

# The Creeting St. Mary Newsletter



Wishing you all the best for  
Christmas  
and the New Year



**How about a nature-inspired tree this Christmas  
or decorate the windows of your house or front garden to  
share the Christmas feeling with the Village?**

**Volume 38/6 December 2020 and January 2021**

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## Editorial Comment

The gas failed in the middle of cooking lunch, the problem was entirely ours - the regulator had packed up on the bottled gas. This got me to thinking - am I prepared for things I really rely on being unavailable and should I be taking steps? Sometimes by confronting problems you can develop new skills.

Some absences have been rather welcome: not having to travel to meetings – once I had mastered zoom and learned to un-mute myself without being asked. I haven't missed going shopping – except garden centres being closed - but I have discovered you can save seeds from year to year - and have tried my hand at taking cuttings.

Of course the minute there is less traffic we have village traffic calming measures in place - but this should deter cars from speeding on the quieter roads. I hope that people living on their own or in reduced circumstances because of the situation have managed to benefit from the increased assistance from websites, phone lines and food banks and that hard-pressed businesses have taken full advantage of the grants on offer, as highlighted in this edition.

However, in some occupations people have been run off their feet – in food retailing as people are shopping locally in unprecedented numbers and of course in hospitals and schools battling to keep things under control often with reduced staff and uncertainty in the rules and regulations. We are grateful for their continuing efforts.

I have rather welcomed not having to queue at the doctor, dentist and optician as appointments are kept well to time- and going to the dump (after an isolation-induced clear-out) was a dream with no waiting and fewer people at the skips.

Nature has acquired a new status, providing an escape and the ability to meet up 'socially distanced' of course - and it is good to read that SCC is putting resources this way and 'strengthening' biodiversity. Let us hope when it comes to tricky areas such as planning policy they put their money where their vision is!

On the flip side there is concern about this new-found popularity – a survey of 300 people visiting the Lake District at Whitsun returned some interesting figures – for 20% it was their first visit; 18% met friends; 70% brought alcohol and 25% a barbecue. The rubbish was often left behind and tons had to be cleared up and fires extinguished. Then there is the increased disturbance to wildlife by cyclists, uncontrolled dogs and people keeping away from each other, resulting in nesting birds disturbed to the point of desertion and slow worms and flowers crushed under wheel and foot. Not the communing with nature envisaged! If we want to be able to roam free as well as see Larks and Lapwings and halt the devastating decline in farmland birds, steps must be taken to have undisturbed areas for them.

So there has been a lot of change and hopefully some of the better changes will stick. With the prospect of not seeing the family much this Christmas we have decided to limit present giving by doing 'Secret Santa' so each person gets one really worthwhile present from one other person.

Things continue to happen - the litter gets picked up, the newsletter delivered, the village committees are still running - in the hope we can meet up properly next year. But you can be sure - it will not be 'normal'.

As always may I thank all those who have contributed to the Newsletter in particular my co-editor Kathryn Martin and the stalwart deliverers to over 350 houses.

Do try and have a good Christmas, however it turns out - and a sustainable one!

<http://howaboutorange.blogspot.com/2009/10/make-gift-bow-from-magazine-page.html>

**Joan Hardingham co-Editor**

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## CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

**Coronavirus (Covid-19)** - Due to the ongoing circumstances, the Parish Council continue to hold their meetings online via Zoom. These meetings will be published on the village website and noticeboards as usual. If any member of the public wish to attend please contact the Parish Clerk [clerk@csmmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmmpc.co.uk)

Please keep an eye on our website/Facebook page for possible changes to dates and times and for further information when meetings will revert to being held in person.

**Community Speedwatch** - The Parish Council are in the process of setting up a Community Speedwatch Team. Should you be interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish Clerk, Jennie Blackburn on 01449 721369 or email at [clerk@csmmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmmpc.co.uk) Training will be provided.

**Traffic Calming Measures** - You may have seen that a post has been installed on the grass verge corner, opposite the Village Hall. This is to house our second speed sign, which is currently on order and will be installed in the near future.

### **County Councillor's Report**

**The Home, But Not Alone free phone line** is up and running again - The phone line which supports vulnerable people in our communities who may be struggling with the impact of Coronavirus was paused in August because of low demand and the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. However, in light of Thursday's national lockdown, the service is now up and running again. The phonenumber was absolutely vital during the first lockdown and it is only right that the same support is on offer as we head into the next wave of lockdown. The phonenumber helped thousands of people and families, who often didn't have a network of family or friends to call upon, access emergency support such as food and medicine deliveries and befriending schemes. Its success was down to the amazing local networks that sprung up across towns and villages in Suffolk and looked after those most in need. The telephone number is freephone 0800 876 6926 and will be staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

**This Home, But Not Alone phonenumber compliments The Suffolk Advice and Support Service phonenumber** (freephone 0800 068 3131). It can help with debt advice, budgeting, mortgage, rent or credit card problems and employment queries. This phonenumber, delivered by the Collaborative Communities Covid-19 Board. Call handlers use resources and information from across many Suffolk organisations and specialist providers, which are tailored to individual needs. Some of the help provided to date includes:

- Supporting families with food and fuel vouchers, paying utility bills, and buying school uniforms.
- Buying a bike for a man to get to his new job, after losing his old job due to Covid-19 and having to sell his car to cover expenses.
- Buying special boots for a child with disabilities, which the family could no longer afford.
- Covering rent arrears for people.

### **SCC announces £228,000 for tree-planting, protecting hedgerows and verges -**

Suffolk's natural environment will receive investment for tree-planting, restoring hedgerows, and improving roadside verges for wildlife. £228,000 from the Suffolk 2020 Fund will enable SCC to enhance its work to protect and encourage biodiversity in the county. Working with The Woodland Trust, Suffolk Tree Wardens, landowners, and county farm tenants, the funding will support the planting of around 100,000 trees, including replanting hedgerows in suitable locations across Suffolk over the



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next 18 months. It will also help establish around 10 community tree nurseries, which will support more planting in years to come. Local volunteers will be supported to collect seeds, set up nursery beds and grow trees in their communities. The funding will also be used to trial better ways to manage roadside verges for wildlife. This includes exploring the use of new technology and cutting techniques, as well as developing new partnerships with parishes and landowners. The funding will help expand the existing Roadside Nature Reserve network managed by the council with the help of volunteers, seeing a 25% increase in the overall length of verges managed for wildlife. Increased tree planting will allow us to offset carbon emissions, though we are continuing to work to eliminate the council's emissions where possible, as part of our commitment to our climate emergency declaration. But this is much more than just planting trees and walking away. We are setting up the support needed to allow trees, hedgerows and verges to thrive for years to come, including in urban areas. We are committed to a 'right tree, right place' policy and to working with others. This will be achieved through a new Suffolk Tree Partnership, involving many others across Suffolk, to support local communities and landowners to help manage and increase tree cover. We will also work with others to develop a 'healing wood' initiative as a way of recognising the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our communities. With Suffolk's healing woods we will all have access to natural spaces, where we can reflect on our own experiences of the pandemic or take a quiet moment to grieve for loved ones. People in Suffolk can have their say on plans for a 'healing' woodland space in memory of those who died from Covid-19. A survey has now been launched online for people to share their thoughts and preferences on what they would like to see. The potential locations are to be identified in the new year. The survey will run online until 25 November. Please visit:

[www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HealingWoods](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HealingWoods)

**Suffolk MP visits site at the A140 in Brome** and is 'delighted' with the improvements - On 19 October, Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich, Dr Dan Poulter, visited the junction improvement works at the A140 in Brome, near Eye Airfield. The visit was hosted by Suffolk County Council and Interserve, the improvement scheme's contractor. The works will improve journey time and road safety in the area and provide better access to the Eye Airfield Development Area. The improvements include:

- Two new roundabout junctions on the A140 Castleton Way and south of Rectory Road.
- A link road through to B1077 from the Northern roundabout.
- Restricted movements at the A140/B1077 junction: prohibit right turns in and out, improving journey times and safety
- Closure of the A140/Rectory Road junction.
- Landscaping and new pathways for walkers and cyclists.

