

The Creeping St. Mary Newsletter



Daffodils brightening up the Village
photo courtesy of Juliet Davis

Volume 43/2 April/May 2024

REGULAR VILLAGE EVENTS

n.b. always check with individual organisation for changes

Church services and other church events - p. 14

Social Club, Friday Bar - Village Hall last Friday each month, 7-10.30pm,

CSM Women's institute - Village Hall - second Wednesday each month - p. 25

Mobile Library - p. 26

CSM Primary School Term dates - p. 21

Village contact details - pages 34 & 35

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Council meeting 7.30 Village Hall: Thur 28th March - p 34

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting

- 7 p.m. on Thursday, 9th May 2024. Village Hall, All Welcome!

AGM of St. Mary's Church Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Monday 15 th April, 7. 30 p.m., in the Vestry. All welcome.

Election for Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner

Thursday 2nd May 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Village Hall

Lilley's Wood Open morning Sunday 12 May from, 10am to 11.30am. - p.27

Eastern Angles - Stones in His Pockets` Saturday April 13th

Spring Soup Lunch - 12.p.m. 20th April, Village Hall .

Stones in His Pockets by Eastern Angles Touring Theatre Creeping St Mary Village Hall Saturday 13th April 7.30pm

only a few tickets remaining - get yours now!

also see back cover

Venture across the Irish Sea to County Kerry this Spring. Local lads Jake and Charlie are working as extras on a Hollywood epic movie that has taken over their small village in rural Ireland. Switching from plucky Irish extra to know-it-all American movie star with a flick of the wrist, the pair take on all 15 characters to tell the story of the impact this movie has on their local community. The result is a sad, hilarious and irresistible play that pushes the boundaries of storytelling.

Inspired by the cinematic stylings of Wes Anderson, we are also adding newly composed music and video projection to the multi-award winning play. A hit in Dublin, Edinburgh and London's West End, Stones In His Pockets is a chance for audiences to laugh, cry and revel in the power of theatre.

Suitable for ages 14+

Tickets £12 from

Glynis Clint 01449 720740

David Allan 01449 720061

EDITORIAL

Rev pHILLIPS retiring
photo i/d

As in other elections you will need photo i/d to vote. there are many forms not always obvious but certainly passport, old people's bus pass, proof of age card for 18-25 year-olds but not an employment or student pass.

A note from your long-suffering Eds.

The newsletter deadline of 15th of the month prior.

Number of words one page 480 densely packed words; nicely spaced with sub-headings and paragraphs: 450; a small photo takes up 30 word-spaces.

Please continue contributing articles and photos

CREETING ST MARY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thursday, 9th May at 7pm at the Village Hall . All welcome!

Once a year in May organisations in the village report their activities to the Parish Council. Come and find out what has been happening in the village
Reports are from:

The Chairman of the Parish Council - (June/July edition 2023)

The District Councillor (no report due to the recent election)

The County Councillor (August/September 2023)

The Village Hall Management Committee (February/March 2024)

The Newsletter (Feb/March 2024)

The Social Club (October/November 2023)

The Primary School (October/November 2023r)

The Church - St. Mary's (December/ January 2023/4)

The Welfare Charities (December/ January 2023/4)

The Womens' Institute (Feb/March 2023)

The Blacksmiths Field - (June/July 2023)

The Parochial Church Council

They are to be featured in the newsletter over the next year.



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Dawn Boon 07739012015

CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual Parish Meeting

Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting is due to be held at 7pm on Thursday, 9th May 2024. All Welcome!

Dunches Lane

The Parish Council would be very interested in the views of residents in relation to Dunches Lane, with it being cleared and bringing it back to a highway. The work would enable the lane to be used by cyclists and pedestrians with wheelchairs and pushchairs and would help create a circular route that could be accessed by all. If you are in favour of these works and feel you would use this route to walk or cycle, please do let the Parish Council know by emailing the Parish Clerk clerk@csmmpc.co.uk

Projects that the Parish Council are currently considering / investigating are:

Additional parking for the school

Speeding in the village

Works to the pond on All Saints Road

Projects that the Parish Council have agreed to are:

Additional benches - Blacksmiths Field

Benches – Lilley's Wood

Zip Wire and Basketball Hoop – Blacksmiths Field

Works Completed

Resurfacing of front car park – Village Hall

Clearing of the pond - Blacksmiths Field

Public Footpaths

Whilst out walking, if anyone sees any issues with Footpaths please report them at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/report-a-public-right-of-way-issue> or notify the Parish Clerk. Thank you.

