jan 21st & 28th Sue Stick  
Feb 4th & 11th Liz Cattle



### Church Cleaning

January 6th Sue Stick  
January 13th Sarah Taylor  
January 20th Nicki Clapton  
January 27th Joan Charman  
February 3rd Kate Ryan



**Refreshments** will be served after the following services:

Sunday 14th 4.00pm Christingle Service  
Sunday 28th 11.00am Morning Worship



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## PAGES of REMEMBRANCE

In the Church by the vestry door.

The pages are displayed in a cabinet donated by Olive, nee Freeman, in memory of her husband Mike.

Thanks go to Nicole & Ian who turn the pages every day.

If you would like a name included on these pages, please give details on the sheet situated below the cabinet or for preference by email to: [suemstick@gmail.com](mailto:suemstick@gmail.com) .

Please indicate whether you would like the person to be remembered on their birthday or death day, not both.

Eligibility criteria: Those who are buried or have ashes interred in Cranham churchyard OR were a previous resident of this parish.

**Sue Stick**

## Benefice Services - January 2024

For detailed Cranham services please see page 4

### 7th January 1st Sunday of Epiphany

11.00am	Painswick	Benefice Holy Communion	Revd's Sarah & Andrew
3.00pm	Edge with Harescombe	Plough Service	Revd. Sarah
6.30pm	Cranham	Evening Worship	Sue H. Lay Reader

### 14th January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

9.30am	Edge with Harescombe	Morning Worship	Mike C. Lay Reader
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion	Revd. Sarah
11.00am	Painswick	Family Worship	Liz Eden. Lay Reader
4.00 pm	Cranham	Christingle	Revd. Helen with Karen

### Wednesday 17th January

TBA	Resthaven	Holy Communion	Mary Sparks
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### 21st January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

9.30am	Harescombe with Edge	Holy Communion	Revd. Sarah
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Morning Worship	Mike C Lay Reader
11.00am	Painswick	Holy Communion	Revd. Andrew
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong (BCP)	Revd. Sarah

### 28th January Presentation of Christ in the Temple

9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion (BCP)	Revd David
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion	Revd. Andrew
11.00am	Cranham	Morning Worship	Sue H Lay Reader
11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise	Liz, Sarah and Pau

Revd. Sarah Haslam (Rector)  Revd. Andrew Leach <i>(Associate Priest)</i>	Mr. Mike Campbell Mrs. Liz Eden Mrs. Sue Hartley <b>Worship leader in training:</b> Mrs. Karen Riding	Revd. Paul Kenchington Revd. David Newell Revd. Helen Sammon
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[www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)



**Longfield's Annual  
Ale Amble Fundraiser  
Returns**

**24th February,  
11am – 3pm**



Here's a lovely opportunity to take a bracing walk with friends, family and four-legged buddies, whilst raising funds for your local hospice.

It's a gentle four mile circular walk, starting and finishing at Stroud Brewery, with optional refreshment breaks at the Bowbridge Arms and Crown & Sceptre along the route. Taking in the hilly Heavens around the Golden Valley, at the end of the walk, you'll be greeted with a free pint or soft drink and the chance to watch a Six Nations rugby match on the big screen.

£15 for adults, £10 for children, which includes a free Longfield T-shirt.

Book here: <https://longfield.org.uk/event/ale-amble/>

## Extracts from The Messenger – January 2024

### Family baptised together at outdoor service



**One Sunday, in November 2023, in a tent in the churchyard of St Mary's Kempford, three young candidates experienced a special baptism service.**

The family service at St Mary's Kempford meets outdoors all year round and focuses on learning about God and worshipping him in the beauty of creation. A team from St Mary's, along with the Revd Kim, plan and facilitate the service, with the children and their connection to God and His creation at the forefront of the planning each month.

In a first for this worshipping community, two families asked if they could have their children baptised in the outdoor setting. After some planning, the service took place, in the late-afternoon darkness.

Rory, age 10, was baptised first as he was also going to be godfather to his cousin, Magdalena, age 2. He made the sign of the cross with oil on Magdalena's head while the Revd Kim gave the blessing, and he and his sister, Eden, age 7, also anointed one another. The children came forward to blow bubbles in celebration at the end, before going off to search for bats with their torches and toast marshmallows in the fire.

Kim says, "It was a wonderful experience as we thought together about Jesus coming as light in the darkness, and how He is with us through all the ups and downs of life." Read more: <https://bit.ly/BaptismOutdoors>

### Could you have a gift for chaplaincy?

**Chaplains are people who step out in faith to listen, show compassion and be alongside people in their joys, sadness and ordinary lives. Sometimes serving prisons, schools, hospitals or sports clubs, they represent God's love to the people they find themselves among.**

The Revd Canon Simon Witcombe, Senior Chaplain, University of Gloucestershire, said, "I've been a University Chaplain for six years now. It's a great role, very different from my previous life as a parish priest – and I love it!"



*Continued on page 9*



There are so many things that you could say about chaplaincy. It's a way of being with the 95% of people who don't usually come to church, it's a witness to the presence and the love of God 'out there' – where people meet, where they work, in places of need, in all sorts of places and it gives us new opportunities to listen to people and to today's culture.”

There are a huge variety of chaplains in our diocese and county. As well as the better-known chaplaincies in hospitals, prisons, schools and universities, there are also waterways chaplains on the canals, racecourse chaplains, services and cadet chaplains, Anna chaplains working with older people, wellbeing chaplains, agricultural chaplains and many others.