Feasibility studies were carried out along the stretch of road by SCC following concerns expressed by members of the public and local stakeholders about access to and from businesses based on the Industrial Park, with lengthy queues and delays entering and exiting the area. The main access into the Industrial Park is via a busy junction and the flow of traffic is regularly slowed or halted by vehicles attempting to enter or leave the site, creating the risk of accidents and diminished road safety. SCC would like to thank residents for their patience regarding these vital improvement works. There have been delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which have been

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unavoidable. We are trying to claw back some of the time we have lost, and we will keep the local community updated on the revised timescale. Once the improvement works are completed, the new road layout will unlock Eye Airfield for economic development. There will also be significant highway benefits because access to the A140 will be safer and more efficient, resolving long standing safety and congestion issues. To keep up to date with the project's latest developments visit the programme's dedicated website at [www.eyea140scheme.co.uk](http://www.eyea140scheme.co.uk)

**Adopt East launches** - 14 October marked the launch of Adopt East, a regional adoption agency which has been established to recruit adopters across the East of England. Adopt East will work across local authorities in Southend, Thurrock, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Bedford and Luton to find families for children who are waiting to find their forever home. Adoptionplus, Barnardo's, and Adoption UK are also part of the partnership. The Adopt East alliance will deliver the highest quality adoption service to children and families throughout the region by bringing together the expertise and skills of all its partners. The scale of the organisation means that adopters will have access to a larger number of children waiting for adoption. This will help partners to match children with the right family for them, at the earliest opportunity. Adopt East is committed to providing good quality adoption support services to support all families with their adoption journey. In Suffolk we have been working hard to find loving and supportive families for children waiting for adoption. These children have not always had the best start in life and really do deserve to find their forever homes. The adoption process can seem daunting for families, but SCC have a wealth of experience and are there to support families every step of the way. Adopt East is great news for Suffolk as it will mean we can draw on expertise and skills from across the whole region to help us to find the right families for our children. To find out more visit: [www.adopteast.org.uk](http://www.adopteast.org.uk)

**Matthew Hicks - County Councillor for the Thredling Division**

Tel : 01728 628176 Mob : 07824 474741 E-mail : [matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk)

## **District Councillor's Report**

**MID SUFFOLK AND BABERGH UPDATED DRAFT JOINT LOCAL PLAN:** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have published their Pre-Submission Updated Draft Joint Local Plan and representations are invited to be submitted during a 6-week consultation period which runs until 12 noon on Thursday 24th December 2020. To view the document online, the accompanying and supporting documentation, and to submit your representations, please visit the Councils' websites at:

[www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan) or [www.babergh.gov.uk/jointlocalplan](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/jointlocalplan).

Digital copies of the representation form can also be downloaded from the Councils' websites, where further information on making representations can be found.

### **CROSS-PARTY COUNCILLORS IN AGREEMENT ON RESPONSE TO PLANNING SYSTEM OVERHAUL:**

Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councillors are united in their response to the Government's Planning for the Future consultation—insisting that proposals must not be at the detriment of local communities and should not lose focus on the challenges facing rural districts.

**NEW COVID-19 SUPPORT GRANT LAUNCHED:** Businesses in Mid Suffolk and Babergh who have had to close their doors to customers as part of the current national lockdown may be eligible for a second wave of grant funding. As businesses across the country once again face restrictions as part of the nationwide strategy to



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help control the spread of Covid-19, the Government has launched the Local Restrictions Business Support Grant. The Local Restrictions Business Support Grant is open to businesses who were trading as usual on week commencing 2nd November, who are liable for business rates, and are one of the businesses required to close during the second lockdown. The grants will be administered by Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils to businesses in the region once they have applied via the councils' website. More information about the Local Restrictions Business Grants and the application forms can be found by visiting [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk) or [www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk)

**HOME, BUT NOT ALONE PHONELINE GOES LIVE AGAIN:** - please see County Councillor's report page 5.

**COUNCILS TO CONSULT ON CIL CHARGING RATES:** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils are seeking views on revised Community Infrastructure Levy charges for developers – helping to provide communities with the facilities they need to keep pace with growth. A public consultation to seek feedback on the revised rates, started on Thursday 12th November and residents, businesses, and voluntary organisations are invited to have their say before the six-week consultation closes on 24th December. These responses will then be considered by the councils, before being submitted to a Planning Inspector for public examination, prior to the implementation of proposed CIL charging rates in both districts. Details of the consultation can be found on Babergh District Council's website and Mid Suffolk District Council's website. Comments can be made via e-mail by submitting views to [Infrastructure@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Infrastructure@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk) or in writing to Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2BX.

**GREEN LIGHT FOR COUNCILS' BIODIVERSITY VISION:** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils' cabinets unanimously agreed their Biodiversity Action Plan on Thursday 9th November, setting out how they aim to protect and strengthen biodiversity in the districts. The plan was developed by a cross-party Biodiversity Task Force, supported by experts. It is the product of biodiversity emergency motions passed by both councils in 2019. Its approval forms a key step towards achieving the councils' ambitions to protect and enhance the environment, and links to their Joint Carbon Reduction Management Plan.

Residents are also being encouraged to take action, however small, to increase biodiversity in their communities. This includes things such as installing bird and bat boxes, planting flowers to attract bees, creating hedgehog corridors, and being biodiversity-conscious when gardening.

**Mid Suffolk District Councillors Mike Norris [mike.norris@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:mike.norris@midsuffolk.gov.uk) Tel. 01449 720871 and Steve Phillips [stephen.phillips@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.phillips@midsuffolk.gov.uk) Tel. 01449 721710.** Representing Needham Market, Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden.

#### **Planning Applications Considered by the Parish Council**

DC/20/04274 - Outline Planning Application (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 1 No Dwelling (following demolition of stables) - Land Rear of 13 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8NF – No Objection

Ref: DC/20/04456 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey front extension (following demolition of existing) (amended scheme to

DC/19/00731) - 28 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8NF – No Objection

Ref: DC/20/04457 - Listed Building Consent - Erection single storey front extension

## **WANTED**

### **Volunteers for our new Community Speedwatch Group**

**Training will be provided.**

**If interested or if you would  
like more information, please  
contact the Parish Clerk on  
(01449) 721369 or email at  
clerk@csmpc.co.uk**

**Creeting St Mary Parish Council**

### **BHS 2026 - Historical Researcher**

Do you hack out? Do you know whether the routes  
you ride on are legally recorded?

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*"Find the missing pieces, fill in  
the gaps, complete the jigsaw!"*

On 1st January 2026, historical routes in England that aren't properly recorded will be lost to the public forever. We are looking for people to volunteer their time to help us identify and register these routes before it's too late.

