

# The Creeting St. Mary Newsletter



**Walking, Walking, Walking - but where are we heading?**

*photo courtesy of Chris Bingley*

**Volume 39/1 February and March 2021**

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## Editorial Comment

Walking, walking, many of us have never done so much walking; perhaps because we have got that pet-of-the-times - a lockdowndog. Perhaps we have just got to escape the house arrest that now passes for employment or escape the stress of an overstretched job with unexpected demands or because we do not have a job anymore. Hopefully it has allowed some clear-headed thinking or even no thinking at all, just loving the outdoors. Like Rev. Philip, many of us will be revelling in the simple pleasure of a beautiful day, its' wildlife and natural splendours and being thankful.

Certainly this period has made many people think very hard and the changes that have come about with breath-taking speed, have demonstrated that it does not need months and years of debate and wrangling to implement major changes such as helping people in physical and financial need; identifying the vulnerable in our communities and setting up support - particularly in children whose home situation is totally inimicable to learning; reducing car use and gadding about the world on cheap foreign jollies; establishing which are the important jobs and people; appreciating what we have locally. Could we have become a more thoughtful caring society? And will it last? Where are we walking to?

Help seems to be offered in abundance so make sure you, or anyone you know who might be in need, are aware of what is on offer. The County Council has set up mobile Covid test centres round the County, a permanent centre at Copdock and a walk-in one at Portman Road Ipswich. This obviously begs the question of how non-Ipswich residents get a test! There are support payments now for those on low incomes having to self-isolate as well as for those on benefits and further support from the Suffolk Support and Advice Service. Funding is available for a wide range of initiatives from tree-planting, 'quiet lanes' and rights-of-way. through support for the County's youth to virtual reality therapy for dementia patients.

The District Councils are becoming very 'eco' by changing their vehicle fleet fuel to Hydro-treated Vegetable Oil (HVO) (only 'eco' of course if sourced without detriment to the environment) and also offers vouchers to households for energy saving work. All this information can be found on the various websites given (fingers crossed!).

When we are allowed out again, we can look forward to the new look Regal Cinema with multiple screens and a cafe. It will make such a change after staring at small screens for over a year. And the census. I wonder how many people will be rushing back to where they really live!

One thing is certain, Zoom has changed how we do meetings, all but the most techno-phobic can now attend meetings from the Parish Council and Social Club, to Church services and, sadly, funerals. It does make it easier not having to travel - particularly when evenings are dark and I hope this will continue. When we 'Zoom' or 'Skype' our friends and family we put the screen on the dining table so it looks as if they are in the chairs opposite- such is our virtual reality!

So, we must all stick to the rules, as the Police report below suggests: wearing masks and distancing in public; not meeting unless absolutely necessary for work or security or if it is outside. Tick off those delivery drivers that abuse the mask wearing rule. Hindsight is a fine thing, if we had done all this from the start .....!

Many thanks to all who make getting this newsletter to you possible, especially Kathryn Martin who rigorously checks my spelling and lets hope 2021 is a much better year

***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**

Our Community Speedwatch Team has now been set up and the volunteers are awaiting training. Once the current restrictions ease and training has taken place the team will be able to start at various locations around the parish. The team currently has a total of eight volunteers but we could always do with more! Should you be interested please contact the Parish Clerk, Jennie Blackburn, on 01449 721369 or email at [clerk@csmmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmmpc.co.uk)

## **County Councillor's Report**

Moving into a national lockdown. Testing capacity has increased - more than one third of Suffolk's total confirmed coronavirus cases were recorded in the last two weeks, government data has shown. A total of 15,643 people have tested positive for the virus in the county as of January 2 – with 5,321 people testing positive from December 20 to January 2, - 34% of all cases recorded in Suffolk by that point.

## **Mobile testing has increased countywide, while a walk-in test centre has also opened at Portman Road, Ipswich, alongside the permanent test centre at Copdock.**

While cases are significantly on the rise, testing has vastly increased in recent months when compared to the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic. Suffolk is seeing a similar, sharp increase in positive cases in line with the regional picture, which is making more people ill and putting our hospitals under even more pressure. The new variant of the virus spreads more easily, we must all limit contact with others wherever possible. Even though you may not have any symptoms, you may be giving Covid-19 to someone else without realising it. We all need to maintain social distancing, continue washing our hands regularly, wearing a mask when appropriate and strictly following the government's guidance.

## **Support payments available for those on low incomes told to self-isolate**

As of the 24th December, more residents on low incomes or benefits can now get financial help if they are told to self-isolate due to COVID-19. Previously Test and Trace Support payments could only be given to people meeting certain criteria, including on benefits. Now Councils across Suffolk have extended this, using their discretion, to help those on low incomes but not on benefits. Councils across Suffolk are helping administer the Government grant scheme to help people remain at home and do their bit to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Visit your District or Borough Council websites for details on how to apply for support.

Babergh: [www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/)

Mid Suffolk: [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/)

East Suffolk: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-test-and-trace-payment-scheme](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-test-and-trace-payment-scheme)

Ipswich <https://www.ipswich.gov.uk/content/self-isolation-support-payments>

West Suffolk Council Test and Trace Support Payment [westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://westsuffolk.gov.uk)



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**Additional help, including financial aid is available from Suffolk Support and Advice Service** for those facing financial difficulty or needing support – especially for those who have never asked for help before. On 1 October 2020, the Suffolk Support and Advice Service phonenumber was launched to help people access information or support relating to debt, benefits, housing or employment.

People can contact the Suffolk Support and Advice Service on 0800 068 3131 between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday or go

to: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>

### **Suffolk 2020 fund projects over £2.5 million in new community-focused initiatives**

On the 18th December, seven new projects were announced as part of the Suffolk 2020 fund:

**1/ New booking system and automatic number plate recognition at Household Waste Recycling Centres** – Improving the efficiency and customer experience across all 11 recycling centres by enhancing the online booking system using automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) and automated entry barriers.

