

# The Creeping St. Mary Newsletter



**Give Bees a chance! (and trees and seas)  
and they will give back far more.**

Pyramidal orchids being admired by a 2-year-old on Jacks Green

**Volume 40/4 August and September 2021**



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## Editorial Comment

***"Are we nearly there yet?"*** as I asked last time - the answer is "no" and it appears that we now have to make our own choices about security measures. We can all decide whether or not to go to a nightclub. Fortunately the businesses that serve us are not changing their layouts and rules on sanitising and distancing. I do wonder, though, the effect on the environment of all that hand sanitiser washed down the drains and what has happened to the mountains of used plastic PPE (we all know what that means!)

In this edition the environment is being taken seriously. Join the Village debate about whether the Parish Council should leave some smallish areas of grass uncut in May 'for the bees and flowers' or keep it tidily cut (p12). If you like to tidy, do volunteer for some trimming and clipping round the village (see p.7). Or volunteer to help in Lilley Wood to reduce the undergrowth threatening the rare chalk grassland flowers. The Council appears to be going full steam ahead with promises to reduce their carbon dioxide production by 2030 - yet another date goal but an increasingly desperate one - by getting all-electric cars and help for businesses with energy saving infrastructure. Hopefully the new and resurfaced roads will make driving safer - but we still need to drive less and slower. MSBDC (Mid-Suffolk and Babergh District Council) are offering free hedgrow plants and wildflowers if you want to rewild your garden. they have £97,000 to spend on 'biodiversity' so we must support them.

People have not been forgotten, with SCC focus on special educational needs and technology to support people to live better and independent lives. MSBDC has helped 60 organisations with grants, including good neighbour schemes, foodbanks and community outreach projects. In the village the Creeping St. Mary Welfare Charities report shows how they have helped with grants for retirees and students.

There are many opportunities to join in with or help now we are starting to emerge and we must be so grateful to those who put themselves out to organise events: apart from the trimming and tidying mentioned above there are talks by the Stowupland Suffolk Wildlife Trust. There is the Church 'Ride and Stride' - raising money for our beautiful churches while keeping fit or do it sitting down with a cuppa for the Christian Aid fund raiser. The Village Hall bar is opening fortnightly on Fridays at the end of July, the Social Club are hosting a barbecue on August 27th and social coffee mornings on Wednesdays through September.

It will be great to have these opportunities to get together again and welcome the many people who have moved into new houses in the village

As always thank you to my Co-Editor and spelling checker Kathryn Martin, all the advertisers deliverers and contributors.

***Joan Hardingham co-Editor***



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# CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Community Speedwatch

Our newly appointed Community Speedwatch Team have carried out their initial training and should soon be given their final training along with receiving all the equipment needed. It is important to confirm that this way of monitoring the speed of traffic is not about catching offenders, but just trying to slow people down whilst driving through the village. This process though can result in repeat offenders being cautioned by the Police.

## Footpath

You will see that the new pathway has been installed from All Saints Road along the Drift, at the side of the village hall, onto Blacksmiths Field and to the Play Area. This will ensure that there will be a suitable pathway for pushchairs and wheelchair users to gain access to Blacksmiths Field all year round.

## Speed Sign Data

Data has been collected from both speed signs in June and as you will see from the chart there is not much of an issue but it will continue to be monitored.

	Speed Data			
	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
April	831	109	21	3
May	1303	189	39	5
June	983	166	25	4

## Litter Bin – Blacksmiths Field

There has been a problem with litter on Blacksmiths Field in recent months, especially around the football goals/pitch. The Parish Council have organised for a black wheelie bin to be placed at the gate to the field and ask that any litter be placed in the bin please. The Parish Council are aware that people outside the village also use the facilities on Blacksmiths Field so if you know anyone that does, please encourage them to use the bin too. Thank you.

## Planning Applications Considered by Parish Council

Ref: DC/21/03014 - Planning Application - Erection of 1no. two storey dwelling and detached garage (following grant of outline permission ref: DC/19/04441) - Land Adjacent to Highfields, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary – OBJECTED – poor visibility splay on dangerous bend when exiting the site

Ref: DC/21/03030 - Planning Application - Erection of 1no. bungalow (following demolition of existing building) - Land Near Highfield, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary – OBJECTED – poor visibility splay on dangerous bend when exiting the site

## Recent Planning Application Decisions by Babergh MidSuffolk District Council

Ref: DC/21/01741 - Planning Application - Change of use and creation of manege and associated work for use of land as equestrian, for personal use in connection with the property known as 'Five Acres' only - Land Adjacent to Five Acres, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/21/02041 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey rear and side extensions (following demolition of existing conservatory and detached outbuilding) including alterations and associated works - The Almonds, Flordon Road, Creeting St Mary - Granted

Ref: DC/21/01448 - Full Planning Application - Severance of gardens and erection of one pair of two bedroom semidetached dwellings including a detached double garage (Plot 1) with new vehicular access from Jacks Green Road - 33 and 34 St Marys Gardens, Creeting St Mary – Granted





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Ref: DC/21/02178 - Application for Listed Building Consent - Conversion of and extension to barn to form 1No dwelling (alterations as per covering letter/report) - Creeping House, All Saints Road, Creeping St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/21/01179 - Planning Application. Change of use of land for the keeping of horses. Construction of a 30M x 30M ménage with perimeter post and rail fencing - Land to Rear of 13, All Saints Road, Creeping St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/21/02099 - Planning Application - Erection of agricultural storage building (part retention of) - Riverside Barn, Kettle Lane, Creeping St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/21/02923 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of two storey rear extension (following demolition of conservatory) and front porch - 37 All Saints Road, Creeping St Mary – Refused

Ref: DC/21/02618 - Application for Outline Planning Permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Severance of garden and erection of 3No dwellings with detached garages and vehicular access - Plot Adjoining The Oaklands, Flordon Road, Creeping St Mary - Refused

### ***Jennie Blackburn Clerk to the Parish Council***

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 for the Parish Council, contact Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk by e-mail @ clerk@csmmpc.co.uk or phone 01449 721369 (answer phone) or come to the next meeting.

In 2021 these are 26th July ; 7th September; 18th October; 29th November.

### **What do you think of the grassed areas within the village?**

The Parish Council decided to not to summer mow the green opposite the village hall and the grassed triangle where the village sign is (Jacks Green), in order to encourage wildflowers and help the wildlife. They would like to receive any feedback from villagers, as to your views on how it looks, either by email to the Parish Clerk at clerk@csmmpc.co.uk or anonymously by note to 1 All Saints Road. Thank you.