Volunteers

Please Note – There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Also, if anyone is interested in helping out within the village, the Village Hall and Social Club, plus other village groups, would love to hear from you!

Parking on Needham Market High Street

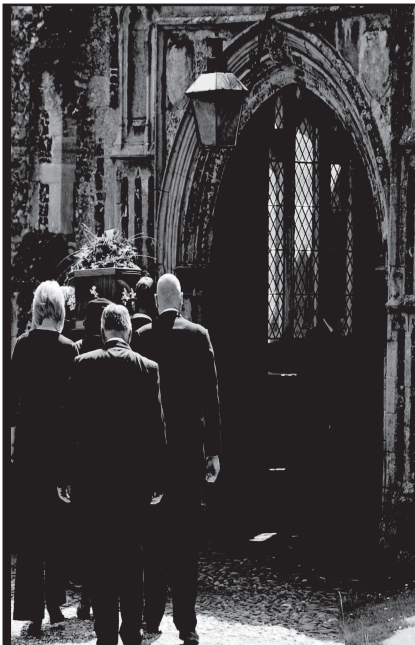
District Councillors Terry Lawrence and Ross Piper, are seeking the views of residents in relation to parking on the High Street in Needham Market, by way of increasing the parking time from one hour to two hours. Would you be in support of this? Please let the Parish Clerk know your views.

Next meetings – Thursday, 28th March 2024

Thursday, 9th May (Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting)

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@csmmpc.co.uk or phone 01449 721369 (answer phone) or come along in person to the next meeting.

District Councillors' Report for Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden, Needham Market Town
Dr Ross Piper Mid Suffolk District Councillor



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Council Budget agreed

The first Green Administration budget was agreed by Council in February. There will be a 2% increase in Council Tax (lower than most authorities). The cost of services to residents and communities is expected to rise by £1.8M, and Core Government funding is not matching the inflationary pressures, so the modest council tax increase should help protect services and build on the new priorities of the Council. The Green Administration is putting environmental sustainability and social justice at the heart of all its activities.

Housing Revenue Budget

The housing revenue budget will have financial challenges ahead, most notably an increase of £1.1M in the cost to run the housing service. The housing revenue account and council general fund account are completely separate so there is no way to cross subsidise from one account to the other. There will be a 7.7% increase in housing rents this year just to keep pace with rising costs. There will also be increases in both service and utility charges for sheltered housing tenants. Advice and help for those struggling with finances is available from the Council.

Council of the Year Award

The councils of Mid Suffolk, with a Green Party administration, and Babergh, that is Independently led, have just been jointly awarded Council of the Year for their collaboration and focus on their communities. This was awarded by the iESE, a not-for-profit organisation created by local authorities as a shared resource to transform public services and retain experience within the sector.

Rural Transport grants

A new rural transport grants scheme has just been launched to help provide passenger transport options across the district. Existing community transport operators can apply for funding before 15th April. More details are available here: <https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/rural-transport-grants-scheme>.

The Vertas Bus project is hoping to gain help from this fund.

Joint local plan part 2

All parish and town councils across both districts have all been invited to complete a questionnaire about the services and facilities present in each area. This information is needed to prepare the next phase of the Joint Local Plan.



Energy efficiency grants Funding

is available to help residents with the cost of installing loft insulation, in partnership with Travis Perkins. There are four product options available and residents will receive a 50% discount off their purchase (up to £200), with free delivery. According to The Energy Saving Trust, it is estimated that an uninsulated home loses a quarter of its heat through its roof.

Correctly installed insulation should pay for itself many times over in its 40-year lifetime. More details can be found at the Green Suffolk website <https://www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/grants/>. A free event about making older properties more energy efficient is to take place at The Hold in Ipswich on 6th March. More details available here:

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/safe-suffolk-renters-retrofit-solutions-conference-march-2024>.