2026 research can be really flexible and done as and when you have time and energy. We are keen to hear from volunteers with a range of skills and abilities, which may include:  
solving puzzles, map reading or an interest in local history.  
Support, training and expenses provided for all 2026 volunteers.

If you would like to register to support the BHS 2026 project in your area, please contact our Volunteer Support Team at [volunteer@bhs.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@bhs.org.uk)

The British Horse Society is a Registered Charity Nos. 210504 and 5203856



### **Parish Council support to the Community in Covid Times**

Support at a community level continues to be to be vitally important and the Parish Council want connect those who need help to those who can give it.  
If you can help a neighbour with: shopping, postage, urgent supplies or just a chat contact one of the below so we can collate the details.

Hugo Craggs: 07815 137228 [hugocraggs@gmail.com](mailto:hugocraggs@gmail.com)  
Lesley Plummer: 07889 272856 [andaxi@btinternet.com](mailto:andaxi@btinternet.com)  
Sue Haynes: 01449 722570 [susannehaynes@talk21.com](mailto:susannehaynes@talk21.com)  
Jan Palmer: 01449 723997 [creetingtog@gmail.com](mailto:creetingtog@gmail.com)  
Chris Emmins: 07894 231165 [chriseemmins@offshorenrg.com](mailto:chriseemmins@offshorenrg.com)  
Roger Coton: 01449 721526 [rogercoton@btinternet.com](mailto:rogercoton@btinternet.com)  
Paul Scully: 01449 721461 [paul@impressions41.plus.com](mailto:paul@impressions41.plus.com)  
Jennie Blackburn: 01449 721369 [clerk.csmpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk.csmpc@yahoo.co.uk)

Details on Creeting St Mary Parish Council Facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/Creeting-St-Mary>

***Ed: if you are unsure of an approach you have had offering help,  
please consult the people on the list above.***

(following demolition of existing) (amended scheme to DC/19/00732) - 28 All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8NF – No Objection

Ref: DC/20/03721 - Application for Outline Planning Permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered). Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 2No dwellings and garages (following demolition of existing storage building) - Land at Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8NG – OBJECT – Overdevelopment of site and access on a bend

Ref: DC/20/04567 - An application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) -Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q- Creation of 1no. Dwelling - Barn at Maltings Farm, Norwich Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8PE – No Objection

Ref: DC/20/04897 - Application under S73a to vary or remove a condition relating to DC/19/02671 dated 22/06/2019 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Condition 2 Approved Plans and documents) - Revised drawings for improved layout and security - Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8NG

**Recent Planning Application Decisions by the District Council Planning Committee**

Ref: DC/20/03163 - Full Planning Application - Erection of outbuilding/machinery store (following demolition of existing) Highfield, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8NG – GRANTED

Ref: DC/20/03517 - Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval DC/18/01442 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Erection of 1No dwelling (all matters reserved) - Land Adjacent 1 Stone Cottages, Creting Hills, Creting St Mary, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8PZ – APPROVED

Ref: DC/20/03791 - Notification under Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 Proposal: Application to Determine if Prior Approval is required for a Proposed: Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to 1no Dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q. - Agricultural Building, Land Rear of Lyndale Lodge, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary Ipswich Suffolk – REFUSED

Ref: DC/20/03344 - Full Planning Application - Erection of 1no. eco-dwelling Eric's Field, Flordon Road, Suffolk, Creting St Mary – GRANTED

Ref: DC/20/03964 - Full Application - Erection of 1No single storey dwelling and access and construction of new access to serve 29 St Marys Gardens. 29 St Marys Gardens, Creting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8LY – REFUSED

Ref: DC/20/04457 - Listed Building Consent - Erection single storey front extension (following demolition of existing)(amended scheme to DC/19/00732). 28 All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8NF – APPROVED

Ref: DC/20/04456 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey front extension (following demolition of existing)(amended scheme to DC/19/00731). 28 All Saints Road, Creting St Mary, IP6 8NF - GRANTED

**Details of forthcoming meetings and copies of Parish Council Meeting minutes** can be found on the village web-site. If you have any concerns or queries to address to the Parish Council, please contact Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk by e-mail @ clerk.csmc@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01449 721369 (answer phone) or come along in person to the next meeting.

**Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk**



# CHURCH SERVICES

The Benefice of North Bosmere



The Benefice continues its adventures around the parishes. Zoom Morning Worship services will be at 09.30 am each Sunday. As at the date of writing this article, it is hoped that Lockdown 2 will have ended and we will be allowed to hold physical services. Please check for local updates, and keep up to date with the weekly Pew Sheet.

To attend a service in a church building let Rev Philip know by 6pm on the Saturday (01449 711684 or revphilippayne@btinternet.com). For the track and trace process your contact details will be kept for 3 weeks.. To join a Zoom service, email:

reader.ruthdennigan@gmail.com for a link to join the service.

Wed 2 December - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Thur 3 December - Hemingstone Church - 7.00pm - Compline

Fri 4 December - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer

Sun 6 December - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship

Hemingstone - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Coddenham - 4.00pm - Evening Prayer

Wed 9 December - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Thur 10 December - Hemingstone Church - 7.00pm - Compline

Fri 11 December - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer

Sun 13 December - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship

Creting St Peter - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Gosbeck Village Hall - 2.00pm/3.30pm - Carols in the Car Park -

EVENT TO BE CONFIRMED

Wed 16 December - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Thur 17 December - Hemingstone Church - 7.00pm - Compline

Earl Stonham Village Green - 7.00pm - Carols on the Green

Fri 18 December - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer

Sun 20 December - Crowfield - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Creting St Mary - 11.00am - Morning Prayer BCP

Zoom - 6.30pm - Carol Service

Mon 21 December - Earl Stonham - 2.30pm - Longest Night \*\*

Zoom - 7.00pm - Longest Night \*\*

Wed 23 December - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Christmas Eve - Zoom - 4.00pm - Crib Service

Coddenham - 4.00pm - Crib Service in the Churchyard

Stonham Aspal - 11.30pm - Holy Communion

Christmas Day - Zoom - 10.00am - Christmas Morning Worship

Earl Stonham - 10.00am - Holy Communion

Sun 27 December - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship

Gosbeck - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Sun 3 January 2021 - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship

Creting St Mary - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Wed 6 January - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Fri 8 January - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer

Sun 10 January - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship

Coddenham - 11.00am - Holy Communion

Wed 13 January - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer

Fri 15 January - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer

\*\* a short service otherwise called a 'Blue Christmas service', for those for whom Christmas is not a joyful time because of grief.



# From the Rectory

Rev. Phillip Payne

## CHRISTMAS ISN'T CANCELLED

It was the usual government inspired muddle. Everyone ordered to return to their home town to register for a census. No one thought of where they would all stay, or even how they would travel. The roads were dusty and busy, the journey slow. By the time Joseph and his heavily pregnant young wife arrived in Bethlehem the inns were all full. The best they could find was a pile of straw in the corner of a stable, better than a doorway.

And so it was that in a stable, far from home and family, watched over only by her anxious husband, young Mary gave birth. Her first-born, a son whom they called Jesus. It should have been a joyous family occasion. Instead, the only visitors that night were a group of shepherds who came with a strange account of a vision of angels. To make matters worse, the young family would soon be refugees, fleeing a massacre. The angels may have celebrated, no one else could.