Simon continues, “I would love to see us encouraging chaplaincy in many more areas – law courts, shopping centres, towns and villages, festivals, industrial sites – the possibilities are endless. And I also believe that in our churches there are many people who have the necessary gifts. I hope that our new network will become a springboard for many more working in this wonderful ministry.”

Simon has created a network for all those who work in chaplaincy – lay and ordained, voluntary and paid, full time or just a couple of hours a week. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 31st January from 3.30pm to 5pm in the Chapel at Francis Close Hall Campus, Cheltenham. All those involved in chaplaincy of any kind are welcome to go along. For more information, please email Simon on [switcombe@glos.ac.uk](mailto:switcombe@glos.ac.uk).

If you are interested in becoming a chaplain, please speak with your Incumbent in the first instance. The chaplaincy team at Gloucestershire Hospitals is running a training course for potential candidates to join the volunteer team, starting on 10th January, 9.15am – 12.30pm. For more information,

visit: [gloucester.anglican.org/hospital-chaplaincy-training-course](https://gloucester.anglican.org/hospital-chaplaincy-training-course)

### **Three ways to connect in with your Diocese in 2024**

#### **Get the latest news from the Diocese on WhatsApp**

Every Friday, get a WhatsApp message from the Diocese of Gloucester with our top three inspiring stories, videos or events, straight to your phone.

Simply visit: <https://bit.ly/OneDioceseWhatsApp>

*Continued on page 10*

## **Get involved in Eco Church**

When it comes to caring for Creation, we all can make a difference. From simple things like recycling to helping to create a wildlife area in the churchyard ... you never know, you might help your church qualify for its first Eco Church Award. Find out more: <https://bit.ly/EcoChurch24>

## **Find a church near you**

One website to bookmark this year is 'A Church Near You' – churches across the Diocese of Gloucester list their regular services, events and news on this handy website, helping you connect into a church where you are: [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com)

## **Events and training**

**More details for all these events at [gloucester.anglican.org/events](http://gloucester.anglican.org/events)**

### **Runaway Deer Trail**

**Gloucester Cathedral, College Green, Gloucester Until 7th Jan**

Twelve colourful, six-foot tall reindeer statues, customised by local artists, have been hidden in various places around the city, including at the Cathedral.

[gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/runaway-reindeer-trail](http://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/runaway-reindeer-trail)

### **Clear Vision – Kick-start your year**

**Trinity Cheltenham, Portland Street, Cheltenham GL52 2NX**

**20th January, 10am to 4.30pm**

Would you appreciate taking a day to hear God's heart and words for the year? This workshop includes worship, teaching/preaching input and space for you to hear God for yourself. Accessible prayer exercises you can continue to use. <https://trinitycheltenham.churchsuite.com/events/j3mgv9tu>

### **The Merchant of Venice**

**St Philip & St James Church, Grafton Road, Cheltenham**

**25th January, 10am to 12 noon**

The first of three meetings to discuss three plays by Shakespeare through the lens of religion.

[gloucester.anglican.org/shakespeare-and-religion-love-power-and-forgiveness](http://gloucester.anglican.org/shakespeare-and-religion-love-power-and-forgiveness)

## Quiet Day

**Hartpury Old Chapel, Hartpury GL19 3DE**

**27th January, 10am to 1pm**

Come along to the beautiful surroundings of Hartpury Old Chapel for a quiet morning with God. Leave all your planning, preparation, diaries, and strategies behind.

**[gloucester.anglican.org/quiet-day](http://gloucester.anglican.org/quiet-day)**

## Have your say

Visit Facebook **Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at **kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk**, follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website **[gloucester.anglican.org](http://gloucester.anglican.org)**

*These extracts are from The Messenger, a monthly communication produced by diocesan communications office at Church House, College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY. The full 'Messenger' is available on [www.gloucester.anglican.org](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org) and can be emailed to all parish and church representatives who request it. The extracts printed here are provided by Church House and published without alteration and therefore do not necessarily reflect the views of the Cranham magazine editorial team.*

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## Cranham Lunch - January 2024



This will be held on:

**Monday 15th January 2024**

**12.30pm in the VILLAGE HALL, CRANHAM**

**Menu for the day to be confirmed**

Contact Nicky Overs: [nickyovers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nickyovers@hotmail.co.uk),

07884 432886 or 812429

## **Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society**



We wish you all a very happy, and colourful, 2024! Got a (real) Christmas tree to dispose of? The charity JustHelping will collect it for a small donation to Longfield Hospice and will take it to Painswick's Rococo Garden for shredding to top-dress the paths there. Two good deeds in one!

January is a time for making plans for the year ahead, rather than for doing much in the garden, but there are still jobs that can be done this month. You can sow seed of aubergines and peppers, including chillies, and a few bedding plants such as lobelia; but while they will benefit from the longer growing season, bear in mind that they will need to be kept indoors until the weather warms up enough for them to go into the greenhouse, and if your windowsill space is limited, it might be better to sow later in winter. One flower that needs less heat and can be sown in the next few weeks is sweet peas; they will still need some protection, such as a cold greenhouse, but can put up with lower temperatures and can be moved outdoors as early as April if the weather isn't too chilly.