**2/ Adult Digital Learning** - Developing new virtual learning tools and techniques and setting up a laptop loan scheme to strengthen and extend access to the Adult Learning Service for those living in digital and/or rural isolation. This approach will enable people to enhance their knowledge and skills to secure employment. Building on the swift switch to virtual learning during lockdown, we will further develop virtual learning for adults across Suffolk and use new technologies to enrich and improve the quality of interaction and training, modernising the service's offer.

**3/ Youth Work** - Developing and supporting growth of grass roots organisations to deliver accessible, high quality provision for youths across Suffolk. Includes creation of a virtual 'Centre of Excellence' to share best practice and provide a 'one stop shop' of support for youth groups across Suffolk.

**4/ Discovering Suffolk – raising awareness of Suffolk's countryside** and the county's rights of way network, promoting local (Covid-safe) outdoor activities across all of Suffolk with the development of a smartphone outdoor app and QR codes to engage new audiences.

**5/ Automated Numberplate Recognition Speed Indicators** – Devices will be installed at the roadside to tackle localised problems with speeding drivers. The devices will be periodically moved between sites of concern and the data will be forwarded to the Police to assist with targeted enforcement.

**6/ Virtual Reality therapy for dementia patients**- Engagement and coproduction with people living with dementia and their carers to explore and develop interactive and therapeutic experiences to support wellbeing. These would be delivered through mobile virtual reality headsets and include bespoke content and interactions based around archive media of Suffolk.

**7/ Mobile Community 'Care Hubs'** - Digitally equip and staff selected community vehicles accessing rural communities within Suffolk. This will support digital inclusion and provide a way to share information and provide help around the opportunities available with care technologies and other digital skills.

The work will begin in early 2021 on a range of new community projects that will benefit people for years to come.

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## **Launch of three Suffolk 2020 Fund projects announced over recent months:**

**EV Vehicle Charging Points** – Making grants available to install around 100 vehicle charging points throughout the county. Particularly targeting rural areas and sites owned and managed by not-for-profit organisations such as Parish Councils, village halls, sports clubs, libraries and charities.

**Tree Planting** - Increasing tree cover, through rural and urban planting schemes, planting approximately 100,000 trees over the next 18 months, establishing ‘healing woodlands’ to remember those lost to Covid-19, and increasing biodiversity along roadside verges.

**Quiet Lanes** - Encouraging the use of non-motorised vehicles and more considerate driving at lower speeds along a range of the community’s self-selected rural lanes, with a view to adding 200 new lanes across Suffolk.

Whilst 2020 will live long in the memory for many reasons, the launch of these projects as part of the Suffolk 2020 Fund offers some real optimism and effort to bring communities together, supporting projects that will provide social, environmental and economic benefits in years to come. The Suffolk 2020 Fund uses part of the Government’s one-year financial settlement to invest up to £3million throughout 2020 to kickstart some of the beneficial community projects that ordinarily may not have received as much focus or opportunity, given the other huge, costly frontline services that the county council is responsible for. I am very pleased that in amongst the great deal of work that is happening to fight the spread of Covid-19 across Suffolk this year, that we have been able to ensure we continue our work to invest in these timely and incredibly worthy projects to improve the local environment and communities for Suffolk’s residents.

**Proposed changes to Sizewell C application** are step in right direction. On the 18th December, as part of its response to EDF Energy’s latest community consultation, Suffolk County Council has welcomed the movement towards reducing the number of additional heavy good vehicle movements and increasing the use of rail and marine freight deliveries during site construction as the transport proposals were not sustainable, so it welcomes the proposals for an additional Beach Landing Facility on Sizewell Beach as well as an additional night-time rail delivery of materials to site. In its response, the Council also reflects that many of the proposals offered still lack vital elements in detail and assessment at this stage – such as impacts of the proposals on the coastline or night-time disturbance of residents living close to railway lines. The Council would welcome the opportunity for further dialogue with SZC C to better understand details of the current proposals, and the evidence base which has led to them. It is encouraging to see that EDF Energy has begun listening to the concerns raised by us and Suffolk’s communities. Recognising the need for further detail, the Council does welcome the principle of the changes proposed by EDF Energy. However, we feel there still remains work to be done if the scheme is to be acceptable to us and our communities - not least in the area of further eliminating, minimising, mitigating, or compensating for the impact of the scheme on Suffolk’s unique natural environment.

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

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## LOCKDOWN 3.0

Currently the cafe and shop units are closed.

To help keep everyone safe we continue to do thorough cleaning and sanitising. Please help us by wearing a mask in the shop and keeping to

2m. distancing. Please do not enter if you are feeling unwell.

For those with symptoms or self isolating we have a personal shopping and carry-to-car service.

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## **District Councillor's Report**

### **COVID-19: SUPPORT PAYMENTS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE TOLD TO SELF-ISOLATE ON LOW INCOMES.**

- please see details in the County Councillor's report above

**COUNCILS LOOK TO SLASH FLEET EMISSIONS:** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils are considering proposals to cut their fleet's carbon emissions by up to 90% – supporting the councils' carbon neutral aims, by moving their vehicle fleet to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). The proposals form a major step in the councils' Carbon Reduction Management Plan, which sets out how net zero carbon emissions aim to be achieved by 2030. If approved, the move would see a significant reduction in pollutant emissions for the fleet, including up to a 90% reduction in CO2. It would also support a circular economy, as the HVO fuel is produced from sustainable feedstock, including waste cooking oil. Currently, the councils' vehicle fleet represents 26% of the councils' total CO2 emissions, approximately 880 tonnes per year. The fleet includes the councils' 35 waste lorries, as well as some vehicles used by the public realm and housing services. Moving to the new fuel will initially cost around £50k per council. An estimated further £56 - £97k per year, per council, over the next three years, will also need to be agreed to cover fuel costs. However, by using HVO, lower maintenance costs and longer engine life for the vehicles are expected.

**LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION FOR 2021: The new look Regal Theatre in Stowmarket** now has two additional auditoria and a new café area. The Regal is benefiting from a £3.6m investment for an expansion and refurbishment programme to provide three cinema screens, improved audio-visual experience, and a new front of house, café and bar area. Many of the original features of the existing building built in 1936 are being restored. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, the project managers, Northmores, and the main contractor Mixbrow, have maintained progress on site with a significant proportion of the structures, electrics and utilities having now been installed. New seating, cinema screens and interior design features are due to be completed early in 2021. The project, led by Stowmarket Town Council and Mid Suffolk District Council, will be a key attraction forming part of a wider vision for the development of Stowmarket seeking to attract more visitors to Stowmarket for the shopping, leisure activities, bars and restaurants on offer in the town.

**GREEN LIGHT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES HUB FUNDING:** Mid Suffolk District Council recently approved £431,740 in funding from housing growth to progress plans for a shared Emergency Services Hub in Stowmarket – paving the way for collaborative working and enhanced 999 services.

### **RESIDENTS IN BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK ARE SET TO BENEFIT FOLLOWING RECENT GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT ITS GREEN HOMES GRANTS:**

The Green Homes scheme, for more more energy efficient homes, offers vouchers to households to get energy saving work done, and invites councils to bid for funding to run home energy efficiency projects. A Suffolk consortium bid, including Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils, received over £1 million from the Department of Business Energy and Industry for five projects to be installed by 31 March 2021.

**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 for Needham Market, Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden.**

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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)

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## 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)  
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 Jennie Blackburn: 01449 721369 [clerk.csmc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk.csmc@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.***

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

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, Creeting St Mary – No Objections

Ref: DC/20/04918 - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a Building for Agricultural or Forestry use Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Sch 2, Part 6, Class A/B/E - Erection of storage hay barn - Riverside Barn, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary – No Objections

Ref: DC/20/04903 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey extension to accommodate swimming pool and home gymnasium; glazed linked extension and solar panels. Extension to garage - Riverside Barn, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary – No Objections

Ref: DC/20/04274 - Outline Planning Application (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 1No Dwelling - Land Rear of 13 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary - No objections

Ref: DC/20/05904 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey front, side and rear extension - 33 St Marys Gardens, Creeting St Mary – No Objections

Ref: DC/20/05244 - Planning Application - Change of use of agricultural land to form extension to existing industrial premises - Poundfield Products, The Grove, Mill Lane, Creeting St Peter – OBJECT – environmental issues as part of the Gipping Valley plus concerns over additional traffic on surrounding roads

### **Recent Planning Application Decisions**

Ref: DC/20/04274 - Outline Planning Application (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 1No Dwelling Land Rear of 13 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary - Granted

Ref: DC/20/04897 - Retention of dwelling and garage without compliance with Condition 2 (approved plans) of permission DC/19/02671 to permit revised design and layout - Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary - Granted

Ref: DC/20/04917 - Application under S73 to vary or remove conditions relating to DC/19/05926 (Condition 2 - Approved Plans and Documents) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - To alter the orientation of storage building - Riverside Barn, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/20/04903 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey extension to accommodate swimming pool and home gymnasium; glazed linked extension and solar panels - Extension to garage - Riverside Barn, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary - Refused

Ref: DC/20/05107 - Householder Application - Erection of detached garage/store with home office over (following demolition of existing sheds) - Kestrel Barn, Creeting Hills, Creeting St Mary - 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.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmc.co.uk) or phone 01449 721369 (answer phone) or come along in person to the next meeting.

***Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk***

# CHURCH WORSHIP AND PRAYER

## The Benefice of North Bosmere

### COVID PRECAUTIONS

Regrettably, the time has come to suspend all routine physical services inside the church buildings of Coddendam, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Crowfield, Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva, Gosbeck, Hemingstone, Stonham Aspal with Mickfield. We have taken this decision reluctantly but in the light of the current rates of infection, and the advice we are hearing from the Chief Medical Officer, now is the time to step back.

Although the buildings are closed, we continue to meet on line for worship and prayer. We continue also to pray for the needs of the moment, please contact me or any of my colleagues for further information.



*courtesy Dave Primmer*

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to being able to open our doors and welcome all again soon.

Church buildings will remain open one day per week for private prayer and churchyards remain accessible. Regular Zoom services take place on Wednesdays at 9 am, Fridays at 6:30 pm and Sundays at 9:30 am. To join our on-line services please contact Ruth Dennigan  
reader.ruthdennigan@gmail.com  
**RevPhilip**, 01449711684  
revphilippayne@btinternet.com



Drone image of  
St. Mary's church  
Creeting St. Mary  
*courtesy*  
Glen Marney  
Christmas Eve  
2020



# From the Rectory

Rev. Philip Payne

## A Beautiful Day

It has been a wonderful day. White frost glistened in the golden sunlight. Trees, dripping melting ice, stood boldly against a clear wintry-blue sky. Birds busied themselves, no doubt making the most of the sun's warmth after a miserable few days. Although the thermometer read zero, there was a feeling of warmth in the sunlit air. As we took our regulation walk, the beauty of it all lifted our spirits, and the spirits of all who we met on our travels.

It is not only the sun which brings beauty and lifts the spirits. In recent days a new neighbour has moved in. Looking up from my desk one recent morning I saw on the drive, wings outstretched and with the sunlight catching on his rich brown coat, a kestrel; just a few yards from the study window. Our seventh winter; and although we often see kestrels in the fields this is the first time that we have seen one in the Rectory garden. He (or she we're not sure which) has visited several times since then. The kestrel is not the only new arrival. Migrant blackbirds have arrived in force. Every year in autumn, we gather windfall fruit around the base of our mighty pear tree. There it gently ferments until the blackbirds arrive, then swiftly it vanishes.