The birth of a child, 'mother and baby doing well', is always a moment of hope. Looking back, we know that the birth of this child was truly a moment to celebrate. But amidst all the festivities we must not lose sight of how fraught with dirt, danger and fear; how inauspicious it must have looked at the time.

Two millennia later and, once again, our plans are thrown into confusion. At the time of writing (mid- November), much of England is closed. Even Santa is doing virtual calls (no COVID Passport I hear) – but then Zoom is so much cleaner than all those sooty old chimneys. Amidst all the uncertainty I have even heard it said "Christmas is cancelled".

Christmas is not cancelled. Our celebrations may be muted, may be delayed, but with apologies to John Betjeman, it is true that 'God was man in Palestine and lives today in bread and wine' and, although Betjeman didn't say it, lives also in the hearts of his people.

A happy and Blessed Christmas to you.

Sun 17 January - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship  
Creting St Peter - 11.00am - Holy Communion  
Crowfield - 11.00am - Morning Prayer  
Wed 20 January - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer  
Fri 22 January - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer  
Sun 24 January - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship  
Hemingstone - 11.00am - Holy Communion  
Wed 27 January - Zoom - 09.00am - Morning Prayer  
Fri 29 January - Zoom - 6.30pm - Evening Prayer  
Sun 31 January - Zoom - 9.30am - Morning Worship  
Earl Stonham - 11.00am - Holy Communion  
Stonham Aspal - 4.00pm - Candlemass Evening Prayer

Rev'd Philip Payne, Priest-in-Charge North Bosmere Benefice  
The Rectory, The Street, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ  
01449 711684 revphilippayne@btinternet.com

## St Mary's Church

### Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride(or Ride and Stride) 2020

On 12 September I undertook the sponsored bike ride again this year, and of course the sponsorship monies are split between SHCT and St Mary's Church. In excellent cycling weather, the glorious church at Woolpit was the destination, which gratifyingly was one of the churches which had opened its doors. I called at 21 churches on the round trip, raising £950 in the process. A little less than last year, but the parish's total was raised to £1,070 by two other sets of enthusiasts in the village.

Thank you so much to all those kind, generous and patient villagers and others who helped us to this total.

**David Haynes**

### News from Creeting St Mary Church,

I would like to say a very big thank you to the 12 people who helped tidy the church yard in October. It was a beautiful autumnal morning and lots was achieved. Another big thank you to the ladies who met up in November and worked wonders inside the church. By the end of the afternoon the church looked brighter, shinier and smelt of polish. Hopefully our visitors on a Sunday afternoon will notice a difference.

Our Remembrance service held around the Cenotaph was quiet and respectful. Wreaths were laid by David Primmer for the British Legion and Roger Coton for the PC. Thank you to Henry who led the dedication.

Christmas will be different this year in our Church.

We would like to invite you to make a Christmas wreath for the Church gates. There will be a Christmas tree in the porch where Christmas messages and prayers can be left.

We hope to decorate inside the church too. If you would like to decorate the Church or gates, please get in touch.

We hope the Church will be open for a Christmas service, rules permitting.

There is a zoom service each week at 9.30 am. Every one very welcome to join., information on the Church notice board.

If you want any information about services, making a wreath for the church gates , decorating the church, please get in touch.



St. Mary's Church *courtesy David Ebbs*

**Glynis Clint 01449 7207**

## CREETING SAINT MARY WELFARE CHARITIES

The Creeting Saint Mary Welfare Charities Trust can provide assistance for those in need, hardship or distress by reason of, age, illness, unemployment, the need to continue in further or higher education.

### SOME EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE GRANTS

Annual grants to those receiving state pension in financial need.

Grants toward the relief of general hardship.

Grants for students who are in higher or further education.

Help with aids to cope with disability not available from state funding.

Grants towards maternity costs.

Grants towards funeral expenses.

Help towards cost of personal Pendant Alarms for the elderly.

The Trust is intended to benefit the residents of Creeting Saint Mary, however, in exceptional circumstances the Trustees may consider applications from persons who are resident outside the Parish.

TRUSTEES: Mr. P. Stephenson ( Chair ) Mr. D. Primmer (Hon. Clerk )

Mrs. M. Aldred, Mrs. P. Day, Mrs. K. Martin,

Please make any enquires to :

*Mr. D. Primmer, 30 All Saints Road, IP6 8NF Telephone 01449 721514*

## Needham Market and District Horticultural Society

After careful consideration, the Committee of NM&DHS have decided to cancel all the remaining meetings, outings and events in 2020.

The Committee will have a socially distanced garden meeting in August to agree the programme for 2021. Many speakers unable to visit us in 2020 have agreed to come next year. Some outings will also be to the venues in the current programme, with exciting additions.

It is anticipated that membership will be confirmed as rolling over for 2021. We very much look forward to welcoming back members for our AGM in February 2021.

We normally meet on the first Thursday of the month at Needham Market Community Centre at 7:30 p.m.

Membership cost just £5 in 2020 payable at an event. This includes 9 speakers and outings to special gardens.

Our annual supper is held in mid-October at a local restaurant.

Please keep in touch.

***Hazel Mackintosh, Joint Events Co-ordinator 01449 720753***

## CREETING ST MARY SOCIAL CLUB (CSMSC)

[csm\\_socialclub@outlook.com](mailto:csm_socialclub@outlook.com)

Although we have been unable to run any events since March there were a number of activities which were successful financially and socially at the end of the last financial year and reported in earlier magazines. We were able to donate money to the church and to the East Anglian Air Ambulance and have made improvements to the bar and store room - supported in these expenses by a Locality Grant from Councillor Mike Norris.

The Social Club held it's AGM on Zoom on 16th November 2020. Two members attended in addition to all the committee, who after agreeing the last year's minutes and considered the treasurer's report which showed a healthy balance compared to the previous year.

Our treasurer Hazel Mackintosh wished to stand down because of family commitments and we thank her for being a steady hand and leaving the accounts in very good order and she will remain on the Committee. Rob Brittain was elected to take on this role. The rest of the committee were all re-elected and we are pleased to welcome a new communications secretary - Caroline Gordon who has recently moved to the village.

Plans for the future have to be provisional at present, but we hope it may be possible to hold a small event before Christmas in the form of a quiz. This cannot be decided till after December 2nd so details will be sent via email, posters or our new Facebook page. You can be sure that as soon as we are again able to meet in person we shall do so.

[facebook.com/CreatingSt.MarySocialClub](https://facebook.com/CreatingSt.MarySocialClub)

***Kathryn Martin Chairman.***

## The Diamond Jubilee Village Hall

Our Hall is now, of course, closed down until at least December 2nd.

What a pity, as we had returned to four regular bookings, and more ideas were in the pipeline too. By the time you read this, Suffolk may have returned to Tier 3, or about to do so, and I know our regular hirers are all keen to return.

Best wishes to you all,

***Chris Bingley (Chair, Village Hall Mangement Committee)***

***Tel 01449 720324. [christine.bingley@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bingley@gmail.com)***

**Bookings:** Mrs Jennie King Tel 07946 445516

The Committee would like to thank Richard Hyde, who has stepped down recently, for his role as Bookings Clerk over the last 4 years. His proximity to the Hall has been a bonus and we wish him well in his 'retirement' from our committee too. Well done Richard for all your help to us all over this time.