Other jobs that can be done now are pruning of free-standing apple and pear trees; if you need advice, the RHS website has guides including how to prune young trees and how to renovate an old one. Some deciduous shrubs that flower in the second half of the year, such as buddleja, can also be pruned between now and March; cut your buddleja down to knee-height and it will regrow quickly (long, straight prunings can be used as beanpoles). Leave evergreens until the spring, though.

The Garden Society's next meeting is on 3rd February, with a talk on saving your own seed; more details next month.

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### **Fix my Street**

website to report potholes and fly tipping etc

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

**SAVE!  
DATE!**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**



**Race Night at  
Cranham Village Hall**

**MORE DETAILS OF THE EVENT COMING SOON**

**All proceeds in Support of**



and

**The Big Space  
Cancer Appeal**



**Cranham Church**  
Saturday 13th January 2024  
at 3pm

A Concert by  
**Coro Camino**



**A short programme of accessible and evocative choral music**

followed by  
tea and cakes

**in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund**

Free entry but donations will be requested (min. suggested £15).

**Coro Camino is a small local choir which has given very well received concerts on two tours along the route of the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain, as well as performing in local venues (including Gloucester Cathedral).**

Soloists include Cranham's Becky Daltry (a member of the BBC Symphony Chorus, performing regularly in broadcast concerts at the Royal Albert Hall).



Organ music will be played by Beryl Berry as you arrive  
– please arrive in good time for this.

**Become an organ donor!**



### **Coro Camino:**

A small group of friends, most of whom sing with local choral society, Philomusica, came together in 2019 to perform concerts along the route of the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain and to walk sections of the Camino. A similar, equally successful tour was undertaken in spring 2023.

The choir has also been invited to perform at local fund-raising events, including a Tewkesbury Abbey to Gloucester Cathedral Pilgrimage, the Gloucester Salvation Army 2022 Charity Concert and in Gloucester Cathedral as part of the 2023 Cloister Challenge event (raising funds for the homeless).

Membership of this small choir is bookended (in terms of vocal range) by Cranham resident Tom Daltry and daughter Becky (Cranham residents will remember Becky's role in creating the lockdown village Christmas Nativity video in 2020 and in running a children's singing workshop). The choir is led by Kathryn Jeffree who frequently performs as a soloist locally.



### **The Organ Restoration Fund:**

The Church organ (built in 1894 by leading organ makers Lewis and Co) plays a vital role in supporting the musical life of the Church, usually in the capable hands of Beryl. A recent independent report indicates that it is in need of a major overhaul, the last such overhaul having been undertaken more than 50 years ago. 3 months of work is required, which will involve partial dismantling of the instrument in order to enable repairs to be made and all parts to be thoroughly cleaned.

This work will prevent further deterioration in the operation of the organ and ensure that the Church and the Cranham community have a fully functional instrument for many years to come.

The cost of this work is likely to be in the region of £26,000. The Church will need to use reserves to cover much of this cost, but additional funding is required and a series of fund-raising events is being planned for this purpose – watch this space!

**Please do come to the concert to enjoy the music, the tea and cakes and to support this key village cause.**

Any enquiries about the event to Tom Daltry:  
[tom@daltry.net](mailto:tom@daltry.net) or 01452 863011

## **Cranham Common News**

A reminder of the dates for the work parties for the beginning of this new year:

**Sunday** 14th January 9.30am - 12.30pm

**Saturday** 3rd February 9.30am - 12.30pm

**Sunday** 25th February 9.30am - 12.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join the work parties, we can find jobs for all ages and levels of fitness. They are very enjoyable social mornings as well as being rewarding for contributing to the maintenance of the common. So, for anyone new to the village, come and join us and make some new friends.

Details of the tasks for each date and where to meet will be sent out on Cranham email and Facebook nearer the time.

**Liz Hayden**  
CCMC chair  
Chair.ccmc@gmail.com

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## **CRANHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### **Power Point' show of OLD CRANHAM IMAGES**

Jan Whitton on behalf of the Cranham Local History Society will be repeating the show on **Saturday afternoon – 24th February 2024.**

Make a note as soon as you buy your 2024 calendars, if you want the opportunity to see this wonderful collection of historic photos.



**CRANHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

**AGM**

**Thursday 25th January 2024, at 7.30pm**

**followed by minced pies and mulled wine, and at 8.15pm by**

**Tudor Swearing, Sex and Loos;  
What you don't see in historical dramas**

**A talk by Kirstie Bingham**

**Cranham Village Hall**

**Members Free/Visitors £3.50/All welcome**

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**Foodbank**



Thank you to everyone who made our Christmas collection so successful!

Our next collection will be on **Wednesday 10th January** from 10am - 12noon. We are collecting in the car park on Stamages Lane. If you have difficulty getting to this donation point, please let us know and we will do our best to help.