Now all is quiet. The mist has risen, the sky turns grey and the temperature is falling; night will soon be upon us. The daily news remains gloomy, the depths of winter are probably still to come but everywhere we look; across the garden and in the fields around us, there are signs of new life.

One swallow may not a summer make (and the swallows are still many months away) but a day like today lifts the soul. The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. (Psalm 24:1). Thank God that he shares its' beauty with us.

***Rev Philip***

Rev'd Philip Payne, Priest-in-Charge North Bosmere Benefice  
The Rectory, The Street, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ  
01449 711684 [revphilppayne@btinternet.com](mailto:revphilppayne@btinternet.com)

## Creting St. Mary Church News.

Christmas 2020 was very different this year.

We asked if anyone would like to make a wreath or garland and decorate the front gates. Eleven people put their Christmas contributions on the gates and it was very welcoming to people visiting the Church and churchyard; thank you. Inside the Church it was decorated and colourful too; thank you.

**Flood lighting the Church.** Thank you to David Primmer who has kept the outside of the Church flood lit. This year the lights will stay on for much longer than normal, hopefully it will bring cheer to the Village and people travelling on the A14.

**Christingle.** Eight young families in the village received bags with all the elements to make Christingles, kindly donated by the Children's society.

**The Old School/Vestry.** Recently our little Vestry, the old school building 1837, has had its slate roof made safe for this winter. Major repairs are needed in the future to save this iconic village building.

**Family Refuge.** After our toy and gift service in December, lots of presents were taken to the Ipswich family refuge. They were delighted with the generosity of people in our Benefice. Thank you very much.

**Zoom Church services.** During this time of uncertainty regular zoom church services are held throughout the week. If you want more information please contact Ruth Dennigan - reader.ruthdennigan@gmail.com

At the time of going to press the Church is open on a Sunday from 2-4 pm for private contemplation and prayer.

*Glynis Clint*

## The Diamond Jubilee Village Hall

I am sure we all look forward to the day when our Hall can safely swing back into action providing its usual function of being a social meeting point for villagers in so many different ways. When we are open again, you will notice many changes and improvements which our committee have now set in place. The new heating project has now been completed, as has the new soundproofed door between the main hall and the lounge. This will enable both areas to be used simultaneously without sound disturbance.

We have also purchased 12 large round tables - each to seat 8 people, and a complete new large set of cutlery. We are hoping to enhance and improve the outside seating area at the rear of the Hall too, and this is currently under discussion.

My best wishes to you all in these very difficult times,

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

*Tel 01449 720324. christine.bingley@gmail.com*

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



## CREETING ST MARY SOCIAL CLUB (CSMSC) csm\_socialclub@outlook.com

Sadly we are still unable to make any concrete plans for events to be run by the Social Club in 2021 during the continuing pandemic. The committee have been meeting regularly on Zoom and have plenty of ideas. We will publicise any future events on-line and in this newsletter as soon as we can, and are all looking forward to being able to meet in person once more

Deprived of the opportunity to do much for the village over Christmas we put together some packages which were given to a few families in need of some cheer. We had hoped we might have a visit from Father Christmas, or a community carol singing session, but both of these options was denied us. Some of us enjoyed a repeat performance of last year's reading of a Christmas Carol which we had in the church in 2019. Anthony Roberts and his family produced a delightful virtual performance of this from home, raising funds for the Colchester Night Shelter.

The club has been existence for many years and is based at the Village Hall which has a bar and good social facilities. In recent times the club has focussed on arranging social events that allow a wide range of the members of our community to join in. These range from soup lunches in mid-week, through evening quizzes and pudding evenings, to plays by Eastern Angles.

Understandably, activities by the club are currently suspended because of the virus. However, we are gearing up with a further programme of events for when it is safe to get these going at the Hall. In the meantime, we are looking at running a village quiz which will have a set of questions about the village. This will be able to be completed by observation while walking in the parish—a suitable outdoor activity that can be undertaken alone or in pairs. We hope to run that soon.

Normally, there is a nominal charge to join the club, but this has been waived for the duration of the pandemic. By becoming a member you get notified of all club events and receive the contact information for booking. If you are not already a member, the membership form is available on the parish website section devoted to the Social Club or can be obtained from William Barnes (wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk). We currently have around 80 members and welcome more.

***Kathryn Martin, Chair, Social Club.***

**CAN YOU HELP?**

## VILLAGE WEBSITE

Our village website has recently been taken over by a new Host, Suffolk.Cloud. The Parish Council mainly run it and we are looking for any local information, historical information / photographs, helpful hints or information that could be added to make it more informative and interesting!

If you have anything to share, please email the Parish Clerk, Jennie, at [clerk@csmpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@csmpc.co.uk)

## In Memory of Audrey Lilley – 20.5.1935 – 18.12.2020

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### y Lilley

I first met Audrey in the summer of 1976, I was planning an extension, and was directed to Grey Tiles, where I was made welcome by a small, sprightly, helpful lady who organised the sand and gravel I was going to need. I later learnt she came from Haughley Green, married Brian Lilley and moved into the newly built 'Grey Tiles' bungalow in 1961. This was on land which included the gravel pits and had been bisected by the new A14. When her father Arthur Eastall died she had taken over running the business. She was elected to the Parish Council where she organised the Newsletter into a very successful self-financing information sheet, still running today, and later became Chairman. She also served as a District Councillor representing Coddendam as well as Creeting St Mary very conscientiously. The WI too benefitted from her energies, including the Christmas productions where she liked to be narrator.