Mrs Jennie King has agreed to take over as our Clerk, a warm welcome to Jennie

## VILLAGE COMMITTEES

The co-editors realised that neither knew all the differences between the many village related committees and thought maybe others were similarly confused.

**The Parish Council (PC)**, whose members are listed elsewhere, are effectively the government of the village, responsible for setting the budget for the precept, which affects the Council Tax, dealing with planning applications, provision of play facilities and allotments where applicable and general village matters. In the event of a local emergency they would institute their Emergency Plan, and in the current situation it was the PC who set up a support system to help vulnerable residents, assisting with delivery of this newsletter as one example. Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) is the upper layer of the system, giving advice and guidance on implementation of local government policy.

The PC are trustees of the Village Hall and of Blacksmith's Field, but delegate management of the hall to the **Village Hall Management Committee** who deal with day to day running of the hall, including fabric maintenance and bookings. This committee has charitable status and it is for this reason that the Social Club, responsible for provision of alcohol and social activities is a separate entity, though the two are fairly closely linked. **Blacksmith's Field committee** is another separate group with links to all these other ones.

**The Parochial Church Council** are separate and deal solely with church and graveyard matters

Yet another committee is the **Creting St Mary Welfare Charity**, responsible for managing and distributing certain grants amongst villagers, derived from the two funds of Dunche's Charity set up in 1795 and that of John Campe set up in 1619.

Of course there are in addition other groups such as the Women's Institute and similar local clubs who all have their own organisational arrangements.

With the exception of the PC, whose members are formally elected, most of the other groups are more informally run and often it is the same few people who serve on several committees, although new blood is always welcome.

***Kathryn Martin.***

# VILLAGE LITTER PICK

## AUTUMN LITTER PICK



On October 18th a distanced group assembled at the village hall to collect pickers and bags, and individual instructions for separate areas to be cleaned. Helpers were asked to provide their own hi-vis clothing and gloves to avoid possible cross infection. Over a dozen people turned up then and at least 4 others had gone out the previous day.

Jason Bloomfield kindly attended with his MSDC truck and collected all the filled bags at the end of the morning and a reported case of fly tipping in Fen Lane. These numbers meant that the whole village was adequately covered

The general feeling seemed to be that most areas were less littered than usual. Some places were difficult to pick as the mild weather had resulted in continuing grass growth shielding smaller litter from view. Some areas of All Saints Road seemed to have an undue amount of glass bottles which were recycled in the bottle bank.

Thank you to all who attended and helped in this effort.

***Kathryn Martin***

## NEWSLETTER DELIVERERS

I would like to thank Kathryn Smith who is taking over Norwich Road and would also like to thank the 12 volunteers who deliver newsletters to well over 350 houses as well as the volunteers who stepped in during the lockdown when regular deliverers were isolating.

If you know of a house that is not receiving the newsletter or if you would like to help if only in an emergency, contact me on 720491.

Thank you.

***Kathryn Martin co-Editor CSM Newsletter***

## Creeting St. Mary Voluntary-aided Primary School

So far, it has been a school year like no other. Whilst we have welcomed everyone back to school it does feel rather odd for the children who do not see their friends from other classes or their siblings during the school day. We do still hold our Celebration Assembly at the end of the week to share our achievements but have to do this via a video link. Strange days indeed.



We are working to do what we can to help maintain some normality for the children, within the guidelines we have to work to, and have managed so far this term to have a visit from a tree surgeon to talk to the children about his work and a visit to the war memorial in the church yard to observe Armistice Day. Reverend Philip lead a short service for each of our classes separately and the children laid poppies and a wreath before observing the 2 minutes silence.

As we continue to try to add variety to what we can do in school this year the children supported the Children in Need appeal by wearing an outfit made from recycled materials or that they had recycled by wearing something that someone else no longer needed. Christmas will be a muted affair as we will not be able to do our traditional nativity service in church or our Songs around the Tree service at the end of term. However, we do hope that we can still enjoy the excitement of advent in school with activities, Christmas lunch and the PSA Christmas Fayre visiting each class.

**Mrs Christine Friar**

**Head Mrs. Christine Friar**; School telephone 01449 720312,  
office@creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk; www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk

## MOBILE LIBRARY

Route 13 at Creeting St. Mary

The mobile library bus is well equipped for Covid-19 . 20 books can be borrowed, per person. Browsing books is permitted, as opposed to the branch libraries - which are open for booked collections. All books are quarantined on return.

Suffolk Libraries have expanded their online facilities over the lockdown, increasing the range of e-books but there is nothing like a real paper book to many of us!

You can join (for free) or renew membership. Books can always be ordered from the main library to be collected on board This somewhat under-used service can be a lifeline - we should support it.

All fines are suspended until 16th December and further if necessary as have all return dates and reservation hold dates.

For more information on openings and services, visit

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/coronavirus/>

You can renew titles by logging in at <https://suffolk.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/LOGINB>

**Suffolk Libraries' mobile library stops on Friday every four weeks**

**at Whissel's Farm at 11.20-11.30 and outside 30 All Saints Road at 11.35- with no visit in December. January details to be confirmed - check online.**

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobiles-home/ipswich-mobile-library-route-13/>

**Kathryn Martin**

## A Bit of History

This month and at this time of year, I thought it appropriate to re-visit an article that I wrote for the Newsletter in January 2014, a time almost 100 years since the start of the “Great War”. It is now almost the 101st anniversary of when the War Memorial in Creeting St Mary churchyard was unveiled by Lieut.-Col. R. D. Wylde (Royal Artillery) on the afternoon of Sunday 15th February 1920.

The photograph below shows the unveiling ceremony. Veterans of the war are in attendance along with probably some of the widows. Many villagers young and old, men and women are standing in silence with the Church choir standing to the right-hand side of the sombre gathering. In the distance can be seen the faint image of the Gipping Valley.



TO THE  
GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN GRATEFUL MEMORY  
OF THE MEN OF THIS  
CHURCH AND PARISH  
WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES  
IN THE  
GREAT WAR  
1914 – 1919

Inscribed on the East and West sides of the memorial are the 16 names of those who fell in the Great War. On the North side is an inscription which serves as a poignant reminder: Their Name Liveth For Evermore

A fund was set-up after the Great War to pay for the cost of the stone memorial, the inscriptions and its erection – a copy of the cost of materials is below (The total subscriptions collected from well over 200 individuals and groups was £152 5s 9d. A surplus of 12 shillings and threepence was deposited in the bank).

<i>Expenditure.</i>			
		£	s. d.
Mr. Ernest E. Saunders :—			
Grey Granite Celtic Cross	...	125	0 0
Inscription. Raised lead letters	...	25	0 0
For labour at foot of the Cross	...		10 0
For printing bills and balance sheets	...	1	3 6
Balance in bank	... ..		12 3
Total	...	£152	5 9

Paul Scully – November/December 2020

Tel: 01449 721461 e-mail: paul@impressions41.plus.com

### By The Way.....

A sweet grandmother telephoned the local hospital and timidly asked, “Is it possible to speak with someone who can tell me how one of your patients is doing?” The operator said, “I’ll be glad to help dear. What’s the name and ward of the patient?” The grandmother in her weak tremulous voice said, “Norma Findlay, Ward six”. The operator replied, “Let me put you on hold while I check with the nurses for that Ward”.