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continued from page 7.

Tree Cover

SCC has secured over £200K from the Government's local authority Treescapes Fund for over 1500 new trees in a bid on behalf of all Suffolk councils, including MSDC. The funding will go toward planting as well as maintaining the trees.

Dr Ross Piper Mid Suffolk District Councillor

Email: ross.piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk Telephone: 07928512581

VOTING FOR THE SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections in England and Wales
2nd May 2024. in the Village Hall 7.00 a.m. - 10.00 p.m.

PCCs make sure that the local police in their area are meeting the needs of the community.

There are 39 police areas across England and Wales who:

- Set the police budget and make sure it's spent effectively

- Appoint the local Chief Constables

- Engage with the public and victims of crime

- Help set police and crime plans and organise projects, working closely with local council and community organisations.

The PCC represents you in your local police force

As in other elections you will need photo ID to vote. There are many forms not always obvious but certainly passport, old people's bus pass, proof of age card for 18-25 year-olds but not an employment or student pass.

<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/photo-id-youll-need>

You can get a voter Authority Certificate

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

Best - register to vote (from the age of 16) <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

or a postal vote <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/apply-vote-post>

BE PREPARED FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, ANY TIME THIS YEAR



Report for the Thredling Division Suffolk County Council from Cllr Matthew Hicks

This has been Edited (.....) for full version see CSM website

Public consultation on SCC's proposed devolution deal starts on 18th March

A 10-week public consultation on our proposed devolution deal runs until 26th May. There is an open survey, hosted by Suffolk County Council, for residents and a sample survey of 1000 Suffolk residents independently by Ipsos Mori. see www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution and social media. There will also be media coverage

Dragon Patcher lands in Suffolk to bolster response to rural potholes

This pothole-repairing machine will be trialled in rural Suffolk. The machine uses compressed air to clean the surface then heats to a temperature so repair material can bond with the road surface, allowing the pothole to be repaired with an aggregate and hot bitumen material. Compared with the



DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

It will likely come as no surprise to anyone that council budgets are currently under intense pressure, with some local authorities in other parts of the country having now reached crisis point.

While the picture for the likes of Suffolk County Council and Ipswich Borough Council is nowhere near as challenging as for counterparts in places such as Birmingham – where the City Council has declared bankruptcy – it is still important that a responsible approach is taken to all local government spending.

As the MP for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich, I work closely with many of the outstanding councillors who represent our communities and see firsthand how motivated they are to deliver the very best for residents in difficult financial times.

To help ease the strain on the county's local authorities, I recently campaigned successfully to secure an additional £7 million for Suffolk. Increasing funding alone will not, however, solve the wide-ranging issues facing our councils. While interventions of this kind from myself and fellow Suffolk MPs can provide some support, I firmly believe local government transparency is just as vital in maintaining public confidence.

Last year, the newly created Office for Local Government (Oflog) set up a dashboard to make data from each and every council across the nation accessible to the public. This enables anyone to monitor the performance of their own council and compare this with other authorities.

Whether it's bin collections, public transport or SEND provision in schools, the region's councils are in place to serve our communities. I hope that the latest innovation from Oflog will help ensure all residents can better understand both the ways in which their local authorities are doing well and where improvements can be made.

The ability to directly compare councils is fundamental to this. While I fully understand calls for extra funding at a time when local government finances are having to be carefully managed, the dashboard offers a more pragmatic solution – providing insights into how the best performing councils nationally are offering good services while also balancing the books.

While the free-to-use tool empowers concerned residents to examine exactly how their council tax contributions are being spent – and hold their elected representatives to account for these decisions – I also believe the platform can serve as a new way to engage communities with local democracy and ensure they feel connected to the decision makers in their area.

**Tel: 0207219 7038 www.drdanielpoulter.com daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk
se of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA 020 7219 7038**

traditional approach, the Dragon Patcher can work five times faster. This trial is in addition to the potholes being repaired around the clock as part of the routine repair programme, during the past two months Suffolk Highways has repaired 2,851 potholes.. Fuelled by the biodiesel, HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil), the patcher reduces raw material use and creates zero waste providing significant carbon savings when compared to traditional patching techniques.... Once the trial ends in Suffolk, a decision will be taken on whether to roll out the technology across the county.