In retirement her interests were rambling, wild life and her lovely garden, and she took advice from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust on the development of the pits as a wildlife area, also planting woodland and donating an acre as a 'wild wood' area 20 years ago soon to be in the care of the Parish Council. They had two children; David the elder who lives in the West Country, and Janice who has lived at Grey Tiles for over 3 years looking after her mother (and father) to their great benefit. Audrey's ashes are to be placed in her beloved garden, at her request.

We offer our sympathy to Brian, his two children, and the many friends of a very generous lady.

***Nigel Smart***

### **AUDREY LILLEY AND CREETING ST MARY NEWSLETTER**

Audrey was the driving force behind this publication as we know it, which was launched in June 1985. It was envisaged as a free issue, backed by the Parish Council, that would be delivered by volunteers to every house in the village and surrounding area and that it would be self funded by revenue from local advertisers. As detailed elsewhere she was very busy in those years and was not keen on computers so she prevailed upon Ron Clint to serve as editor. She did all the administration and finances for many years as well as collecting the copies from the printers and distributing them to the deliverers. Ron Clint remained editor for about 7 years, to be followed by Gerry Clarkson, Rosie Richardson, Barry Sheldrake until Joan Hardingham took over. Our Parish Clerk now copes with the finances.

Initially a single A4 sheet folded to form 4 pages, contributions were brief and usually referred to upcoming events as well as holding a full page of small adverts from local businesses. Alder Carr Farm shop and pick-your-own first appeared as a flyer in September 1985 and by the following year had a regular insertion, the only business still featuring. Many original ones persisted for years until change of ownership or retirement altered them. Gradually the newsletter has grown to its' present size of 40 pages with a distribution of over 350 issues, but it remains true to its' instigator's principles of being self-funding, full of local information relevant to our village and delivered free of charge to every house in the village. Long may it continue.

***Kathryn Martin.***

# VILLAGE LITTER PICK

## SPRING LITTER PICK

Sunday April 11th (TBC)

10.30 a.m.

This will be socially distanced of course. Pairs of people with high-vis jackets, gloves and litter pickers (which can be provided) each do an allocated section, starting from the village hall.

This task can be reduced if you are willing to take a bag with you and collect while generally out walking.

Thank you - the village is so much tidier with all your efforts

**Kathryn Martin (01449 720491)**



## Census 2021 - A snapshot of modern society

Households will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

This is once-in-a-decade survey that giving the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

“A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed,” Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

“This could mean things like doctors’ surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That’s why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them.”

Census day will be on March 21, but households will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March and will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. For the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, and a voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk).

**Timothy Buttle, Census 2021 Engagement Manager for East Suffolk Office for National Statistics**

## CREETING ST. MARY VOLUNTARY-AIDED CHURCH SCHOOL

We once again find ourselves in the most difficult of situations after the Prime Minister announced, on the 4th January, that for the safety of everyone we should remain at home where we can to protect our families, friends and our neighbours in the community. Staff and parents are working extremely hard together to provide the best we can to support our youngsters with their learning at home and we are eternally grateful for this.



Following the lockdown last year we learnt how resilient the children can be and how quickly they bounced back when they were in school again alongside their friends. This time around we have been particularly mindful however of how much children need to see and hear their friends and their teachers. As a result we have been meeting virtually each week to share our news, birthdays, etc and take part in fun activities together – telling jokes or taking part in quizzes. We can't wait until it is safe enough to welcome everyone back to school; it really not the same without the sound of the children.

At the end of last term we were very lucky and the children had a visit from a special visitor. If you live close to the school you may have heard, or even seen, the arrival of Santa in his helicopter. After a term in which we were unable to do so much, it was a most welcomed distraction. The excitement of the children was something truly to behold and we hope that these special memories will remain with the children for many years to come.

In the run up to Christmas we did try to maintain as many of the traditional things we would have normally been able to do however we did have to adapt to the safety rules this year - Christmas lunch was eaten in individual bubbles in our own classrooms; the nativity service was performed in class and photos taken to tell the story and shared with parents; a Christmas violin concert shown on zoom; a mini Christmas Fair so that the children could enjoy the excitement of the raffle and make some Christmas decorations for their tree. We also decided to continue with our annual collection of Christmas donations for the Stowmarket Foodbank and we were overwhelmed by the support we received this year.

Please do look at how our children are working hard at home by looking at our class pages on the school webpage [www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk). Wishing everyone a safe and happy 2021

***Mrs Christine Friar, Head, CSM School***

## **MOBILE LIBRARY**

Route 13 at Creting St. Mary

### **This service has been suspended**

All fines, all return dates and reservation-hold dates are also suspended until further notice

For more information 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/>

## **NEEDHAM MARKET AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Sadly it looks as though the AGM and first meeting planned for early March will be delayed. Although the vaccine roll-out is continuing apace, the advice is that lockdown is unlikely to be lifted to allow large gatherings

We are however, hopeful that we will be able to have some speakers and visits later in the year. Like me, I'm sure members are looking forward to Spring weather and the resumption of gardening activity.

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 this year's programme and joining the Society (£5 per year).

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

## **CREETING SAINT MARY WELFARE CHARITIES**

The Creting 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 Creting 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***

Suffolk Constabulary is reminding communities across the county to adhere to the latest lockdown measures this weekend and ensure everyone is supporting the cause to save lives and protect the NHS. 56 people were fined for breaching lockdown rules over the three day period from Friday 15 Jan to Sun 17 Jan inclusive, and 39 people received warnings. Of these, on the Saturday & Sunday 45 fines were issued along with 30 warnings. In the rest of the week (Mon 11 Jan to Thur 14 Jan) 31 FPNs and 81 warnings were issued.

The incidents include one where a group who had travelled from Essex and Kent to Suffolk to ride each other motocross bikes off road, at a quarry behind Waldringfield on 17 January. 10 FPNs were issued in this case.