**Also see page 12**



***PLEASE NOTE: Grass verges are the responsibility of Suffolk Highways and their policy is to cut the first 1.2 metres at the roadside and to leave the rest to grow.***



### **Volunteer(s) Needed!**

If anyone has time to help with odd jobs around the village, such as strimming, trimming overgrowth around village signs and keeping them clean, clipping pathway edges as and when required, could they please notify Jennie (Parish Clerk) email at clerk@csmmpc.co.uk

**Thank you!**

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## **Report for the Thredling Division District Councillor Matthew Hicks**

### **Independent review of Suffolk's SEND services by experts from Lincolnshire**

A multi-agency team from Lincolnshire, who have an excellent SEND (special educational needs and disability) provision, will carry out an independent review carried out by a senior professional with no links to, or direct involvement with, Suffolk's provision. It will focus on the processes, communication protocols and family-facing elements of SEND services within SCC and will not look at specific cases. The report, with any recommendations, will be published on County Council's website, shared with those who contributed to it and also scrutinised, in public, by the council's Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee. If you would like to participate in this review then please share your experiences of SEND services within Suffolk County Council at [SendReview@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:SendReview@suffolk.gov.uk).

### **Suffolk County Council launches the new Cassius technology service**

On June 1st, Suffolk County Council launched the new Cassius service.

We are partnering with Alcove, Rethink Partners and Provide CIC to deliver their innovative care technology service to people in Suffolk over the next 3 years. From July, the Cassius service will give our social work practitioners, occupational therapists and other front line professionals, new ways to support people to live better and independent lives. Initially the service will launch with a high impact, targeted range of technology that will continue to grow into the full Cassius collection. This means that the technology can be customised to meet people's needs and to address individual challenges which will help them live independently at home for longer.

### **Refurbishment of bailey bridge at Southwold set to begin**

On June 17th it was announced that the bailey bridge crossing the River Blyth and connecting Southwold with Walberswick is set to close on Friday 2 July 2021 to enable vital refurbishment works. Since SCC and its local elected members committed funds to undertake this major refurbishment, concerted efforts have been made to engage with key stakeholders and identify ways of mitigating the impact this closure will have locally. It has been fully recognised that the closure of this bridge at a time where lockdown is easing will present a challenge to local residents, businesses and visitors to the town. However the safety of those using the bridge has to be the priority.

### **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)

**PLEASE NOTE: A more detailed report can be found on Creting St Mary village website.**

## **MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT TO CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Mid Suffolk and Babergh submit Joint Local Plan for examination.**

This is to be examined by the Secretary of State. The final version of the plan was debated by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils last year before councillors moved to submit the plan for examination by the Secretary of State, after a six-week period inviting representations on the legal compliance and soundness of the plan.



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### Opening Up

We are delighted to announce that the cafe is now open 7 days a week, inside & out! Serving our new summer menu.

Numbers are still limited to 6 per table from different households, or any number from 2 households + support bubbles. We ask that visitors wear face coverings when not seated indoors, sanitise hands & give others space.

We hope to see you soon!

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These representations have now been published and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration during the examination. Hearing sessions for the examination are expected to resume again in September following a change of date – enabling them to be fully inclusive, whilst also ensuring public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that the Stage 1 sessions, originally scheduled for June and July, will now take place over a concentrated period from September, with Stage 2 hearing sessions in mid-Autumn as originally planned.

**Mid Suffolk communities receive close to £1 million in grants.**

Mid Suffolk District Council awarded community grants totalling £996,855 in the 2020/21 financial year – supporting the district's Covid response and enabling improvements to local community venues and sports and leisure facilities. During the year, council officers have worked with clubs and organisations in the district to identify need and ensure that vital grant funding has made a real difference to Mid Suffolk's communities. The council has also acknowledged the key role of community groups, along with town and parish councils, in easing the challenges faced by residents during coronavirus, and a new dedicated Covid-19 Emerging Needs Grant opened last May to help the district through the peak of the pandemic. More than 60 organisations benefitted from funding, including good neighbour schemes, foodbanks and community outreach projects.

**An update on Covid-19 in Suffolk.**

Regular bulletins continue to be produced to give a snapshot of the current Covid-19 situation in Suffolk - along with updates on the work being carried out as part of Suffolk's Local Outbreak Control Plan. You can find the bulletins via the Suffolk County Council website. An update on the vaccine rollout can be found on the SNEE NHS COVID-19 Vaccination Service website.

**Next steps for Councils' biodiversity and climate change plans agreed.**

Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have given the go ahead for £97k for projects aimed at boosting biodiversity and tackling climate change.

**MSDC/Babergh Tree, Hedgerow and Wildflower planting scheme application deadline extended.**

This scheme offers free trees and hedgerow plants to all parishes regardless of whether the planting is on council, parish, church, or private land. It is preferred that applications are submitted by Parish councils so that Parish local knowledge ensures that the right trees are planted in the right place.

This is now a rolling programme of tree and hedge planting with no deadline for applications or planting dates. It is not expected that all trees will be planted this year and there will be funding for subsequent years to come. There is also an associated scheme for wildflower planting.

To find out more please contact [biodiversity@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:biodiversity@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

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



## Please Vote

### *"cut the grass" or "leave it for the bees"*

Last year the Parish Council voted to not cut the triangle of grass at Jacks Green and the green nearly opposite the Village hall until September, to give a better habitat for wild flowers and pollinating insects.

Some people love it, others hate it, so the PC want to hear your views to decide what we should do next year. Before you have your say with either "cut it short" or "leave it for the bees", I'd like to explain the rationale behind it. It's not to make the village look abandoned or even to save money, it's to try and give the wildlife a helping hand.

How many times this year have you had to wipe the bugs off your windscreen? I'm guessing, like me, not at all. Over the last 5 years there have been numerous houses built on rough grassland, with a further 44 going on the meadow at Jacks Green, with all of that habitat for wildlife lost. We have an amazing wild flower meadow on Blacksmiths Field and on Creeping Hills at Coll's Green. Whilst bees can travel well over a mile, most other beneficial insects can move only 50 feet to 1/4 mile, so if we can have lots of sites close enough so they can hop from one to another, then a meaningful, linked habitat can be created.