If you wish to make a bank donation, you can do so using the following details:      Stroud District Foodbank CIO  
Sort code: 09-01-29      Account: 21994911

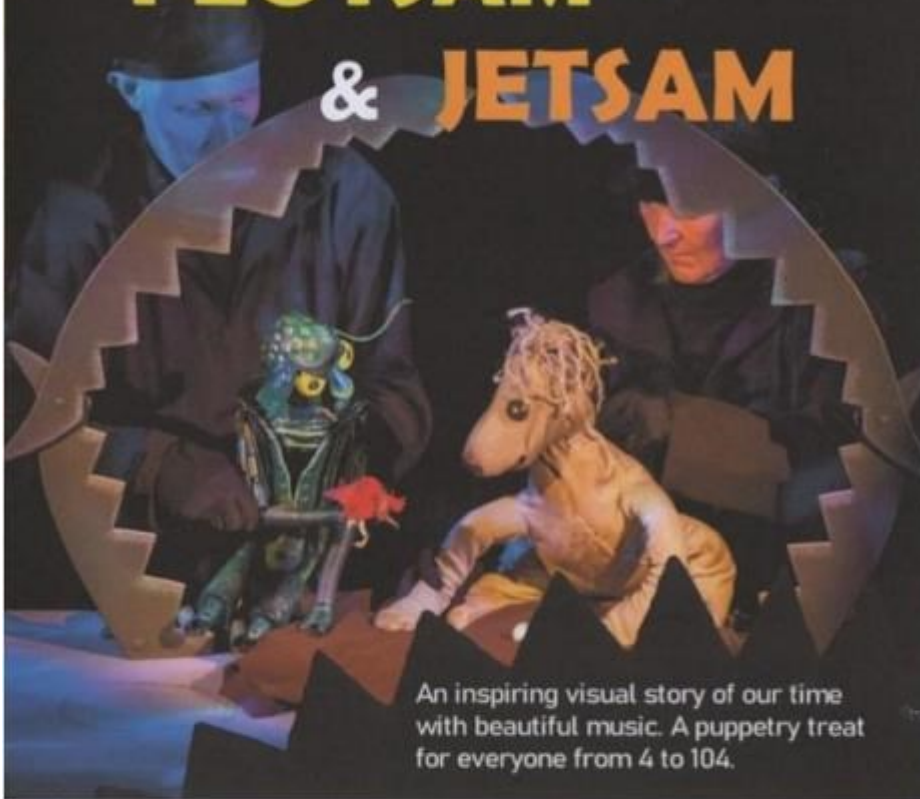
Thank you.

**The Foodbank Team**

Mobile: 07950 651228

Lempen Puppet Theatre Company  
www.lempen.co.uk

# FLOTSAM & JETSAM



An inspiring visual story of our time  
with beautiful music. A puppetry treat  
for everyone from 4 to 104.

**CRANHAM VILLAGE HALL**  
**SAT 6TH JANUARY - 4.00PM**

Doors open from 3.30pm  
for a 4.00pm start

Refreshments available  
to purchase!

Tickets: 07737 545 159

£8 per child/adult with 1 adult free per booking  
(We are unable to admit unaccompanied children)

## Flotsam & Jetsam

Flotsam is soft, flexible, laid back. She slides and glides through life on the ice. Jetsam is the opposite, his insectile body is stiff and nervy, alert, and suspicious of all in his forest home.

And then comes the weather... and they are both cast adrift in a world that is strange to them and full of a range of dangers. Finally washed up on the same island beach they must discover the other and work out how they can work together.

A hopeful story of our time about two very different creatures. Visual theatre with original music and delightful puppetry.

Suitable for everyone from 4 to 104.



Duration: 45 min / Performers: Liz & Daniel Lempen / Director: Mark Whitaker / Music: Chris Davies

Lempen Puppet Theatre Company tour throughout the UK and beyond with their own unique brand of original stories told with puppets. Imaginative, spellbinding and sometimes surprising, they focus on high quality family theatre to leave their audiences inspired.

[www.lempen.co.uk](http://www.lempen.co.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ **Sheepscombe Bridge Club** ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

Sheepscombe Bridge Club meet at 7.00pm at the Sheepscombe Village Hall to play bridge on Thursdays. The second, fourth and fifth (if there is one) Thursdays in the month. September to May and then a summer break.

We are a mix of villagers and people from nearby. We think we have a fairly relaxed and friendly club and would welcome a few more players. Several long-term members from Cranham are sadly no longer with us.

Pairs welcome but we almost always have 'singles' who would like a partner. If you think you may be interested, please contact:

Joy Edwards - joyatthelough@gmail.com or

Hugh Tarran - h.tarran@tiscali.co.uk (814081)

Footnote: If you've played bridge before but not for a while, please feel free to get in touch if you'd like a chat. We are not a highly formal club. Further we'd also welcome people who could help out occasionally when we have a spare player.

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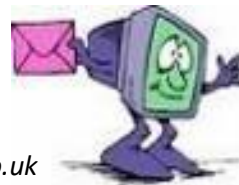
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine only** should be emailed to:*


*All general articles: [editors@cranhammag.co.uk](mailto:editors@cranhammag.co.uk)*

*All church articles: [church@cranhammag.co.uk](mailto:church@cranhammag.co.uk)*

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*Distribution enquiries : [distribution@cranhammag.co.uk](mailto:distribution@cranhammag.co.uk)*





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PULL OUT

# Cranham Directory

2023

Updated December 2023

If any errors are noticed,  
please email [distribution@cranhammag.co.uk](mailto:distribution@cranhammag.co.uk)

N.B. Inclusion in this directory  
does not imply recommendation

## POLICE

Police Community Support Officer Nicola Wood  
Non-emergency contacts 101 [nicola.wood@gloucestershire.police.uk](mailto:nicola.wood@gloucestershire.police.uk)  
Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111  
Visit [www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk) & <https://www.actionfraudalert.co.uk/> for info  
Also useful info from: <https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/>