Councils' loft insulation offer for Suffolk homes

Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders have launched a Suffolk Loft Insulation offer, teaming up with builders' merchant Travis Perkins to offer Suffolk residents a significant reduction on loft insulation. There are four product options available, and residents will receive a 50% discount off their purchase (up to £200), with free delivery.... The Loft Insulation Grant is being funded by Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders and Travis Perkins and will help contribute to Suffolk's Climate Emergency Plan and our vision for Suffolk to become Carbon Neutral by 2030.

More of Suffolk's tree cover and orchards to be restored

Suffolk County Council has secured funding of £201,213 from the government's Local Authority Treescapes Fund on behalf of Babergh District Council, East Suffolk Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Ipswich Borough Council and West Suffolk Council. The funding will go towards the planting of the trees..... and three years of maintenance The Fund aims to restore tree cover in non-woodland areas which may have been impacted by issues such as disease, habitat degradation or ageing tree stock. Many of the proposed projects will involve their local community and pupils from local schools. We have now made three successful bids to the Local Authority Successful tree-planting doesn't have to cover many acres of land – small residential plantings can have an equally significant impact on local residents and wildlife. Access to a green space helps improve our health and wellbeing, and can be havens for insects and support wildlife. It's crucial that we continue to protect and enhance our local environment, and help reverse the decline in Suffolk's biodiversity. Creating more orchards is one of the themes across the planting projects.....

Applications open for new Suffolk Business Board

Inspirational and influential local businesspeople are sought to form the board, which will represent the local business community and will help steer the local economic strategy to create a stronger and higher-skilled economy for Suffolk. The board will meet 4-6 times a year to help shape economic strategy and priorities for Suffolk, to oversee delivery of funded programmes such as business support and skills training for Suffolk, and to work closely with partners Expressions of interest should be emailed to businessboard@suffolk.gov.uk by Friday 22 March, Board membership is a voluntary position and terms are for up to three years..... The Business Board is supported by a dedicated team of council officers.

Matthew Hicks - County Councillor for the Thredling Division

Tel : 01728 628176 Mob : 07824 474741

E-mail : matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk

CHURCH SERVICES

The Benefice of North Bosmere

The Churches of Coddendam, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Crowfield, Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva, Gosbeck, Hemingstone, Stonham Aspal with Mickfield. All services are Benefice Services. See notices for changes.

Online worship (via Zoom) takes place each Sunday at 09.30 am.

To join: email northbosmerebenefice@gmail.com at least 2 days before

Priest-in-Charge Rev'd Philip Payne, revphilippayne@btinternet.com

The Rectory, The Street, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ, 01449 711684

Church Services

Sun 31 March, Easter Sunday. 09.30 am, Easter Worship at Creeting St Peter

6.30 pm, Festal Evensong at Creeting St Mary

Sun 7 April, 09.30 am, Morning Worship at Creeting St Peter

Sun 14 April, 11.00 am, Morning Prayer BCP at Creeting St Mary

Sun 21 April, 11.00 am, Holy Communion BCP at Creeting St Peter

Sun 28 April, 11.00 am, Holy Communion at Creeting St Mary

Sun 5 May, 09.30 am, Morning Worship at Creeting St Peter

Sun 5 May, 3.30 pm, Rogation Service at Stonham Parva

Sun 12 May, 11.00 am, Morning Prayer BCP at Creeting St Mary

Sun 19 May, 11.00 am, Holy Communion BCP at Creeting St Peter

Sun 26 May, 11.00 am, Holy Communion at Creeting St Mary

Creeting St. Mary Church News

<https://www.creating-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-church/>

Church Services - Matins or Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sunday - 11am

Church open on Sundays -after clocks change- Winter 12-3 pm. Summer 11-4 pm.

Details of Church festivals: see notices or ring Glynis Clint on 01449 720740

Church events

Our PCC 's AGM will take place in the Vestry on Monday 15 th April, 7. 30pm.