You might be thinking that it's just a small plot, so why bother? To tackle the decline of biodiversity and climate etc it is not about some people being completely perfect, it's about us all doing a little bit more, be that walking a little more, or reducing your plastic consumption and recycling what you can't avoid, to getting an electric car etc. And leaving a rough patch in your garden to let things grow a bit. I've left 80% of my garden; it's full of orchids.

To get these areas looking as good as

Blacksmiths Field (left) it will need more work next year, from planting wild flower plugs, increasing yellow rattle (a plant that inhibits the growth of coarse grasses) and cutting a path on the grass opposite the village hall.

Please email Clerk@csmc.co.uk your answer write in the comments – "cut the grass" or "leave it for the bees" and we can then work out what the majority of the village wants to do.

***Hugo Craggs (Vice-Chair) Parish Council CIL and Sustainability***

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED** for the Autumn clear up in Lilley's wood, we can hopefully have some work parties and open up some of the grass land. Please contact Hugo



***Blacksmith's Field Wildflower Meadow area - Hugo Craggs***

## CREETING NATURE NOTES

### The many ways we can help nature and help ourselves

The Charity Plantlife have been trying for years to persuade councils to reduce verge cutting, while not compromising on safety. Their 'No Mow May' campaign is really bearing fruit (and flowers) and some verges have been stunning this year. Road verges are a vast interconnecting web of inoffensive habitat, ideal places for small wild flowers for pollinating insects and for rare wild plants to survive and spread. Plus it saves on our rates money and reduces pollution from machinery. Win-Win all round!

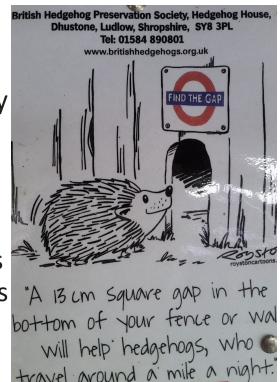
<https://plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign>



**Our Parish has 3 protected roadside verges**, registered with the County Council, 2 on Flordon Road and the Beacon Hill roundabout (!)- verges 143, 145 and 157. see: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/suffolks-countryside-and-wildlife/landscape-and-wildlife](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/suffolks-countryside-and-wildlife/landscape-and-wildlife)

#### **Suffolk Wildlife Trust promotes the Hedgehog Street project**

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/> which shows people how to make life easier for Hedgehogs and has even raised a debate in Parliament about their status. Their numbers are declining rapidly in the countryside but less so in towns. They love slugs and snails as much as gardeners hate them. Their main problem is access to gardens, addressed simply by making a 15cm wide hole in or under a fence or gate. this will also allow access to frogs and toads - equally good pest controllers. also provide an untidy corner of twigs and leaves for hibernating and checki the bonfire before lighting - unless you fancy roast hedghog!



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## **CREETING ST MARY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 18TH MAY 2021**

Once a year organisations in the village present a report of their activities to the Parish Council. This year it was for real - in the Village Hall! As there are quite a few reports they will be featured in the newsletter over the next year: they are from:

The Chairman of the Parish Council – Cllr Sue Haynes (see June/July issue)

The County Councillor – Cllr Matthew Hicks (see Aug/September issue)

The District Councillor – Cllr Mike Norris / Cllr Steve Phillips

The Welfare Charities – Dave Primmer (see Aug/September issue)

The Village Hall Management Committee – Chris Bingley

The Newsletter – Kathryn Martin / Joan Hardingham (co-Eds) (see June/July issue)

The Social Club – Kathryn Martin

Blacksmith's Field – Jan Palmer

The Primary School – Jenny Hitt

The WI – Shirley Brooks

The Parochial Church Council – Glynis Clint

In this issue

The County Councillor – Cllr Matthew Hicks

### **Cllr Matthew Hicks 2021 Annual Report for the Thredling Division**

#### **Council proposes environmental plans in response to climate emergency**

Suffolk County Council was the first Council to declare a Climate emergency in March 2018 and aims to be a 'net zero' authority by 2030. Plans include an all-electric pool car fleet. Committee decisions must consider the net zero ambition. SCC, through the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership has put £millions into energy efficiency projects for businesses and homes reducing carbon emissions 41% since 1990.

#### **Suffolk wins funding for the next stage of A12 improvements**

Suffolk has secured £830,000 of funding from the Department for Transport, to develop an Outline Business Case for improving the A12 east of Ipswich dualling the A12 between the Seckford and Dobbies roundabouts near Woodbridge and a pedestrian and cycle bridge.

#### **98% of pupils receive a preferred primary school on National Offer Day**

SCC received 7,602 applications from parents indicating which primary school they would prefer their child to join in September 2020 and 7,116 children received offers for their first preference school and 7,493 children received an offer for one of their three preferred schools. Where a parents' preference for a Suffolk school is refused, we will automatically add their child's name to the waiting list and advise on how to lodge an appeal.

#### **Suffolk celebrates 1,000 miles of newly surfaced roads**

Suffolk Highways completed its 1,000th resurfaced mile, following the Council's commitment to re-lay new road surfaces on a quarter of Suffolk's road network in 2017 over a four-year period. The 1,000th mile was laid at Horham Road in Eye.

#### **Suffolk County Council secures £3.1M for building decarbonisation initiative**

SCC working in conjunction with property specialists Concertus, has been successful in gaining over £3M of funding from The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to promote capital energy efficiency and heat



decarbonisation projects within buildings used to provide frontline public services. Packages of work include fitting solar panels and battery storage, wall or roof insulation and installation of air-source heat pumps to move away from the use of fossil fuels for heating. This will see the council's carbon footprint reduce by over 360 tonnes of CO2 per year, the equivalent of taking 120 cars off the road.

### **Major infrastructure projects now underway in East Anglia**

On 4 February 2021 work began on two new bridges on the East Anglian coast, the Third River Crossing in Great Yarmouth and the Gull Wing project in Lowestoft. The UK Government acknowledged the two bridges as nationally important infrastructure projects, with the Department for Transport committing a combined total of over £170million.

### **Adopt East launches**

this is a regional adoption agency to recruit adopters working 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 part of the partnership.

### **The Hold welcomes first visitors and opens inaugural exhibition**

The Hold, Suffolk's flagship new heritage facility on Ipswich Waterfront is a versatile new building, the permanent home of the Suffolk Archives Ipswich and is shared with the University of Suffolk. It was paid for with a grant of £10.3m from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, other national organisations and local Suffolk heritage groups. The public can access 'front of house' areas, including archive inspired displays, the café, shop, and toilets, a new Changing Places facility and Exhibition Gallery. The inaugural exhibition, Global Events: Suffolk Stories, examines how Suffolk has responded as a community to key global events over the past 100 years.