After a few minutes the operator returned to the ‘phone and said, “I have good news, her nurse just told me that Norma is doing well. Her blood pressure is fine, her blood test analysis came back normal and her Doctor has scheduled her to be discharged tomorrow”. The grandmother thanked the operator and said, “that’s wonderful. I was so worried. God bless you for the good news”. The operator replied, “Is Norma you sister?” The grandmother said, “No, I’m Norma Findlay, Ward six – I get told bugger all around here.”

Paul Scully Nov/Dec 2020

Tel: 01449 721461 e-mail: paul@impressions41.plus.com



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## DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

As I sit to write this article, the Prime Minister has once more addressed the nation and we find ourselves in a second period of national lockdown.

As I write, infection rates in Suffolk remain relatively low, but the rest of the country is seeing a large growth both in terms of numbers of people infected and hospital admissions; even low incidence areas like Suffolk will face challenges with capacity in our NHS. It is a very difficult balancing act for the Government between protecting life and protecting the economy and I agree that, even here in Suffolk, a temporary nationwide lockdown makes sense. It is vital that throughout lockdown, we protect jobs and our local economy, and a strong support package has been put in place by the Government for businesses and individuals.

Locally, the Suffolk Support and Advice Line has been set up to help with financial and employment advice - 0800 068 3131. The Home But Not Alone free phonenumber has also been reactivated, supporting the most vulnerable in our communities and support is available via 0800 876 6926. Both lines are staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

This will undoubtedly be a very different Christmas for all of us and this year, more than ever, we must remember those in our NHS and emergency services who work around the clock to keep people safe and cared for and to ensure help is at hand when needed. I will certainly be spending some of my Christmas break working as a doctor in the NHS, looking after those who are vulnerable.

But of course it's not just those working in hospitals who work on Christmas Day. The list is endless, with so many working right across the festive season to ensure that services continue day and night – carers visiting the elderly and vulnerable in our communities, highways teams, ambulance staff and paramedics, firefighters and police officers, to name but a few. And then there is the army of hard-working public-sector staff, working behind the scenes, to keep everything running smoothly.

Collectively they ensure that our communities are safe and functioning over the festive period, so please spare a thought for all those working tirelessly on our behalf, often in challenging circumstances, yet remaining committed to delivering services compassionately and professionally, despite knowing their loved ones are waiting at home to enjoy Christmas with them after a lengthy shift.

I would therefore like to pay special tribute to all our dedicated and hardworking workforce here in Suffolk, thank you for all you do at Christmas, and all year round.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas.

Tel: 0207219 7038 [www.drdanielpoulter.com](http://www.drdanielpoulter.com)  
[daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk)

## Footpaths and Bridleways

This month I thought I'd deviate slightly and introduce an option to the walkers in the Parish which will take you perhaps a little further afield – it's called The Magnall Round and is a circular walk of 21 miles that starts and finishes at Needham Market Railway Station. The walk passes through the rolling countryside of Mid-Suffolk a place which is rarely visited by outsiders, a hidden gem.

Depending on your interest, the walk can be done in one full go, two circular walks of 10 and 11 miles or four sections of 4-6 miles allowing use of public transport. It uses public rights of way, paths, tracks and riverside paths passing through the Parishes of Barking, Darmsden, Baylham and Great Blakenham and on to the Parishes of The Creetings along the riverside path of the River Gipping .

Passing Needham Lake, popular for picnics and watching birdlife, the walk carries on to Creeting St Mary and Creeting St Peter before reaching Badley and Battsford with a number of churches on route. The smallest church is at Darmsden, a little hamlet with no more than 17 houses, the second smallest District in Suffolk. The route then finishes in Needham Market.

The route's creator, Derek Magnall is a very experienced walker who has lived in Needham Market for the past 18 years. He has previously written and published eight walks in Lancashire, where he originated, and in Yorkshire. He hopes the Magnall Round will be as popular and give much pleasure to future walkers.

For anyone wanting more details of the the Magnall Round, Derek can be contacted via e-mail on Email: [walkingmansuffolk@gmail.com](mailto:walkingmansuffolk@gmail.com)



### LOST CAT FOUND

Do you know anyone who has lost a cat? We live near the Village Hall and have a cat which has been coming in our cat flap and eating our cats' food for about the last two months. It is quite nervous and will not let us get near it. We don't mind the visits and it may be that it is just taking advantage of extra food but it would be nice to reunite him/her with their family or find out where it comes from. It is a black cat with white markings under the chin, small marks on the front legs, and with the half the back legs all white, in fact it looks like they have socks on!

If you have any information please contact Jill on 0793639954



## Creting Saint Mary Poppy Appeal and Remembrance 2020

Due to the Covid19 restrictions the Poppy Appeal this year had to be adapted to comply with the current regulations; there were no door to door collections by our usual village volunteers, many of whom have been collecting for the

Royal British Legion for many years, a very big thank you to all our collectors and hopefully we will see your door to door collecting resume next year. On Saturday 31st of October, thanks to May Aldred, who first suggested the idea, we set up a table outside the Village Hall to enable anyone wishing to do so to obtain their poppy and so support this year's appeal. The table was open from 10am to 12midday and we were well supported, so thank you all! It had been planned to repeat this on the following Saturday but of course the introduction of the lockdown prevented that happening.

I would like to thank the following local businesses who again supported this year's Poppy Appeal by having collection boxes, Alder Carr Farm Shop and Courtyard Cafe, Breheny Civil Engineering, Beacon Hill Service Station, Burgher King and Travel Lodge. Thank you also to Creting Saint Mary VAP School who again supported the appeal.

On Remembrance Sunday a service was held at the War Memorial in Saint Mary's Churchyard with ten suitably social distanced people attending; the service was much reduced in length with an opening prayer followed by wreath laying, the roll of honour was read and this was followed by the RBL Exhortation after which two minutes silence was observed. Closing prayers followed by the National Anthem concluded the Service of Remembrance. Thanks to Glynis and Henry for organising the service and to Henry for conducting a very fitting tribute to the fallen.

On Wednesday November the 11th, Armistice Day, Creting Saint Mary School held their Remembrance Service outside in the Churchyard, again numbers were much reduced and I was privileged to attend. The service was conducted by Reverend Phillip with much input from the children who in addition to laying a wreath on behalf of the School also laid a Poppy for each of the fallen as their names were read out. As always the children impeccably observed the two minutes silence! The service concluding with prayers was a very fitting tribute, a very big thank you to the organisers and participants.

STOP PRESS ! :Just to advise that the amount raised from the Poppy Appeal table set up outside the Village Hall on 31st October was a very pleasing £388.60! Thank you to all concerned.

**David Primmer**

# FREE TREE GIVE-AWAY

We have ordered 255 trees and 100m of mixed native hedging from the Woodland Trust -These will be arriving in December. please contact Hugo Craggs hugocraggs@gmail.com 07815137228. **Please contact Hugo Craggs hugocraggs@gmail.com 7815137228**



## In the Garden Anagrams

catty fund .....	sis idea .....
ego basin .....	evil sot .....
cub is his .....	lit ups .....
ask purrl .....	hopxl .....
stirs autumn .....	the poorli .....
pipe sop .....	O.S. coms .....

## Sudoku -fiendish

Like an easier one? Let us know.