Table Top Sale and Cafe.

Please keep this event and date in your diary.

We are planning to hold a Table Top Sale and Cafe on Saturday June 15 th in Creeting St Mary Village Hall, 2pm —5pm in aid of repairs for the Vestry Roof.

We hope you will be able to join us for this fund raising event for our Vestry, **Old School Room roof repair.**

This historic building was used as a school room, built in 1837 before the Village school was built in 1871., it now needs a complete new roof.

Good quality donations for the sale gratefully accepted. There will also be a chance to hire a table for £5 if you wish to sell your own items.

Church and Vestry Clean.

A Spring clean of the Church and Vestry on Monday 8th April. 2–3pm.

Hope you might be able to join us to prepare the Church and Vestry for Spring.

Wedding, Saturday 20 th April.

We are looking forward to welcoming Evie and Martyn on their wedding day.

We wish them happiness and good health in the years to come.

Contact Glynis Clint 01449 720740



From the Rectory

Rev. Philip Payne
ALL CHANGE

Why do you look for the living among the dead? (Luke 24:5).

Early on the first day of the week, several of the women who had followed Jesus came to the tomb to pay their respects. They found the tomb was empty, the body gone and a stranger asks Why do you look for the living among the dead? So dawned the first Easter morning.

This summer I am retiring. After 13 years ordained ministry, it's time to move on. Retirement conjures up many different images: for some, almost a death sentence; for others, liberation, your time's your own. Ah, I like the last one. In 2009, after 30+ years of service, I retired from the RAF. Leaving one service I immediately entered another, beginning my training for ordination; a new and fulfilling life beckoned. This time, retirement is different.

On Good Friday we marked Jesus' execution. Grief struck, confused, broken; his closest followers went into hiding, fearing for their own safety. Others drifted away. By Sunday, less than 3 days later, news was filtering out that his tomb was empty and he was alive again. The resurrection marks a turning point in the life of Jesus' followers, a turning point in the relationship of God and humankind. It took time for the word to spread and the implications sink in, but this was the ultimate new beginning. All was about to change.

Retirement also marks a turning point, albeit far less dramatic. We, too are looking to a new beginning. Retirement is not 'putting our feet up'; we are confident that it will bring new opportunities. This is not being pensioned-off but **rerolled**.

My retirement marks a change, not only for myself, but for the communities that Mary and I serve in. There will, inevitably, be a time of vacancy before the appointment of a new Rector. Frustrating though that might be for some, it also offers an opportunity to take stock; explore new ideas; do things differently.

Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen.

Rev'd Philip

April 2024



CREETING ST MARY SOCIAL CLUB

Diamond Jubilee Hall

www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/social-club/social-club-news/
open to residents of the village and surrounding area

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE!

Forms are available from William Barnes CSM_SocialClub@outlook.com or
tel.: 07771 814651

event details are sent to members by email and Facebook

Opportunities to get involved in the Village

There is a lot going on in the village for those wanting to get involved. Many activities are featured in this magazine - see the regular reports on events in and around the village. In addition, you could volunteer for:

The Village Hall Management Committee which meets around 8 times a year and has a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, the Hall Bookings Secretary and around 7 volunteers. There is a budget for running the well-used Jubilee Hall.

The Social Club Committee meets more-or-less monthly and has around 10 attendees. They arrange events, mostly at the village hall, such as Fireworks involving at least 20 people, Spring and Autumn soup lunches Christmas parties for adults and children and biennially the Eastern Angles theatre production. A good number of volunteers help manning the bar at events.

To find out more about becoming involved, simply contact :

Janet Mayell – Village Hall Chair - janetmayell@btinternet.com

Lisa Nobes – Social Club Chair - lisa.moss1@btopenworld.com

or email the relevant secretary:

Village Hall – Sue Haynes - susannehaynes@talk21.com

Social Club – William Barnes – wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk



Social Club events programme to April 2024

(All events at Village Hall unless indicated otherwise)

Below is the programme for the club from now to the end of April.