### **REPORT FOR CREETING ST MARY WELFARE CHARITIES year ending 31/12/2020**

Dave Primmer

Fifteen grants were made and the breakdown is as follows:

A total of 12 retirement grants to those in receipt of the state retirement pension were paid. There was just one student grant made during the year. A grant to assist in the purchase of an item to aid recovery from illness was made as this item was not available through state funding. One disability aids grant was also made. The breakdown of income and expenditure for the year is shown on the independently audited accounts which were submitted to the Charity Commission on March 8th 2021. The Barclays Community Account receives income from the two COIF investment accounts and the COIF deposit account held by the Welfare Charity. It is from this Community Account that grant payments are made. As interest rates dropped the income from the deposit account became almost insignificant, whilst the income from the unit investment accounts remained at a good level, so the Trustees took the decision to transfer £20,000 from the COIF deposit account to purchase further units in one of the two unit investment accounts held by the charity. This transaction was completed on November 12th 2020.

## CHURCH WORSHIP AND PRAYER

For the Benefice of North Bosmere - the Churches of Coddensham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Crowfield, Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva, Gosbeck, Hemingstone, Stonham Aspal with Mickfield.

**All services are Benefice Services** - anyone can attend any Church. We plan at least one service for each Parish each month.

**To book a place at any physical service at least 2 days before the service** contact: Rev Philip 01449 711684  
revphilippayne@btinternet.com



**To join a Zoom service:** email northbosmerebenefice@gmail.com at least 2 days before the service. Click on the link you receive.

*photo: courtesy Glynis Clint*

**(These services are correct at the time of going to press and may be subject to change )**

Church service patterns continue to evolve as we emerge from Lockdown. Please keep an eye on notice sheets and magazines as further changes are likely over coming weeks.

For track and trace purposes, please advise Rev Philip (revphilippayne@btinternet.com) if you plan to attend any church service at lease one day in advance.

Every Wednesday - Online Zoom - 9.00 am - Morning Prayer

Every Sunday - Online Zoom - 9.30 am - Morning Worship

Sun 8 August: Creeting St Peter - 11.00 am - Holy Communion BCP

Sun 22 August: Creeting St Mary - 11.00 am - Holy Communion

Sun 5 September: Creeting St Peter - 09.30 am - Morning Worship

Sun 12 September: Creeting St Mary - 11.00 am - Morning Prayer BCP

Sun 19 September: Creeting St Peter - 11.00 am - Holy Communion BCP

Sun 26 September: Creeting St Mary - 11.00 am - Holy Communion



# From the Rectory

Rev. Philip Payne

## From The Rectory Garden

Summer is here at last. From winter woollies to sandals and T-shirts was almost an overnight switch. Now, as I sit and type, the sky is deep blue, the air still, the garden alive with bird song and insect buzz. A glorious place to rest; mind and spirit eased by nature.



You may recall that last month I enjoyed a stroll to the coffee shop. This afternoon I'm at home; the stroll is shorter, but just as rewarding. Just past the greenhouse I meet a frog. Not, sadly, a small amphibian. This frog is a foot tall and earthenware. He had probably sat there for days, but hidden by the weeds at his feet I hadn't noticed him. Yesterday Mary cleared the path, and now he smiles to greet us each time we pass. A small clearance, a new vista opened. Leaving Frog, I see a blackbird hunting her lunch in the shade of an apple tree; while above her blossoms are alive with insects hunting nectar. A few yards from my back-door but an everchanging vista.

In the early summer sun, the garden is alive. Keeping it that way requires constant attention. Year by year the garden evolves. Some of that evolution is planned, some purely natural, much a shared effort as we respond to what nature offers. Left to their own devices the garden thugs take over and everything disappears under a coating of ivy, ground elder and brambles. Manicure too closely and the plants which bring in the insects and birds disappear and much of what brings our space alive disappears too. The Rectory Garden has had many guardians over its short life; each have left their mark. Their legacy is our starting point; our footprints will help shape the space for our successors.

I'm typing this as the G7 Summit draws to a close (such are the dictates of editorial deadlines). Over the coming weeks we will hear much about the environmental impact of the summit, for better or worse. Big decisions matter, of course, but as I stroll slowly round this garden; I am reminded that we all have a patch of God's Garden to tend; however big or small.

Every great journey begins with a few small steps. We don't have to go far to begin to make a difference.

***Reverend Philip***

## Creeting St. Mary Church News.

### SUFFOLK CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE 2021

**SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER from 9.00am to 5.00pm.**

After the success of last year's Ride, which raised a total of over £180,00 for our beautiful, historic churches, Suffolk Historic Churches Trust have decided to go ahead with the ride and stride again this year.

Here in Creeting, our church has benefited from funds raised through this event over a number of years. Most of Suffolk's beautiful churches will be open to visit. Started in 1982, most people think this is an event for cyclists, but walkers are welcome to join the fun and help increase the share of funds raised that our churches receive. Please put the date in your diary and consider walking or cycling to visit a few of the wonderful churches in Suffolk. It doesn't have to be a marathon, just an enjoyable way to spend a few hours, or sponsor a friend or neighbour who is taking part. Thank you

***Sponsorship forms and details of which churches and chapels are open can be obtained from: Hazel Mackintosh 01449 720753***

### Church services

Our next Church service in Creeting St Mary will take place on Sunday 22nd August at 11am, Holy communion with Rev Helen Norris. For more information of other services in church and online please see the details in this news letter.

### Churchyard gardening.

We had our second morning tidying up the church yard recently. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along and help. Pathways and edges were tidied. The pyramid orchids this year have been abundant and spread over many parts of the church yard. We have decided to have another tidy up morning and suggest **Saturday September 11th**. Hope you might be able to join us.

### Christian Aid tea afternoon.

We had a beautiful afternoon, sun shining so lots of people were able to sit outside.

We were able to send £378.00 to Christian Aid.

Thank you to everyone who was able to come and for the many donations we received. An excellent result.

### Harvest Festival.

As yet no date has been set but please watch this space.

**Glynis Clint.**

***Newly refurbished  
Village Hall Patio  
courtesy Janet Mayell***







## CREETING ST MARY SOCIAL CLUB

Diamond Jubilee Hall  
csm\_socialclub@outlook.com

[www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/social-club/social-club-news/](http://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/social-club/social-club-news/)  
open to residents of the village and surrounding area

The Social Club is back, but taking tiny baby steps as we open up the bar on **Friday 30th July at 6pm** for members (see below on rules) and guests to enjoy a drink together, inside and on the refurbished patio area where new tables, benches and parasols look really lovely. If this goes well we may open again a fortnight later.