The force will continue to engage, encourage and explain first, but where people are blatantly flouting the rules officers will issue fines and that approach will continue over the coming weeks.

The message is simple - stay as local as possible to where you live. Where people are breaching the regulations and they are away from home without a reasonable excuse, they may be issued with a FPN.

ACC Rob Jones said: *"Our officers will continue with dedicated COVID-19 patrols in the coming weeks to ensure people are staying true to the rules. The vaccine roll-out is continuing and while this is encouraging we must not get complacent or lose our vigilance and awareness of ourselves and each other.*

*"No exceptions to the rules can be made for weekends. Please show restraint, discipline and fortitude. I accept the situation is difficult, but the FPN figures from last weekend do clearly demonstrate that we will take action if flouting of the rules takes place. This approach will continue and the message remains that we must all follow the rules."*

The reporting tool for potential breaches can be found here:

<https://www.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/c19/v7/tell-us-about-a-possible-breach-of-coronavirus-covid-19-measures/>

The full guidelines can be found on the <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**Help us keep our communities safe.**

Police advice on a variety of subjects can be accessed via

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

To report something, or to otherwise contact Police, use the link

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>

To report something anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

Alternatively call 101 for non-urgent matters.

Always call 999 in emergencies, or if an immediate police response is required.

Police Connect Team

**Bill Mackintosh**



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## DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

At the time of my writing, the Prime Minister has addressed the nation once more and we find ourselves living under further restrictions, with the current advice being to stay at home to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Whilst there is no doubt that in fighting the old variant of the virus, our collective efforts were working, but we now face the added challenge of the new strain of the virus, which is between 50% and 70% more transmissible. This new strain has led to a rapid surge in infections, hospital admissions and increased case rates across the country, including here in Suffolk.

If we are to protect our NHS and in turn, ourselves and our loved ones, we must all play our part and follow the guidance so that our NHS can focus on the herculean task of delivering the critical vaccination programme. It is the vaccination that will finally free us from this virus and the restrictions it brings to all our daily lives

Vaccinations have already begun here in Suffolk and I have been lobbying Ministers and Public Health colleagues to ensure that we have adequate site provision here in Central Suffolk and North Ipswich. Our public health team and NHS colleagues here in Suffolk are working tirelessly to deliver the vaccines as quickly and efficiently as possible, to those most in need and I would echo their plea to ask residents not to block phone lines to GP surgeries or hospitals enquiring about when the vaccine might be available – residents will be contacted directly and invited to attend their nearest site for vaccination.

Whilst I and indeed, our Prime Minister, understand just how frustrating this latest lockdown is, it is vital that we all continue to take the necessary precautions to protect ourselves and those most vulnerable in our communities and to slow the spread of the virus. Again, I would like to thank each and every one of you who are continuing to play your part and following the rules – we're all in this together and the sooner we stick with it, the sooner we can start to return to normal.

It is vital that throughout lockdown, we continue to protect jobs and our local economy, and the Chancellor has unveiled further financial support for businesses and individuals. Locally, the Suffolk Support and Advice Line can help with financial and employment advice - 0800 068 3131. In addition, the Home But Not Alone free phonenumber, supporting the most vulnerable in our communities is available via 0800 876 6926. Both lines are staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

As your MP, I shall always work hard for the people of Central Suffolk and North Ipswich and if there is anything I can help with, please get in touch.

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

## FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

At this time of the year, walking around the village footpaths can be a bit tedious with the amount of slippery mud to contend with and always the risk of slipping over. Mind you, an early morning walk after a frosty night and before the sun “warms” it, makes it considerably easier. Depending on the route you take, there may also be a fair bit of water lying around in places because of the water-logged soil.

However, you can always opt for a virtually mud-free route from the top to the bottom of Creeting St Mary. For example, you could walk from All Saints Road, say near to Red houses, all the way down to Jack’s Green Road, round the corner into St Mary’s Road, round into St Mary’s Gardens and then back up All Saint’s Road to your start – it may not be so interesting for you but you can certainly stretch your legs. Also, it doesn’t matter which end of the village you live in, or start in, you can take the same route in either direction. You can also turn round and go back part way if you’re feeling tired – that’s if you haven’t already reached the point where you have to turn around and go back anyway!

Don’t forget to look into the kiosk if you haven’t already done so. There are some pamphlets there for walking the River Gipping path.

**Paul Scully**

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



### By The Way

I must tell about what happened several years ago during Bob-a Job week, the annual event for Cubs and Scouts to raise some money for their organisations.

Young Billy, a boy scout, knocked on a householder’s door and asked if there were any odd jobs he could do for the householder. The Householder thought he looked a keen and capable young lad and as he was once a scout himself when he was younger and said:

“All right, you can paint my porch. You’ll find a tin of blue paint and some brushes in the garage.”

After a while, there was another knock at the door and standing there was the young boy scout. “I’ve finished painting.” he said “Oh, by the way, it’s not a Porsche, it’s a Ferrari.”

## A BIT OF HISTORY

Have you ever wondered how the veterinary surgery's unusual building on the Coddendam Road to Norwich Road near Needham Lake came to be there? Back in 1971, as part of the widening of the A140 at Mendlesham, it was decided to either demolish or move a little cottage, known locally as "The Mustard Pot", built in about 1760, at the junction of the A140/Mickfield roads. Mr Sniechowski, to whom the cottage was given to preserve by East Suffolk County Council, planned to use it as a "Fisherman's" cottage in conjunction with a fishing and boating centre he planned for Bosmere Mill. It was decided to dismantle and move it to Needham Market, the cost of the move being put at £2000 but Mr Sniechowski said "It was well worth it. One cannot buy history".