MEDICAL Painswick Surgery 01452 812 545  
Painswick Chemist 01452 812 263

Community Wellbeing please see next page

PARISH COUNCIL <https://cranhampc.org.uk/>

CLERK: position vacant from January 2024 [cranhampc@gmail.com](mailto:cranhampc@gmail.com)  
CHAIRMAN: Nigel Cooper 01452 813870  
Vice Chairman: Peter Shaw 01452 810709  
Councillors: Sue Elliott 07788 565005  
Jenny Barraclough 07977 997375  
Richard Overs 01452 812429  
Jeremy Strickland 07766 083234

## Stroud District Councillors:

Julie Job [cllr.julie.job@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.julie.job@stroud.gov.uk)  
Keith Pearson [cllr.keith.pearson@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.keith.pearson@stroud.gov.uk)  
Gary Luff [cllr.gary.luff@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gary.luff@stroud.gov.uk)

## Gloucestershire County Councillor:

Cllr Sue Williams 01452 770928 07766 318854  
[susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

## MP for Stroud Constituency:

Siobhan Baillie 01453 759748  
[Siobhan.Baillie.MP@parliament.uk](mailto:Siobhan.Baillie.MP@parliament.uk)

## Neighbourhoods Warden

Mark Dodd 07876 405833  
[mark.dodd@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:mark.dodd@stroud.gov.uk) <https://bit.ly/2Z13gxY>

## Cotswold Warden (footpaths etc)

Mel Petrie [cranhamwarden@outlook.com](mailto:cranhamwarden@outlook.com)

## Report POT HOLES

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

## Report FLY TIPPING

<https://bit.ly/32DStP0>

Bus Timetable from Cranham Corner <https://bit.ly/2Rm4WR2>

## PARISH MAGAZINE

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Friends of Cranham School [friendsofcranhamschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcranhamschool@gmail.com)

Chair, School Governors: Nicki Clapton [chair@cranham.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@cranham.gloucs.sch.uk)

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**COMMERCIAL** continued

**House/Garden** continued

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*COMMERCIAL continued overleaf*

*COMMERCIAL continued*

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## Christmas Community Quiz



On the 11th December Sportily alongside the local church St. Mary's with Rev Sarah Haslam ran a Christmas Community Quiz. We had a great time with around 40-50 people attending for a night of games, fun and festivity (well we had a Christmas tree and balloons out!). We had a room filled with all different ages but there was a real sense of 'oneness' and 'togetherness' there. The quiz tested people's local knowledge, carol songs, taste palates, smelling senses, sporting knowledge and craft skills!

Rev Sarah shared a beautiful message of how her favourite part of Christmas is the coming together of families and communities. Sarah reminded us of the powerful message of Christmas being that Jesus comes to us, interrupts our schedules and longs to include us in His family. If you're struggling or feeling alone this Christmas there was an invite to come along to some of the church services in St. Mary's or Cranham to find out more about what it means to be part of a wider spiritual family.



Keep your eye out in the future for what Sportily helps run and we hope you have an amazing Christmas and New Year!

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No new people in the village this month!

*Welcome!*

However, If we have missed anyone, please accept our apologies and make yourself known and we will include you next time.

## **Woodchester Mansion – An Unfinished Masterpiece**

A talk given to the Cranham Local History Society

on 7th December by Liz Davenport

Over the hill from the Woodchester villages, in a deep valley, walled around as a deer park in the early 17th century, and to this day remarkably secluded, lies Woodchester Mansion. It's known to everyone in the area by reputation, as are the grounds, now owned by the National Trust. As our speaker, the Mansion Archivist, Liz Davenport, explained, it is a quite remarkable place.

Under the ownership of the Ducie family the original hunting lodge became a smart Georgian house. Either side of the turn of the nineteenth century legendary garden designers Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton were both consulted about the park, and it may be that the lakes higher up the valley were to Repton's design. But all the while the house, Spring Park, was steadily deteriorating. The second Earl Ducie sold it to the son of a Liverpool merchant, one William Leigh, who had money to spare, and as a newly converted Catholic had plans for a church and a monastery and the unlikely aspiration to convert the working men of Stroud to Catholicism. By 1853 both church and monastery were operational. (Only the church survives.) But Leigh's plans to improve the house were met with harsh words from the eminent architect, Augustus Pugin: 'a more hopeless case of repairs I never saw.'

Leigh didn't get far with Pugin. To build a new house he employed a prominent architect, Charles Hansom (brother of the inventor of the hansom cab), and a local man, Benjamin Bucknell, to work alongside him. At an early stage Bucknell took over from Hansom. They created a never-to-be-finished masterpiece, a coming together of English vernacular and French Gothic, both increasingly in vogue. Liz Davenport highlighted the way the buttresses support the interior arches which in turn hold up the roof and interior walls. What are missing of course are the floors. And all the while craftsmen had been at work. At roof level four gargoyles, two dogs, a wild boar and a fox, channel water from the roof away from the building. Buildings back then didn't have damp courses. The roof bosses of the extraordinary chapel depict local flora, in one case, cowslips, and the detail is remarkable. But situated where they are, out of sight, they are a wonderful indulgence. Other bosses feature Leigh's dogs and two green men. The bathroom has a bath carved out of a single block of stone. Corridors are vaulted and have a decidedly ecclesiastical feel.