### **We hope to have a barbecue evening on Friday 27th August.**

Another initiative is to hold some simple informal coffee mornings in September (see details page 20) from 10.30am for an hour or so, a small contribution for the hall hire will ensure a welcome cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and the opportunity to renew acquaintances or make new ones.

Several people have joined our village since the pandemic started and will have had limited contact with the many who have lived here for some time. It will be lovely to meet them. The committee look forward to seeing you as soon as you feel comfortable to come out and socialise again. We know these are only baby steps but hope they will lead on to greater things. Regrettably this will all be subject to any new Covid restrictions - please contact the Social Club email or Kathryn if there is any doubt.

## **Social Club Rules of Membership**

To any new village residents, or others who may be confused, I will try to clarify. *Alcohol licence rules dictate we can only serve alcohol legally to members of the club or anyone signed in as a guest of a member. Membership is open to any resident of the Village and surrounding area. Normally subscriptions are £2 per adult or £5 per family but since the pandemic began the fees have been waived.*

In addition to running the bar the Social Club tries to run other events, such as coffee mornings, soup lunches, barbecues, visits from outside agencies and general social activities. Anyone can attend such events but must adhere to the rules of membership if they wish to drink alcohol.

Suggestions for suitable events will always be welcomed by the committee. We can also provide a bar for private parties but an additional licence is needed which may change in the future.

Events are advertised in the Village Newsletter, on Facebook, on signs outside the hall and the village notice boards and by word of mouth. Also check the village website at [www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk) where the club has its own page, The membership form can be downloaded from this site or email [csm\\_socialclub@outlook.com](mailto:csm_socialclub@outlook.com). which is checked by our secretary Jacqui Mann. Alternatively you can phone me.

**Kathryn Martin Social Club Committee Chair 01449 720491**

## The Diamond Jubilee Village Hall

I am delighted to say that, at the time of writing, our Hall will be fully open again from July 19th.

Our booking diary has many gaps which we would like to fill, and you can look at these via our website link on the village website. At present, all Friday evenings remain available. Our prices remain very reasonable too. We have a lot to offer with our enhanced facilities, especially with our newly finished Patio area, featuring new seating and available gazebo and brightly coloured umbrellas. Ideal for a party, BBQ or large family gathering - always with the backup of either the Hall itself or the lounge area if English weather dictates!

We look forward to our Hall being part of our village again, and if any new residents would like to have a look around, then please do get in touch.

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

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

The large hall holds about 100 (pre-covid!) there is a bar and a smaller lounge and meeting room (well-heated and with WIFI) which can all be hired separately; new heating and a soundproofed door between the main hall and the lounge. There is new cutlery and 12 large round tables seating 8 people plus a well equipped kitchen, ample toilet facilities, an outside patio, large car park and access to Blacksmith's Field

**Bookings: Mrs Jennie King**

**tel 07946 445516 [creetingjubileehall@gmail.com](mailto:creetingjubileehall@gmail.com)**

## **P.B.S. Plumbing & Bathroom Services**

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**Mob: 07870 989 422**

## **Simply Coffee**

**Creting St Mary**

**Social Club**



**Village Hall 10:30 – 11:30**

**Wednesday 1 September**

**Wednesday 15 September**

**Wednesday 29 September**

**Wednesday 13 October**

**All villagers welcome for coffee,  
biscuits, and chat.**

**Do bring a guest.**

**Cost: a contribution towards hall  
hire**

## CREETING ST. MARY VOLUNTARY-AIDED CHURCH SCHOOL

We have enjoyed a very full last half term in school, managing some trips out, some visitors in and even a school sleepover!

Our Key stage two pupils have been to Pipers Vale gymnastics centre in Ipswich and our Key Stage One class have had a very exciting sunny day at the beach in Felixstowe, followed by the sleepover at school. 32 VERY brave pupils, some as young as just 5, have slept overnight at school, what a treat!



Our Year 5 and 6 class have been learning the clarinet for the last few terms and put on a virtual concert in the last week of term. We have also had a violin concert outside for parents. We have had lots of sporting tournaments and activities from rounders and cricket, to orienteering and dance.

We're all very proud of the way our pupils have handled themselves during a turbulent couple of years. Their resilience and determination are skills that will help them throughout life. We're sad to see our 16 Year 6's go onto high school, but are looking forward to seeing what they get up to and achieve once they're there.

For more details about what we have been up to, please visit the school website. Have a great Summer!

**Kerrie Smith / Felicity Knights** *Office Manager / Admin Assistant*

### Autumn term

Wednesday 1 Sept. to Friday 17 Dec.  
Half term Monday 25 October  
Christmas hols Sat 18 Dec to Mon 3 Jan

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

**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- 45**

2021: 14 May, 11 June, 9 July,  
6 August, 3 September, 1 October,  
29 October, 26 November,

**No Visit in December**



...and still going strong!

[www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/mobile-libraries/ipswich-mobile-library-route-13](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/mobile-libraries/ipswich-mobile-library-route-13)

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



## DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

As I sit to write this month's article, I am hopeful that very soon indeed, we will all soon be enjoying a greater semblance of normality with the current COVID restrictions being lifted as we head into summer.

I know for many of us there was great disappointment that the restrictions weren't all lifted on 21st June, but in the circumstances, retaining some of the restrictions for just a little longer seemed to be the only sensible thing to do. In my opinion, it was better to put the brake on slightly now – as the Prime Minister has stated, the next steps out of the road map are irreversible. A small delay until 19th July just allows us a little more breathing space to make sure that as many people as possible will have received their vaccinations.

People who are not vaccinated or who have only received one dose remain particularly vulnerable, so at the moment, it is a race between the vaccine and this highly transmissible form of the virus. Vaccinations are the only way out of this pandemic. Our vaccination effort here in Suffolk remains outstanding, with the county consistently being rated top for its role in vaccinating Suffolk residents. The majority of people here are very happy and proud to receive their vaccine and it is especially encouraging to see our younger cohorts coming forward so enthusiastically to receive their vaccination, especially now that the successful programme has opened to all those over the age of eighteen. Like many of us, they recognise that being vaccinated is the way forward from the restrictions that have hampered us for so long.