It took 6 weeks to prepare the thatched roof of the cottage for the move. 22 workmen were involved in the lift but it took just 1 day to transport it. Transported by road in May 1972, the 8 ton, 25 feet load took 6 hours at 10 mph to be taken to its new home. Among the crowd who gathered in Mendlesham to watch the loading were Mr & Mrs Arthur Taylor who had lived in "The Mustard Pot" for 13 happy years. Mr Taylor said that they were sad to see the cottage coming down but glad that it was being preserved.

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

***Ed.: Paul does us proud every edition with a bit of history - but all you long-time residents: don't you have a village history story to tell?***

## ANNUAL RAINFALL 2020 from CHRIS KEEBLE

2020 has been a shocker in more ways than one, and rainfall has been no exception, both in quantity and seasonality. It is the first year since I retired, that I have not regretted being out of farming!

**Chris Keeble**

*If anyone is recording rainfall - or would like to - and send the newsletter their records please contact the editors. Chris is happy to share the records he has made for the 25 years since 1997 . Ed*

2020	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1		6					4.5		2	4		
2			3.5				5		2	7		
3	6		1.5				1		2	7.5	3	24
4			2							7.	0	5
5			5				9			7.5		4.5
6							10			2.5		
7						2.5	5			7		
8	2	1	1.5				9.5			1.5		10
9	7.5	5	5				7				11.5	
10		2					11			1.5	1	8
11	2										4.5	3
12		6		1.5			1					3
13	3.5					6	5.5	5		13	2	7
14	8.6	1						4.5		5	20	3.5
15			5				1	6		1.5	1	1
16	8	12						5.5	0.5	3	3	0.5
17		2		1		26.5		3		1		
18		5					1	2			1	0.5
19			1					6		0.5	0.5	1
20		5.5								5.5	0.5	
21										7		20
22		5						1.5				6
23		2			1			6	11	12		23
24							1	8	7			6.5
25		4					8	6	5	1		
26	1						1		2	3	0.5	8
27	13	6				1		12		3		1
28		11		12		3		15		5.5	0.5	
29		2.5	2	6				5	6.5	1		
30	1		1.5	4					12	5	1.5	
31	6						1					
TOTAL mm.	58	77	27	24.5	1	71	49.5	85.5	50	113	49.5	136
CUM. mm.	58	135	162	187	188	259	308	394	444	556	606	741

### RAINFALL IN IP6 8 area 2020

Month	Rain in mm.
NOVEMBER	112.5
Last Year	49.5
Total this CalendarYear	605.5
12month cumulative	692.5
10 year Average for November	55.0
Wettest 2014	90.0
Driest 2011	21.0

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	

### 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.

## Creting 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.

**Chris Bingley (Chair)**

Tel 01449 720324. christine.bingley@gmail.com

### WI Remembering Audrey Lilley.

It was with sadness we learnt that Audrey Lilley, a long-time member of our WI had died, a short while before Christmas. Audrey was an inspirational lady, very involved in village life and the WI. Audrey took on the role of president twice in the 1970's and 1980's and also as treasurer. She supported many of the activities that evolved after she no longer was able to come to WI regularly. One of these was our wreath making workshop which she enjoyed very much with her daughter. In Spring 1988 Audrey and the drama group, an intrepid group of ladies stepped in when the WI Group meeting's speaker cancelled at short notice. They were enjoyed enormously. Audrey loved her garden and vegetable plot. One summer we held our WI garden meeting in her wonderful garden, exploring all the different levels, learning from an experienced gardener. After, we enjoyed tea on the lawn. We send Audrey's family our deepest sympathy.

**Glynis Clint**



### NEEDHAM MARKET AND DISTRICT RBL POPPY APPEAL 2020

In the most difficult and challenging circumstances without being able to have the usual house to house collections, a successful Poppy Appeal carried out in Needham Market, Creting Saint Peter and Creting Saint Mary realised a grand total of £4333, a most creditable result given the constraints of the lockdown.

The final amount raised in Creting Saint Mary was £1281; so on behalf of the Needham Market and District RBL Branch a very big thank you to Alder Carr Farm Shop, Courtyard Cafe, Breheny Civil Engineering, Beacon Hill Service Station, Burgher King, Creting Saint Mary VAP School and May Aldred who all found ways to provide Covid free and socially distanced outlets for a successful Poppy Appeal! Thank you all and of course thanks to all those who contributed at these various outlets.

**David Primmer**



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## Suffolk Wildlife Trust

### Save Our Suffolk Swifts (SOSS)

Swifts, along with swallows and house martins, are summer visitors, coming here in May from wintering grounds in Africa to breed. Incredibly, they feed, sleep and even mate on the wing, only landing to nest, producing two or three chicks. The young swift leaves in August and does not land for two to three years, flying around 6,000 miles a year. They can live to almost 20 years. They are black, with scimitar-shaped wings and a short forked tail, weighing no more than a chocolate egg. They form fast-flying screaming parties round their nest sites. There are active populations in Needham Market and at Brewery Farm in Little Stonham and elsewhere in the parish.

Naturally, swifts nest in crevices in cliffs and trees, but since Roman times have used sites under eaves and tiles and in church towers. They nest communally and are extremely faithful to nest sites; the juveniles follow the adult birds back.

Suffolk County Council has classified swifts as a Suffolk Priority Species in their Biodiversity Action Plan. The population has plummeted and has 'Endangered' status as a British breeding bird. They are adversely affected by climate change and environmental changes in their wintering grounds. Here, modern techniques in new buildings, renovations and conversions result in air-tight buildings with enclosed eaves removing nesting opportunities, as does netting up of church towers to keep out pigeons.

Save Our Suffolk Swifts (SOSS) was established in 2014 by Suffolk Bird Group and Suffolk Wildlife Trust. They educate the public, monitor the Swift population and nest sites, protect and expand existing colonies and encourage the establishment of new colonies by putting up nest boxes and playing Swift calls to encourage uptake. SOSS supports local swift groups and establishing new ones. Local groups have installed boxes on houses, churches, and public buildings.