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*From page 30*

It was a slow, very slow, build, linked to the resources the Leighs had available. In 1874 Bucknell estimated a cost of £7000 for completing the house. Willie Leigh, William's son and heir, didn't have the money. Annual running costs Bucknell estimated at £7000-8000 and in 1878 he headed off to Algiers. By the 1890s the mansion was badly run down. Under Willie's daughter and son there were plans to finish it, but it never happened. Plans for a monastery (again) and a hospital failed to materialise, and troops moved in during the Second World War. In 1988 the house was bought by Stroud District Council and it's now run by the Woodchester Mansion Trust. Every visitor today will be aware of the bats, and they may have heard of the paranormal sessions. House tours are popular, and you can enjoy coffees and teas in wonderful surroundings. A big thank you to Liz for a delightful talk.

For information on, and membership of the Mansion Trust, check out [www.woodchestermansion.org.uk](http://www.woodchestermansion.org.uk). A book, Woodchester: A Gothic Vision, is available as a Kindle download.

**Chris Collier**



**The Bisley Flicks in the Sticks  
Presents:**

## **The Great Escaper**

**At Bisley Village Hall**

**\*7.30pm**

**Tuesday 9th January 2024**

**Doors Open 7:00pm for Tea,  
Coffee and Wine**

**(\* Earlier winter times)**

## **RAISING THE ROOF - AUCTION OF PROMISES FOR PAINSWICK CHURCH ROOF**

An impressive team of volunteers blended from a fine mix of churchgoers, residents and community-minded folk put together an excellent village event on that Friday evening.

Painswick Church is viewed by many as an integral part of the landscape, of our town and indeed of our lives! The Auction took place under the same new, high-quality Cotswold tiled roof for which funds are still being raised. St Mary's Church, just like the God who is worshipped there, is open to all who seek a place of welcome, belonging and meaning. Without its roof, the building would soon fall into disrepair and the focal point of our "queen of the Cotswolds" would be forever altered. So, in the words of Rector Sarah, this event was felt to be the auction 'of a lifetime' for much of our community.

A magnificent sum of around £15,000 (final figure still to be reckoned at time of publication) has been achieved representing a wave of generosity in voluntary time, effort, promises, gifts, skills, sponsorship and donations. It was a great evening headed up by Will Fair, auctioneer 'extraordinaire', whose experienced and friendly style was a huge encouragement to the goodwill of many very generous buyers.

No less than 80+ auction lots and raffle prizes had been given each raising from £30 up to £1,600 for a wonderful variety of promises from babysitting, gardening, holidays, gourmet meals, artwork, car rides, sporting experiences, choral concerts, floral and Christmas decorations, and many more in between!

A huge vote of thanks is due to many: not least to Joan Warner and the team of organisers who brought everything together, and to Will Fair our Auctioneer.



*Continued on page 33*



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Also, many local sponsors, Balfour Wines of The Falcon Painswick, Penna Homecare, the Goddard family and a special thank you to Phil Ions of Core lighting who lite up the church for the evening making it look magnificent. And there are many more individual donors and contributors to be thanked, whose names we have no room for, but are on the Benefice Facebook page, social media and in our Auction program, copies of which are still available. All of us, near or far, who are concerned to keep our beautiful Church as a continued Christian presence in the community for years into the future, are truly grateful for your very generous support.

**Rev Sarah Haslam, Rector. Dylan Davies, Lindsay Gardiner,  
Church Wardens.**

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## **New Years Greetings**

Just a quick roundup about the recent Cranham Christmas Card donations. We had a few Cranhamers donating just after the magazine deadline, so the final total is an **amazing £977!** And here is everyone wishing Cranham a peaceful and prosperous New Year:

Kathy & David Bonney, Liz & Paul Cattle, Joan & Derek Chamberlayne, Dave & Joan Charman, Ken, Ian, Nicki, Emily & Evie Clapton, Nigel Cooper, Linda de Cossart, Helen, Tom & Becky Daltry, Laura, Jasper, Oliver & Joshua Drake, Len Eldridge, Sue & Peter Elliott, Jean Evans, Janet & John Gazzard, Ann Green, Norma & Martin Kay, Ruth & Bill Lambell, Marcia & Antony Lynall, Caitlin & Andy Miller & Family, Di & Mel Petrie, Hazel Roberts & Chris Collier, Sue & Ian Shaw, Jane Shepherd & Mike Drake, Brenda Spence, Karen Stageman & Rob Hannis, Alex & Jess Stageman, Sue & Phil Stick, Carol & Ted Tringham-Daniels, Olwen Tringham & Kim Roberts, Carol & Peter Turnham, Catriona & Richard Tyson, Hazel & Alan Tyson, Evelyn Usher, Pat & Mike Wakeman, John Watts, June & Mark Whitaker.

*The charities that will benefit in lieu of Christmas cards are Hospice Africa, Allsorts, Cancer Research, Smile Train, Motor Neurone Disease Association, Willow Trust, Gurkha Welfare Trust, Alzheimers Research, Alzheimers Association, The Rainbow Trust, Children in Need, Bibury Church of England School, Stroud Food Bank, Sight Savers, RNLI and The MS Society.*

## **Cranham School**

A couple of suspense stories written by children from the school - just right for a cold January night....

### **Haunted Halls**

It was a beautiful place. Large and majestic.

Strong, dark wood lined the walls and floors. Long winding corridors gave the place a surreal, almost dream-like air. Emily drifted gracefully along the twisted passages, the folds of her long dress flowing behind her, long dark hair streaming down her back in gentle waves. The last light of the evening danced upon the walls, shimmering with such beauty, one might almost believe that the light was shining from heaven itself.