For some, there is still a little hesitancy around receiving the vaccine but - if people are not vaccinated, a reservoir of Covid may remain in the wider population and this potentially increases the chances of the virus mutating. The evidence tells us that it is only by having both doses of the vaccine that we have the highest level of protection against becoming seriously ill from COVID. Although some may feel that they are protected after just one vaccination, the levels of protection after one jab are around 33%, so it really is imperative to have that second jab for maximum protection. Getting vaccinated is everybody's business and responsibility and I would therefore urge everyone to get vaccinated as soon as is practicably possible. We all have a responsibility to protect our friends, family and neighbours who may be more vulnerable than we are.

As we move ahead from 19th July, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible as we start to emerge from the pandemic and look forward to enjoying summer events such as garden fetes and village shows.

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

Page 22 August & September 2021



## Footpaths and Bridleways

Updates on a couple of issues I reported 2 months ago: no action has been taken yet on the short path which runs between Sally Woods Lane and the top of the road at Creeping Hills I reported to Mid Suffolk Council, FP54 (the fence protecting people from falling in the pit is partially collapsed towards the pit creating a hazard to anyone wandering off the path). FP3, which runs from Raven's Bridge up to Jack's Green Road and which was water-logged is now dry. What the source of this water was I don't know.

Several FPs in the Parish, both across private land and on Council owned land, are still in a sad state owing to the fact that only a few are cut by landowners (many thanks for those who do cut) and by Suffolk Council (who occasionally cut). The latter are particularly responsible for road-side cutting and have their own standards of cutting, which I must say differ from mine! That leaves others such as residents to take on the task of keeping our village looking tidy and looking like one that we should be proud of.



### By The Way

Two ladies were talking in Heaven.

Sally, "Hi Mildred."

Mildred, "Hi Sally. How did you die?"

Sally, "I froze to death."

Mildred, "How horrible."

Sally, "It wasn't so bad – after I stopped shivering from the cold, I began to get warm and sleepy and finally died a peaceful death. What about you?"

Mildred, "I died of a massive heart attack. I suspected my husband was cheating so I came home early to catch him in the act. Instead I found him in the front room watching TV."

Sally, "So, what happened?"

Mildred, "I was so sure there was another woman there somewhere that I started running all over the house looking for her. I ran upstairs and searched in all the rooms, under the beds, in the bathroom and even outside in the garden. I kept this up until I had searched everywhere and had finally become so exhausted I just keeled over with a heart attack and died."

Sally, "It's a pity you didn't look in the freezer – we'd both be still alive."

**Paul Scully July/August 2021**

**Tel: 01449 721461 e-mail: [paul@impressions41.plus.com](mailto:paul@impressions41.plus.com)**

### Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Suffolk [www.walkinginengland.co.uk/suffolk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/suffolk) has details of walks to download free, also books and contacts for walking groups and other counties are on the Walking in England website,

**John Harris [www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk) email: [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)**

Page 23 August & September 2021

## A BIT OF HISTORY

I thought I'd write something a little different this month; something that is linked to Creting St Mary in a rather obscure way. Let me explain via a riddle – what links the only German prisoner of war (POW) to escape from a POW camp in England in World War 1, a Dutch ship and Creting St Mary? No Idea? Let me explain.

The only WW1 prisoner of war to escape and make it home during either World War, was Oberleutnant Gunther Pluschow. With other captured Germans, he was shipped to Plymouth and then to the PoW camp at Donington Hall, Leicestershire, in May 1915. He escaped on 4th July 1915 with a fellow prisoner Oskar Trefftz by climbing over two 9ft barbed wire fences, changing clothes and walking 15 miles to Derby and catching a train to London. The men's escape was featured in the Daily Sketch newspaper. They separated, but Trefftz was recaptured at Millwall Docks. At Tilbury Docks Pluschow used scraped-up coal dust, boot polish and Vaseline to change his fair hair to greasy black and covered himself in soot to look like a dock worker. He overheard a conversation about a Dutch passenger steamer, the SS Prinses Juliana, a Dutch mail boat in the Zeeland Company's, due in at Tilbury and returning to Flushing in Holland. For four days he made several attempts to row to the vessel, finally climbed up a mooring rope and stowed away in a lifeboat.

However, on 1st February 1916, while bound for Tilbury, the 2884 ton SS Prinses Juliana, struck a mine, laid by the German UC-5, near the Sunk light vessel off Felixstowe. It was beached in Felixstowe Roads and seventy-nine passengers and crew and the mails were saved. The ship broke in two on 29th March 1916 during a gale and there she lay for the elements to begin their infinitely slow process of degeneration.

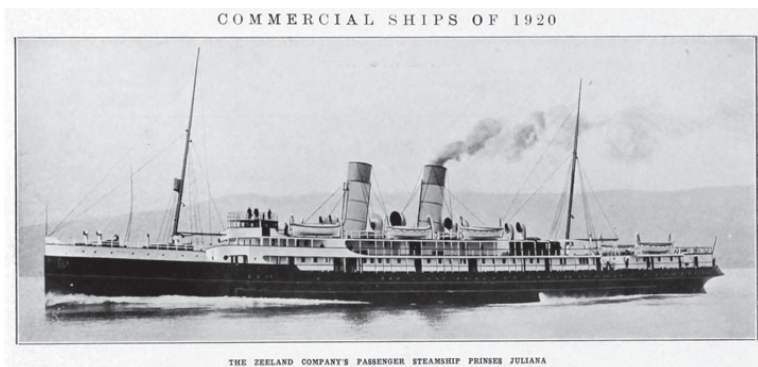
On 24th June 1984, 68 years after her sinking, I was among members of the Ipswich Sub-Aqua Club who found the submerged wreck near the Wadgate Ledge navigation buoy off Felixstowe pier. We enjoyed what was exceptional underwater visibility for Felixstowe and I spotted the unmistakable circular shape of a porthole – the Holy Grail for many a diver! This was an opportunity I could not miss and ascended to the dive boat hauling in the heavy porthole. I had over 68 years of accumulated underwater growth leaned off.

So, where is this porthole now - the one from the ship that was unwittingly instrumental in carrying the only German POW to escape from an English POW camp, to freedom only to end its days underwater off Felixstowe? It is at my home in Creting

St Mary of course! Life is full of coincidences if only we knew it!

**Paul Scully July/August 2021**

***paul@impressions41.plus.com 01449 721461***



## NEEDHAM MARKET AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### **Visit to the Moat House at Little Saxham**

20 members enjoyed an evening visit in early July. This lovely garden encircles the house and has many areas of interest and summer colour. Richard and Suzanne were knowledgeable and hospitable hosts.

