

## **Newsletter Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2023**

Joan Hardingham and Kathryn Martin – co-Editors

The Creeping St. Mary Newsletter continues to be published every 2 months with the February edition being the first of what is now Volume 43. It is delivered to approximately 395 (up from 375) houses in Creeping St. Mary by volunteers co-ordinated by David Haynes. There are about 10 distributors and the numbers of copies each distribute varies between 16 and 71 – a big thank you!. The two large housing developments on Flordon Road - at the Breheny site and the Charity Land plus other small in-fills (adding 100 or more houses to the village) will require more newsletters and more distributors though these are already bring recruited from the inhabitants.

The Newsletter aims to be a source of local information for every household, with a who's who of local organisations and their contact details. Village events arranged by the very active Social Club and numerous other village organisations are featured, Up-to-date and timely information about future events would be appreciated, as well as items on past events and photos. There are also the reports from Parish, District and County Councillors to be digested.

A big hole has been left with the passing of Paul Scully who for many years reported on the village footpaths and undertook, if found in poor state, to take matters up with the County Council. He also entertained us with fascinating stories from the history of the village – and occasional jokes! Perhaps people would fill this gap by telling us about their walks and any interesting history they might know of. Further information about the old map found in the Church, which Paul mentioned in a recent newsletter could be published.

Advertisers continue to support the publication, going a long way to covering the costs. New advertisers join regularly; please support their businesses. We were grateful to receive donations towards the costs of publication from County Councillor Matthew Hicks.

A difficulty for the editors continues to be people not adhering to the deadline which is 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication (January, March, May, July, September and November). This can require re-organising pages at the last minute which can lead to errors creeping in and making it hard for the co-editors Joan Hardingham (on the computer) and Kathryn Martin (proof-reading among other things) to keep up the standards they would like. Another issue is still some over-long articles – a page is about 450 words, with no space for photos!

Thanks to Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk, who keeps track of finances and to Gipping Press who not only publish the Newsletter (sometimes at short notice) but also review it to check there are no major mistakes and deliver the copies to the village when complete.

To note – the other reports to the APM will be published in the newsletter over the course of the next year.