The silence was heavy and thick, but Emily would not let it shake her. The last gentle rays of sunlight faded, giving way to the dazzling moonlight. Leaning against the balcony, she watched as an inky cloud slid over the moon, plunging the night into a murky, impenetrable darkness. With a sigh, she turned back towards the warmth of the building and began, once again, to wander the enchanting passages. There was no sound but the gentle slap of her bare feet against the firm wooden floorboards as she trailed the halls.

A sharp creak echoed through the walls. Emily shivered. There was a sudden crack of thunder, that left her standing dead still, frozen to the spot. Shaking her head to dispel the thoughts racing through her mind, she walked on, a little faster perhaps. It was nothing. A light storm, that was all.

Rain hammered down on the building like bullets. A sharp, sinister fork of lightning shook the earth, blinding Emily. She ran. Heart and mind racing, she tried desperately to flee from the terrible thoughts that had latched on to her. Gradually, her pace slowed to a gentle walk, until she stopped altogether, breathing heavily.

Inhaling deeply, she swallowed and turned slowly to face the balcony she had fled from. Nothing.

Still feeling uneasy, she walked on. Step by step, the distance between her and the dark, cold, harsh world outside lengthened. Then, as her foot came down to meet the floor, no hard surface came to meet her. Air rushed past her ears as a long, piercing scream emitted from her lips.

**By Megan**

## **The Deep Dark Woods**

He walked casually through the graceful orange-yellow forest, hypnotised by the glorious nature. There was no-one apart from the occasional bike riders. There was a little stream trickling down breaking the mysterious silence. The trees were ebony, dense and vast with leaves falling into glamorous silhouettes.

He stepped forwards and forwards again, into the fir-framed abyss that the cackling said every step. He had kept careful track of his location. Surely he should be out of the woods now...or was he lost?

Not long now and every bit of light would vanish and turn to complete darkness. Silence. Nothing but silence. Frequently, there was an odd noise.

Thump. Thump. There it was again.

The clouds cried heavily and all the animals started to hide. Suddenly it came to an end. He could've sworn he heard a bush rustle or a grumble. What was it? Doubts washed through his mind.

Thump. Thump. Surely it was just a bird? Or was it?

There was no sound of the stream, just silence. Leaves started to crunch not but not from him though. The sound was behind him. He turned. Nothing.

**By James**

---

## **Thank You**

Mrs Brenda Spence and family would like to thank everybody who sent cards and messages of condolence for the passing of Joe.

All your kindness was much appreciated.

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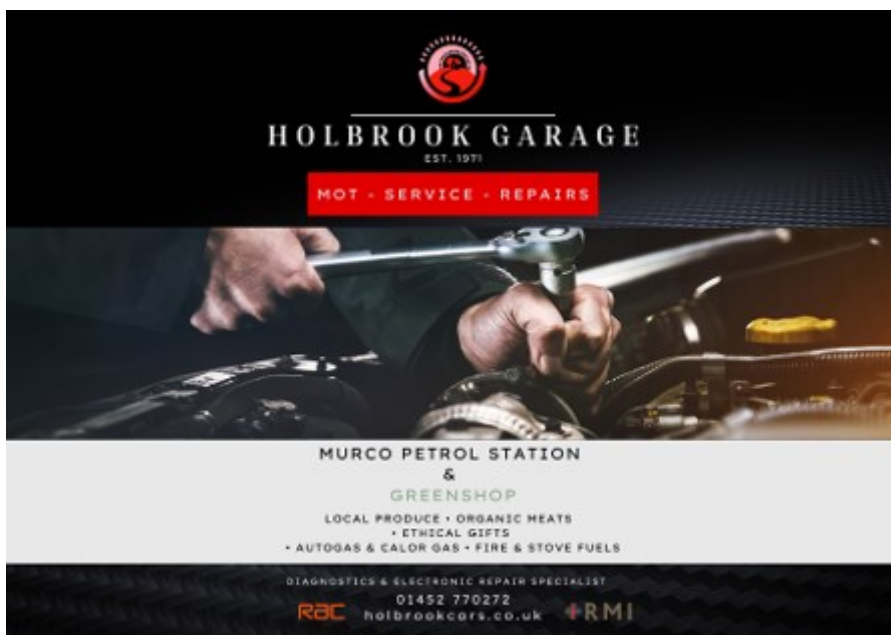
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## ADVERTISEMENTS



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[www.revivepainswick.co.uk](http://www.revivepainswick.co.uk)

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Painswick Beauty Room                 | Cranham Village Studio |
| Three Gables Centre,<br>Cheltenham Rd | *New Location*         |
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| Wednesdays 10am - 2.30pm              | Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm |



  
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**REGULAR EVENTS (although all may be subject to cancellation or change, so please check directly with the organisers)**