**We intend to begin our evening meetings on Thursday 2 September** with a talk from Andrew Brogan the owner of Henstead Exotic Garden.

At that meeting we will take bookings for:

**Fuller's Mill in September (date tbc) and**

**The annual supper is on October 21st.**

**October's meeting will be on "Autumn Colour" with Susie from Katie's Garden.**

Meetings are held in the Community Centre, Needham Market from 7:30pm. Current members do not need to renew their membership until 2022, but potential new members are very welcome to join us. Contact Hazel Mackintosh 01449 720753 Existing members have been invited to send their email addresses to the Secretary, Pam Rushbrook so that we can update you at short notice. Prospective new members can contact me for details of events and speakers for the remainder of the year, and joining the Society. (£5 per year).

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

## **Creeping St. Mary Women's Institute**



We were delighted to be able to hold our first meeting this year on July 21st. The day was fine and we were able to sit outside on the Village Hall Patio, shaded by the new brightly coloured umbrellas. It was so good to see friends 'for real' who we had not seen for such a long time. A welcoming glass of Pimms also went down rather well. This was a very informal meeting but heard about the new programme for the remainder of the year.

Our next meeting, on August 11th in the afternoon, and again on the patio, if the weather allows. Our speaker will be talking about "The Rickinghall Poacher" which sounds like an entertaining part of Suffolk's history!

**Normal meeting time** is 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month. We are open for members from surrounding villages too.

### **Monthly walks**

The only other WI news to report is that our monthly walks are about to recommence too. The walks are for members only and they contact the walk leader.

If you would like to know more, please get in touch.

***Chris Bingley Tel: 01449 720324***

email: [christine.bingley@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bingley@gmail.com)

## Stowmarket Wildlife Group – Suffolk Wildlife Trust

### A Triple Celebration

- 16 Years of the Stowmarket Wildlife Group
- 60 Years of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- Our First meeting for more than a year



**Wednesday 22 September at 7.30pm Village Hall, Stowupland, IP14 4B**

Find out What the Suffolk Wildlife Trust has achieved in 60 years, and what is it doing now and for the future and what the Stowmarket Wildlife Group has achieved in the Stowmarket District for wildlife in one part in our area.

Have fun

Refreshments and socialising.

Light-hearted quiz.

Admission £2.50.

Meetings are subject to regulations and precautions to reduce the risks of Covid-19 transmission for the safety of Trust staff, volunteers, members and the community. Arrangements may change. Please check the Suffolk Wildlife Trust website at [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events) for up-to-date information updates about this event.

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

## CREETING SAINT MARY WELFARE CHARITIES

Charity number: 207445

The Creeping Saint Mary Welfare Charities Trust can provide assistance for those in need, by reason of, age, illness, unemployment or for education.

Examples of possible grants are: annual grants to those with a state pension in financial need; grants toward the relief of general hardship; grants for students in higher or further education; help with aids to cope with disability not available from state funding; grants towards maternity costs and funeral expenses; help towards the cost of pendant alarms for the elderly.

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

TRUSTEES: Mr. P Stephenson (Chair) 01449 722868 Mr. D. Primmer (Hon. Clerk); Mrs. M. Aldred 01449 20568; Mrs. P. Day 01449 720057; Mrs. K. Martin 01449 720491.

### STUDENT & RETIREMENT GRANTS 2021 FROM CSM WELFARE CHARITIES

If you are 18 years of age or older and have started or are about to start a further or higher education course and wish to apply for a student grant from the Creeping Saint Mary Welfare Charities please contact Mr. D. Primmer as soon as possible. Also, if you are a person who is in receipt of the State Retirement Pension and need additional financial support then please contact Mr D. Primmer (or one of the Trustees whose names appear in each edition of the Newsletter) **by September 30th 2021**. Please note the need to contact the charity applies to previous recipients of retirement grants as well as new applicants.

***Please make any general enquires to :***

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



## **Saving Suffolk's Swifts**

Alder Carr Farm was chosen to be involved with this Suffolk Wildlife Trust project and six nest boxes and a call system have been installed on the Dovecote outside the farm shop. Sadly they were not occupied but screaming parties were seen nearby (there are 40 swift boxes on Needham Market church)

Swifts were late to arrive this year, and there are encouraging signs of an increase in reports of the nest boxes being used with playing of Swift calls important in helping Swifts find new sites. Calls are played till the swifts' departure in August as young swifts prospect nest sites before leaving and may even roost there in the evening.

If screaming parties are recorded data is passed to Suffolk's planners who will both oblige the use of nest bricks and boxes when issuing planning permissions and help protect existing colonies. House Sparrows, Blue and Great Tits will readily take to the boxes but are easily ejected by Swifts but can use the boxes to breed and for shelter in the meantime.

Save Our Suffolk Swifts is a project between Suffolk Bird Group and Suffolk Wildlife Trust and aims to reverse the downward trend in swift numbers. They organising events and the establish of local swift groups. They also provide free of charge 'community nest systems' for installation on suitable buildings in public view.

**info@SuffolkWildlifeTrust.org @SoSSwifts`**



**Suffolk Wildlife Trust Swift boxes high on the Dovecote at Alder Carr Farm**

## **You Grow It, I'll Mow It!**

**Grass Mowing  
Hedge Trimming  
Strimming  
Turfing  
Fencing**



**Call Nigel (01449) 721025**

## ANNUAL RAINFALL 2021 from CHRIS KEEBLE

*Ed.: If anyone else would like to contribute weather records. please contact the editors. Chris is happy to share the records he has made for the 25 years since 1997*

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

Month	Rain in mm.
<u>MAY</u>	80.5
Last Year	1.0
Total this Calendar Year	275.0
12month cumulative	773.5
10 year Average for May	49.6
Wettest 2014	108.0
Driest 2020	1.0
Not the wettest, or driest, but enough to break the drought of April	
Month	Rain in mm.
<u>JUNE</u>	80.5
Last Year	71.0
Total this Calendar Year	338.5
12month cumulative	772.5
10 year Average for June	63.8
Wettest 2016	123.5
Driest 2020	1.0

## Sudoku -Fiendish - like an easier one or a different puzzle? Let us know.

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

**Solution p. 31.**

## 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 to 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

Lesley Plummer: 07889 272856 andaxi@btinternet.com

Sue Haynes: 01449 722570 susannehaynes@talk21.com

Jan Palmer: 01449 723997 creetingtog@gmail.com

Chris Emmins: 07894 231165 chrisemmins@offshorenrg.com

Roger Coton: 01449 721526 rogercoton@btinternet.com

Paul Scully: 01449 721461 paul@impressions41.plus.com

Jennie Blackburn: 01449 721369 clerk.csmmpc@yahoo.co.uk

Details on Creeping St Mary Parish Council Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Creeping-St-Mary>

**Ed: if you are unsure of an offer of help, please consult with people on the list above.**

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## NEEDHAM MARKET COMMUNITY CHINWAG

Social group for the over 60's  
living in Needham Market &  
surrounding areas.