Complete the grid using the numbers 1-9 using each number only once in each row, column or 3x3 box. Solution p. 35.

8	2			6				
		6			9			4
	1		2		4			
			9				8	
2		1				3		7
	5				2			
			4		7		5	
5			1			9		
				3			6	1

### RAINFALL IN IP6 8 area 2020

Month	Rain in mm.
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	50.0
Last Year	53.5
<b>Total this Year</b>	343.5
12month cumulative	411.0
Pretty Average for Sept.	overall
10 year Average for September but lowered by two very dry Septembers In 2014 & 2009	30.0
Wettest Sept over past 10 years 2015	54.0
Driest 2014	8.5
Soil moisture still in deficit as growers will know !!	

### RAINFALL IN IP6 8 area 2020

Month	Rain in mm.
<b>OCTOBER</b>	112.5
Last Year	96.5
<b>Total this Year</b>	556.0
12month cumulative	507.5
10 year Average for October	46.3
Wettest October over past 10 years <i>This year!!!!</i>	
Driest 2017	14.5

## Creeting St. Mary Women's Institute



Meetings have not taken place in recent months due to the WI National Directive.

We miss our gatherings I am sure, and let's hope it won't be too long before they can resume.

Sadly, we have been told of the passing of one of our Members - Audrey Cutting. A lovely friendly lady who had lived in the village for very many years. I remember her fondly in the many parts she played at the WI Christmas party entertainments, which were always incredibly funny. Her final years had not been easy and we send our sincere condolences to Heather and the rest of the family.

***Chris Bingley (Chair)***

Tel 01449 720324. christine.bingley@gmail.com

### **Rembering Audrey Cutting**

The members of our W.I. recently heard of the very sad news of the death of our much loved member Audrey Cutting on 28 th October. Audrey had been a nurse at St. Clements Hospital many years ago, and had also played a large part in the Girl Guide organisation. She had been a very long term member of our W.I. and had been Convenor, President and Co-President with Joy Smart, for many years. Along with other members of the Committee at the time, she will be well-remembered for the wonderful performances they put on at Christmas for the group. She was an enthusiastic member of our lunch club, and much enjoyed our meals out, together with a nice glass of white wine. It was lovely that last year her daughter, Heather, joined us so that she could continue to bring her mother to our meetings. So when the members enjoy a tippie we will all raise our glasses and remember our lovely Audrey.

***Pat Goodrum, Secretary Creeting St. Mary W.I.***



***Audrey Cutting at the Suffolk Show  
courtesy Pat Gudrum***



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## Suffolk Wildlife Trust Stowmarket Group

Some events are being planned -

please see the website or contact John Thompson

We are a group of volunteers who care deeply about wildlife, for its beauty and diversity and importance to everyone's existence. We support the Trust's aims and vision for a Living Landscape - with nature reserves, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and County Wildlife Sites forming networks of linked-up habitat.

### **We look after local wildlife reserves:**

Work parties maintain Combs and Bonny Woods

**SWT Magazine** is delivered to local members, saving postage costs.

**We organise local events:** talks at Stowupland village hall and guided walks. The complete programme can be downloaded from [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlifegroups](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlifegroups)

### **Our local reserves:**

Combs Wood, Bonny wood, Bradfield Woods, Bull's Wood, and the Blackbourne Valley.

**Our nature reserves remain open for local enjoyment, but please observe Government Advice on accessing Green Spaces:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-guidance-on-access-to-green-spaces>.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust offices, centres and hides are gradually re-opening. See the website for updates. [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

**John Thompson 01449 676471 [swtstowmarket@gmail.com](mailto:swtstowmarket@gmail.com)**

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Hope you all got out to enjoy the  
Autumn leaves!

## STOWMARKET CHORALE

Get in the Christmassy Mood!



Zoom Singing 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays – 25th Nov. to 16th Dec. 2020.

Join with our long-established choir Stowmarket Chorale, in singing Christmas carols, led by our musical director Benedict Collins Rice and our assistant musical director Will Baldry.

Benedict read music at Cambridge University and founded the Façade Ensemble specialising in 20th Century chamber music. He runs the choral conducting programme at Morley College and teaches at the London Youth Conservatoire. He has recorded for BBC television and has broadcasted live on Radio 3.

Will held an organ scholarship at Royal Holloway, University of London. He accomanies Stomarket Chorale and is also organist and assistant director of music at Ipswich School. He has performed live on BBC Radio Suffolk and on BBC 1's Songs of Praise.

There is no charge for membership of the choir this term so feel free to try us out without obligation. We are a friendly bunch of people who will make you feel very welcome. Wearing of Christmassy hats, earrings and jumpers is optional – some bright sparks will certainly be !

Please get in touch with Adrienne at [membership@stowmarketchorale.org](mailto:membership@stowmarketchorale.org). We would love to hear from you.



## The impact of the coronavirus lockdown

**I'd like some advice on keeping my energy bills down please. I work in admin for a big corporation. We've been working from home since lockdown, and have been told we'll not be back in the office before January at the earliest. Now the weather has turned, I'm freezing sitting here all day in front of my computer! I'm worried if I turn the heating up my bills are going to go through the roof!**

I'm sorry this is causing you to worry. However, fortunately, there's lots you can do to keep bills down.

Firstly, see if you can get a better deal by changing your energy supplier. However, as well as comparing prices, it's a good idea to check the customer service record of a company before switching. Citizens Advice has a price comparison tool on our website, and our star rating assesses the customer service records of the 40 biggest companies.

There are also little, everyday things that can help, such as making sure televisions and other devices are switched off and not left on standby; washing clothes on a lower temperature; and only filling the kettle with the water you need.

If your pay is close to the national minimum wage, the extra costs of working from home could be counted as a pay cut and bring you below the legal level. Talk to your manager or HR department, or your union rep if that feels more comfortable.

Finally, your employer should pay for any costs connected to your health and safety - such as a suitable chair for work at a computer. It's also worth taking a look at your employer's expenses policy, you may be able to claim for a number of other things, such as printer ink or telephone line rental.

Please contact us if you need help. Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or other issues including debt, housing, benefits and family law.

Currently it is not possible to make appointments in person. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at [midsuffolcab.org.uk/contact-us](https://midsuffolcab.org.uk/contact-us).

For more information go to [midsuffolcab.org.uk](https://midsuffolcab.org.uk).

# **Needham Market Country Practice**

## **What you need to know to access our services safely**

From May 2020 all appointments with a doctor need to be made via our eConsult service. This is a secure, clinical, on-line service which can be found on our website: [www.needhamsurgery.co.uk](http://www.needhamsurgery.co.uk) or via the NHS app. You do not need a log in or password to use this service. If you do not have internet access a member of the reception team will be able to help by processing an eConsult on your behalf. Please call 01449 720666 and select option 2.

For Nurse or Phlebotom, appointments either use eConsult requesting via the admin pathway or call us on the usual number to book.

We are asking patients NOT to visit the surgery unless you have

1. A pre-booked appointment with us
2. Need to collect from our dispensary

When you do come to the surgery we ask that you wear a face covering when on the premises and try not to arrive too early for your appointment to support social distancing in the waiting room.

If you have a mobile phone you may be asked to wait in your car. If you have a nurse or GP appointment and they will call you in directly when they are ready for you.