You can log sightings on the Suffolk Swift Survey website, ([www.suffolkbis.org.uk/swift](http://www.suffolkbis.org.uk/swift)) or on the SwiftMapper app for smartphones. Planning Officers can then set conditions for special Swift bricks in new-build houses. It would be lovely to encourage more of these wonderful birds in our community.

**Contact: [info@SuffolkWildlifeTrust.org](mailto:info@SuffolkWildlifeTrust.org)**



### Stowmarket SWT Group:

**The local group** normally holds talks in Stowmarket but these are suspended.

**Our local reserves:** Combs, Bonny, Bradfield and Bulls woods and the Blackbourne Valley where working parties are not currently functioning.

**Nature reserves are open, but please observe Government advice :**

[www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-guidance-on-access-to-green-spaces](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-guidance-on-access-to-green-spaces). 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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SWIFT



HOUSE MARTIN



SWALLOW



### Christmas comes early for Stowmarket choir

Stowmarket Chorale, a 65-member choral society with a 120-year history of concerts in Stowmarket and beyond, received a Christmas present of £500 from Stowmarket Town Council towards helping the choir get through this difficult time when in-person concerts and rehearsals, have been impossible. The choir still meets on Wednesday nights at 7.30pm, but instead of Combs Ford Primary School the rehearsal is held online, on Zoom. The choir has adapted its choice of rehearsal music since the Covid crisis struck, and has now offered a wide assortment of material to keep members interested – from the soaring harmonies of sacred favourites such as Mozart’s Ave Verum Corpus, to the evergreen tunefulness of A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square. In the run up

to this most peculiar Christmas, participants were invited to put in requests for favourite carols and the sessions were made open to the public - guest singers can participate without charge and without commitment, and warmly welcomed and having enjoyed the experience, may become full members.

Photo: Stowmarket Chorale’s Secretary Anna Cordon with a big cheque at the Town Council Offices.



## SCAMS

**I'm really worried about my elderly relatives being targeted by coronavirus scams - are there any warning signs that I can tell them to look out for? What should they do if they think something is a scam?"**

Unfortunately, we've seen an increase in scams since the beginning of the pandemic, so it's good to be thinking about the steps you can take to help protect friends and family.

Common scams we're seeing are about bogus testing kits, coronavirus vaccinations and government refunds or fines. You should watch out for messages about coronavirus from unusual email addresses or phone numbers, and shouldn't click on any links. Be aware that you won't be asked to pay for coronavirus vaccinations - they are provided for free by the NHS. Here are some general warning signs to look out for:

- You suspect you're not dealing with a real company – for example, if there's no postal address
- You've been asked to transfer money quickly or to pay in an unusual way – for example, by iTunes vouchers or through a transfer service like MoneyGram or Western Union
- You've been asked to give personal information like passwords or PINs
- You haven't had written confirmation of what's been agreed

If you think something is a scam you should hang up the phone, close the website, or shut the front door. Never feel pressured to make a decision straight away, and don't give out personal details or money unless you're certain that they can trust the person. If you feel threatened or unsafe you can ring 999.

For help with online scams, contact a Citizens Advice Scams Action adviser by calling 0808 250 5050. For more information about other types of scams, visit <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scamsaction/>

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, housing, 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).

## **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 Phlebotomy, 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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## ANAGRAMS - IN YOUR GARDEN

1. Tincan Soar .....
2. Weep Tessa.....
3. Wide Check.....
4. Maid Lucas .....
5. Malt Ices .....
6. Sample .....

7. Liver Chirbs .....
8. Fold Faid .....
9. Wally Liter .....
10. Prods Now.....
11. Boll Here .....
12. Ranth How .....

Answers next time!

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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

## Travelling with your pet

While a holiday might feel like a long way off right now, new pet travel rules were recently introduced affecting how people travel to the EU or Northern Ireland with their four-legged friends. So, what are the new rules, and how do they apply to you?

### Animal Health Certificate

Under the new rules, you will need to ensure that your pet has an Animal Health Certificate (AHC) instead of the previous pet passport. You will also need to ensure that your pet is microchipped, vaccinated, and checked by a vet. Dogs travelling to Finland, Malta, Northern Ireland, Norway or Republic of Ireland must also be treated against tapeworm. The rules currently only apply to dogs, cats, ferrets and assistance dogs. If you wish to travel with any other species, please check for any additional restrictions or requirements before travel. You cannot take more than five pets to an EU country or Northern Ireland unless you are attending a competition or sporting event.

### Non-EU-countries

Travel rules to non-EU countries are slightly different in that owners will need to apply for an Export Health Certificate. An EHC checks that your pet meets the health requirements of the country you are travelling to. There is no change to current health preparations or documents for pets entering Britain from the EU or Northern Ireland.

### General travel tips

When travelling with your pet, make sure they are secured in a travel crate or with a pet seatbelt – not only is a loose pet a serious distraction for a driver, they could also be seriously injured should an accident occur. Please also allow time to take breaks to enable your pet to stretch its legs and have a drink.

Please contact your vet as soon as possible if you are planning to travel in 2021. To stay up to date with the latest pet travel advice visit [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) or call the Pet Travel Scheme helpline on 0370 241 1710. For more information about travelling with your pet, or for advice on any matter relating to your pet's health, please contact Stowe Veterinary Group on 01449 613 130 or visit [stovevets.co.uk](http://stovevets.co.uk)



**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.

Prices:

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

A5 format: £15 framed - £10 unframed.

£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 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 Martin, creetingnewsletter@gmail.com

**Advertising:** Jennie Blackburn 01449 721369  
clerk@csmmpc.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)

### Creeting 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@csmmpc.co.uk](mailto: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.

### Creeting 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)

**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.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

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