For more information,

Telephone: 07944 688799

Email: needhammarketchinwag@gmail.com

Facebook: Needham Market Community Chinwag





Mid Suffolk

## Citizens Advice offers help to people affected by Universal Credit reduction

***58,500 people in Suffolk will see their income from Universal Credit go down by £20 this autumn.***

The £20 a week boost to Universal Credit was introduced in April last year because of the economic impact of the covid-19 pandemic. Work and Pensions Secretary Theresa Coffey told MPs this week that the boost to Universal Credit would be phased out in the autumn. Latest government figures show that 35,00 people in Suffolk who are receiving Universal Credit are not in work. Another 23,500 local people who are in employment are receiving Universal Credit.



Simon Clifton, Chief Officer of  
Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk

Simon Clifton, Chief Officer of Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk, said: *"The extra £20 a week – which is worth around £1,000 a year – has made the difference for some families between getting by and really struggling. If you are on Universal Credit you should start planning now for your money to go down. Your local Citizens Advice can help you with budgeting or managing debt. We can check you are receiving all the benefits you are entitled to. Please contact us and our friendly team of advisors will work with you to help you find a way forward."*

**I've been living in my privately rented flat for years. I generally have a good relationship with my landlord but I just can't get them to carry out various repairs.**

**How can I get them to act - and what exactly do they have to do?**

This must be a very frustrating situation. The law states that your landlord must provide accommodation that is safe, healthy and free from things that could cause serious harm. You don't say exactly what repairs are needed. If you have problems such as electrical wiring that you think might be faulty, or there's damp, or an infestation by pests, the landlord has a legal obligation to put things right.

Landlords are also responsible for the maintenance of the general structure, and fittings such as boilers and radiators; basins, baths and toilets; and the drains.

The first step is to contact your landlord again, in writing. Include photographs of the problems. Keep a record of all communications and evidence relating to the disrepair. If that doesn't prompt any action, the housing advisors at Citizens Advice can help with next steps. These could include contacting your local council (who will have dedicated officers for dealing with disrepair in private rented properties) or asking for a visit by the environmental health team.

Tenants can take their landlords to court to force them to carry out repairs. However, get some advice and think carefully before embarking on this route.

***Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). For more information and our opening hours go to [midsuffolkcab.org.uk](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk).***





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Mary for over 25 years and his  
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5	7	8	1	2	6	9	4	3
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# STOWE VETS

## How to spot the warning signs of a health problem

We all want our pets to be healthy, but its easy to overlook the warning signs of a problem. You should give your pet regular health checks to spot any problems before they escalate. Here are some things to look out for:

### Eyes, ears, mouth, nose

Looking into your cat or dog's eyes, they should be clear, bright, and comfortably open. If they are red, sore, or weepy, there may be something wrong. Cats and dogs typically have noses that are soft and moist. When checking your pet's nose, you should look for dryness, cracking, snot or discharge, or congestion.

Your pet's ears smelling bad could be a sign of infection. You should also check their ears for discomfort, build up of wax, and sores or cuts.

Check your pet's mouth to ensure that their teeth are clean and white with no cracks or breaks. The gums should typically be pink, with no lumps. If your pet's gums are pale or dry, consult your vet immediately, as this can signify an urgent problem.

### Lumps and skin changes

Check your pet's whole body for lumps, and if any are present, take note of when they appeared and whether they are changing in size. You should take your pet to the vets as soon as possible, to ensure these are not harmful tumours. You should also look for any sore, itchy, moist, or dry patches of skin.

### Ticks and grass seeds

Grass seeds can embed between your pet's toes causing swelling and irritation. Look out for any sign of your dog licking their paw, or scratching at their ears. Dogs should always be examined after walks, and you should also check for ticks after your pet has been outside.

### Appetite and behaviour

Cats and dogs can be very good at hiding that they are unwell, so its important to keep an eye on their behaviour for hints. You should check your pet for any strange behavioural patterns, such as changes to appetite or thirst, struggling to urinate or defecate, walking off balance, being slow to respond, and other mood changes that are unusual for them.

### When to call your vet

Generally, it's a good idea to get anything out of the ordinary seen by your vet, or at least have a telephone consultation. The quicker you get your pet consulted by a vet, the more likely it is that problems can be caught and treated in time.

***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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A4 format £25 framed (plain black ) - £20 unframed

A5 format: £15 framed - £10 unframed.

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To order copies please contact: Steve Fernie at Creting House (opposite the church)

steve@cretinghouse.com or phone 01449 720988

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## GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### Creeting St Mary Newsletter:

#### Editors:

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

**Liaison** with contributors and advertisers: Kathryn  
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**Advertising:** Jennie Blackburn 01449 721369  
clerk@csmmpc.co.uk

(Advertising rates are on the next page)

**Distribution:** David Haynes 01449 722570

**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

Sue Haynes (Chair) - 01449 722570 (Village Hall Management Committee)

Hugo Craggs (Vice-Chair) - 07815137228 (Community Infrastructure Levy (CiL)  
/Sustainability)

Jan Palmer - 01449 723997 (Blacksmiths Field / Play Equipment)

Paul Scully - 01449 721461 (Footpaths and Bridleways)

Roger Coton - 01449 721526 (Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC))

Nigel Smart - 01449 720100

Lesley Plummer - 01449 720359

Chris Emmins - 07894231165

Vacancy

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

Parish Council Clerk : Jennie Blackburn - 01449 721369

or email: clerk@csmmpc.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.creating-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.creating-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk)

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

### The 3 village notice boards are located at:

the Village Hall, St Mary's Gardens and Jack's Green.

The old phone box at Jack's Green contains maps, information and a defibrillator and the notice board at the entrance to Alder Carr Farm has a foot path map.

### **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.

Kathryn Martin (Chair) 01449 720491

**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.creatingstmary.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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