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Village Lunch</b>              | <b>Monthly on a Monday 12.15 for 12.30pm</b><br>(Nicky Overs 07884 432886)                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Sportily Hangout</b>           | <b>First Monday of month 5.00 - 6.00pm</b> - Painswick Pavilion                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Youth Space</b>                | <b>First Monday of month 6.00 - 7.00pm</b> - Painswick Pavilion<br>(Mark Trubey 07949 111817)                                                                                                       |
| <b>Orchestra</b>                  | <b>Mondays 8.00pm</b> - V Hall (Beryl Berry 813200)                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Post Office</b>                | <b>Tuesdays 10.00am - 12noon</b> - V Hall                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Rachel's Pop Up Café</b>       | <b>Tuesdays 10.00am - 2.30pm</b> - V Hall                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Rachel's Pop Up Café</b>       | <b>Fridays 9.00 - 12.30pm</b> - V Hall                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Cranham Art Group</b>          | <b>Tuesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm</b> - V Hall (Lyn Barker 813025)                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Choir</b>                      | <b>Tuesdays 7.30pm</b> - V Hall<br>(Virginia Pittman 07989 712263 virginiapittman3@gmail.com)                                                                                                       |
| <b>Handbell Ringers</b>           | <b>Wednesdays 9.30 - 11.30am</b><br>(Jenny Barraclough 07977 997375<br>jenny.barraclough@btinternet.com)                                                                                            |
| <b>Beavers, Cubs &amp; Scouts</b> | <b>Wednesdays</b> - Scout Centre - times as follows:<br>Beaver Scouts (6 to 8 yrs)      4.45 to 5.45pm<br>Cub Scouts (8 to 10 yrs)      5.50 to 7.10pm<br>Scouts (10 to 14 yrs)      7.30 to 9.00pm |
| <b>Table Tennis Club</b>          | <b>Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm</b> - V Hall<br>(Clive Hayden 07833 635762 chayden814@gmail.com)                                                                                                        |
| <b>Cranham Ramblers</b>           | <b>Alternate Thursdays 9.30am</b> - V Hall (Joan Charman 812708)                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>S'Combe Bridge Club</b>        | <b>2nd and 4th Thursdays 7.00pm</b> - Sheepscombe V Hall<br>(Contact Joy Edwards 812588)                                                                                                            |
| <b>Parent and Toddler</b>         | <b>Fridays 9.15 - 10.45am</b> - V Hall<br>(Contact tbc)                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Explorer Scouts</b>            | <b>Fridays 7.30 - 9.00pm</b> - V Hall<br>(Ian Coupland ian@couplandclan.co.uk)                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Church Bell Ringers</b>        | <b>Alternate Saturdays 9.30am</b> - Church (Rob Garratt 07703 503547)                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Garden Club</b>                | <b>Brimpsfield</b> , Phone Francis Ellery 01452 862412 for further info                                                                                                                             |

**\*\*Cranham Directory\*\***

Please see the **centre 8 pages** for a Pull-Out Directory including regular events within Cranham. Keep it as a handy reference on your fridge door!



## **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

All articles for the forthcoming month should be forwarded to the editors by email to

**editors@cranhammag.co.uk** (preferred option).

Articles should be forwarded as either a WORD or WORKS document and preferably in Ariel or Calibri font size 10 on A5 size paper settings. Articles may also be sent manually typed or hand written.

Please refrain from using ADOBE EDITOR as all articles have to be edited prior to inserting into the magazine.

All hard copies should be forward to **Baggend (at the Knoll)**.

All items to be included within next months magazine will need to be in the hands of the editors by the following dates:

**WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY 2024**

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on **Sunday 28th January** or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email

**Sue & Ian Shaw**

**814839**

**editors@cranhammag.co.uk**

# CRANHAM DIARY

JANUARY 2024



|    |       |                                         |                |                   |
|----|-------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2  | Tues  | Recycling/Food Waste                    |                |                   |
| 4  | Thurs | Ramble                                  | Village Hall   | 9.45am            |
| 6  | Sat   | Flotsam & Jetsam                        | Village Hall   | 3.30 for 4.00pm   |
| 7  | Sun   | Benefice Holy Communion                 | St. Mary's     | 11.00am           |
|    |       | Evening Worship                         | Church         | 6.30pm            |
| 9  | Tues  | Rubbish/Food Waste                      |                |                   |
|    |       | Flicks in the Sticks                    | Bisley V Hall  | 7.00 for 7.30pm   |
| 10 | Wed   | Foodbank Collection                     | Painswick      | 10.00am - 12noon  |
| 13 | Sat   | Coro Camino Concert                     | Church         | 3.00pm            |
| 14 | Sun   | Commons Working Party                   | Common         | 9.30am - 12.30pm  |
|    |       | Christingle                             | Church         | 4.00pm            |
| 15 | Mon   | Village Lunch                           | Village Hall   | 12.15 for 12.30pm |
| 16 | Tues  | Recycling/Food Waste                    |                |                   |
| 17 | Wed   | <b>** Magazine Contributions Due **</b> |                |                   |
| 18 | Thurs | Ramble                                  | Village Hall   | 9.45am            |
| 21 | Sun   | Evensong                                | Church         | 6.30pm            |
| 23 | Sat   | Rubbish/Food Waste                      |                |                   |
| 24 | Sun   | Ale Amble                               | Stroud Brewery | 11.00am - 3.00pm  |
| 25 | Thurs | CLHS AGM & Talk                         | Village Hall   | 7.30 & 8.15pm     |
| 28 | Sun   | Morning Worship                         | Church         | 11.00am           |
| 30 | Tues  | Recycling/Food Waste                    |                |                   |



FEBRUARY 2024

|            |       |                        |                |                   |
|------------|-------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1, 15 & 29 | Thurs | Rambles                |                |                   |
| 3          | Sat   | Commons Working Party  | Common         | 9.30am - 12.30pm  |
|            |       | Garden Society Meeting | B'field V Hall | 10.30 for 11.00am |
| 24         | Sat   | Old Cranham Images     | Village Hall   | tbc               |
| 25         | Sun   | Commons Working Party  | Common         | 9.30am - 12.30pm  |

**For Regular Events - please see page 46**