The Practice is strongly encouraging all patients to purchase their own personal items for use such as a Home Blood Pressure monitor, Pulse Oximeter, and Digital Thermometer. These items are inexpensive and widely available from any pharmacy or online. They will not only be a useful addition to the home first aid kit but play a vital role in self managing healthcare issues and will enable you to report accurate readings to healthcare professionals either via our online services or during telephone consultations.

If you have any questions or concerns having read this, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01449 720666.

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Trevor Hughes has lived in Creeting St Mary for over 25 years and his company is based in Brandon, Suffolk

## ANAGRAMS - IN YOUR GARDEN

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
|              | answers       |
| 1. sulnip    | tulips.....   |
| 2. old rigma | marigold..... |
| 3. his cord  | orchids.....  |
| 4. snerf     | ferns.....    |
| 5. aspyrn    | pansy.....    |

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 6. sores       | .roses.....   |
| 7. K.S. Scot   | stocks.....   |
| 8. e gum I ran | geranium..... |
| 9. I sell I    | lillies.....  |
| 10. as lamb    | .balsam.....  |
| 11. as Hilda   | dahlias.....  |
| 12. sinzani    | zinnias ..... |

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8	2	4	3	6	1	5	7	9
7	3	6	8	5	9	1	2	4
9	1	5	2	7	4	6	3	8
6	4	7	9	1	3	2	8	5
2	8	1	6	4	5	3	9	7
3	5	9	7	8	2	4	1	6
1	6	3	4	9	7	8	5	2
5	7	8	1	2	6	9	4	3
4	9	2	5	3	8	7	6	1

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# STOWE VETS

## Christmas dangers for pets

We all want to make sure our pets are included in the festivities in this Christmas. But, with so much going on, it can be easy to forget the dangers that may be present for our four-legged friends at this time of year. Here's our list of some of the major hazards to be mindful of during the festive season.

### **Chocolate**

Chocolate contains a chemical called theobromine, which can be deadly if eaten by dogs and cats. Even if chocolate treats are wrapped up, determined pets can still sniff them out and help themselves, so keep them far out of reach. Contact us as soon as possible if you suspect your pet has consumed any amount of chocolate, regardless of the type.

### **Christmas cake, pudding and mince pies**

Some of the key ingredients in many festive desserts are currants, raisins and sultanas. Eating even a small amount can lead to severe kidney failure in pets. Signs of issues may not be immediately apparent, so once again, contact us if your pet has eaten any amount of these foods.

### **Onions**

Onions, cooked or raw, can cause red blood cell damage leading to anaemia if ingested by our pets. This also includes leeks, garlic, shallots and any plant in the allium family. These vegetables can be found in hundreds of foods that we eat, and not just at Christmas, so be mindful of the danger they pose to pets and keep them well away.

### **Nuts**

Nuts are a staple festive food for many households, but they are a choking hazard and can cause gastrointestinal problems for pets. Macadamia nuts are especially problematic, as they can cause vomiting and weakness if eaten. Be sure to keep all nuts out of reach and clear up any stray shells.

### **Decorations**

Festive decorations such as tinsel, baubles and ribbons can seem like a fun plaything for animals, but, if ingested, they can cause blockages in the intestines. Glass baubles can also cause harm if swallowed or stepped on. If you know your pet is especially mischievous, limit their access to rooms that contain a tree or presents. Also keep decorative plants such as holly, ivy and mistletoe out of reach, as they can upset our pets' stomachs.

**In the event of an emergency, or if you have any questions** about your pet's health, please contact Stowe Veterinary Group on 01449 613130.



**Creting St Mary**  
 Photograph taken from the air ambulance by  
 Dr. Nicola Ebbs, Summer 2019

**For Sale**  
 Copies of this wonderful photo taken by Dr Nicola Ebbs from the East Anglian Air Ambulance are available for sale with the proceeds going to the East Anglian Air Ambulance.  
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 £5 from each sale will be donated to the air ambulance.  
 To order copies please contact: Steve Fernie at Creting House (opposite the church) [steve@cretinghouse.com](mailto:steve@cretinghouse.com) or phone 01449 720988

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[suffolkgardeningthyme@gmail.com](mailto:suffolkgardeningthyme@gmail.com)

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### Creting St Mary Newsletter:

#### Editors

**Content:** Joan Hardingham, Alder Carr Farm,  
cretingnewsletter@gmail.com

**Liaison** with contributors and advertisers:

Kathryn Martin,  
cretingnewsletter@gmail.com

**Advertising:** Jennie Blackburn 01449 721369  
clerk@csmpc.co.uk

(Advertising rates are on the next page)



**Distribution:** Kathryn Martin 01449 720491

**Newsletter deadlines:** the 20th of the months of:

September (Oct-Nov edition i.e. early December and Christmas events)

November (Dec-Jan edition)

January (Feb-Mar edition)

March (Apr-May i.e. Easter)

May (Jun-Jul i.e. all those mid-summer events)

July (Aug-Sep - the summer holiday events)

### Creting St Mary Parish Councillors

Name	Portfolio
Sue Haynes	Chair and Village Hall - 01449 722570
Hugo Craggs (Vice-Chair)	CIL and Sustainability- 07815137228
Roger Coton	SALC - 01449 721526
Paul Scully	Footpaths and Bridleways - 01449 721461
Nigel Smart	01449 720100
Jan Palmer	Blacksmith's Field - 01449 723997
Lesley Plummer	01449 720359
Chris Emmins	07894231165

To contact any of the Parish Councillors, please contact the Parish Clerk first

Parish Council Clerk : Jennie Blackburn - 01449 721369

or email: [clerk@csmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmpc.co.uk)

Meeting agendas and dates are placed on the village noticeboards during the week prior to the meetings, and also on the website.

### Creting St Mary Website

[www.creting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.creting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk)

Contact the Parish Clerk Jennie Blackburn at [clerk@csmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmpc.co.uk)

## **Diamond Jubilee Village Hall**

Chris Bingley (Village Hall Management Committee Chair) 01449 720324.  
christine.bingley@gmail.com

To hire all or part of the hall : contact Mrs Jennie King Tel 07946 445516

**Creeting St Mary Social Club:** csm\_socialclub@outlook.com.

**Creeting St Mary Neighbourhood Watch** Representatives:

Bill Mackintosh: 01449 720753

Sue Haynes: 01449 722570

**Creeting St Mary Footpaths** Paul Scully 01449 721461

e-mail: paul@impressions41.plus.com

**Creeting St Mary Welfare Charities** Mr. D. Primmer, 30 All Saints Road,  
Creeting Saint Mary, IP6 8NF 01449 721514

**County Councillor for the Thredling Division:** Matthew Hicks

Tel: (01728) 628176 ; matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk ; Twitter: @HicksCllr

**Mid Suffolk and Baburgh District Councillors:**

Mike Norris - mike\_norris@hotmail.co.uk 01449 720871

Steve Phillips - steve.179@icloud.com 01449 721710, mob. 07794823323

**Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich**

Dan Poulter Tel: (01728) 726588 ; daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk

Twitter: @drdanpoulter

**Creeting St, Mary Primary School** - Head Mrs. Christine Friar

School telephone 01449 720312, office@creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk

www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk

**Priest-in-Charge North Bosmere Benefice** : Rev'd Philip Payne,

The Rectory, The Street, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ

01449 711684 revphilippayne@btinternet.com

### **CSM Newsletter – Advertising Costs**

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