29th March	Friday Bar 7pm to 10.30pm
9th April	Soup Lunch 12 midday to 1.30pm
13th April	Eastern Angles play 7.30pm to 10.30pm
26th April	Friday Bar 7pm to 10.30pm

Eastern Angles

See the back cover and for more information visit

<https://easternangles.co.uk/event/stones-in-his-pockets>

<https://w.wiki/8qvv>

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

The Spring Soup Lunch programme The lunches are very sociable and cost maximum £5 per head – a very nice way to chat with others in the village in an informal setting.

wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk

William Barnes Social Club Secretary

Quiz Night

Saturday 16 March saw the third annual Creeping St Mary Quiz Night at Creeping St Mary Village Hall. Over 90 quizzers making up 17 teams began the evening with a delicious fish and chip supper, provided by The Moving Plaice. Whilst dinner was being devoured our quiz master, Shaun, provided table quizzes.

Once dinner was over the main event started and the chase was on. Topics included music, tv, sport, history, and even Walkers crisps most successful flavours. Who knew Marmite would be in the Top 10? The competition was intense and ended with a tie between The Animals and Happy Days, who both scored an impressive 71 points. The tension mounted as Shaun announced the tie break, which was eventually won by The Animals who were declared overall winners.

The evening was a huge success bringing together people from all around the area. Special thanks to quiz master Shaun Vincent and food providers The Moving Plaice, not to mention the Creeping St Mary Social Club bar staff who kept the quizzing crowd well lubricated!

Jacqui Mann

The Diamond Jubilee Village Hall

Village Hall Management Committee

Janet Mayell, Chair; William Barnes, Treasurer and Sue Haynes, Secretary.

What goes on in the Hall you may ask? Well, quite a lot!

Do take a look at our new website which you can access from the village website, and there you will find details of the classes available. We have upgraded our entry thanks to Marvin Crisp who has taken this on.

The Hall is to hire:

Features: a large hall, (capacity 100), bar and a smaller lounge and meeting room (with WIFI) which can all be hired separately; plus a well equipped kitchen, ample tables and chairs, toilet facilities, an outside patio, large car park and access to Blacksmith's Field.

Bookings: tel. 07849 817488 csmbookhall@gmail.com

**To contact the committee: Sue Haynes (Secretary) - 01449 722570
creetingjubileehall@gmail.com**

**This page is available to
advertise your business
see back page for rates**



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Alder Tree Ice Cream

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Craft Butchery

Great British Food Award Gold Winning Sausages 2023



Courtyard Cafe - Open Daily

Picnic & Play Areas | Farm Nature Trail

Garden Centre with Plants by Katie s Gardens

Pottery | Jewellery & Gifts | Antiques | Sugarcraft

Alder Carr Farm, Creting St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8LX
www.aldercarrfarm.co.uk 01449 720820 farmshop@aldercarrfarm.co.uk



The Animals, winners of the quiz at the Village Hall
photo courtesy Jacqui Mann



WI crafts
photos courtesy Trilley Roper



Spring is busting out all over!
photo courtesy Chris Bingley

**Page sponsored
 by Alder Carr Farm**





Spring - but with Autumn leaves lingering *photo courtesy Juliet Davis*



**Page sponsored by
Suffolk Trees
& Hedges**



**Spring - its not just about flowers -
exhausted shepherds are tending
flocks night and day at this time
*photo courtesy Juliet Davis***



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CREETING ST. MARY VOLUNTARY-AIDED CHURCH SCHOOL

We have seen so much progress and growth in the children already this year, they continue to amaze us!

Our Year 3 and 4 class are on a trip this term to see the Longship in Woodbridge, tying in with their Viking theme topic this term. The whole school have also been to visit the gymnastics centre at Pipers Vale in Ipswich. This happens in 2 separate trips, with the school being split into Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. A really fantastic trip for everyone!



We celebrated World Book day on March 7th, not by dressing up, but by decorating potatoes as our favourite and most loved story book characters! All of the photos of the potatoes can be seen under the 'Latest News' section of the website, or in the East Anglian Daily Times. The children always make such an effort with their potatoes and let their imaginations flow, We chose a winner per year group to receive a £5 book voucher, donated by the PSA.

Our Year 4s and 5s have continued with their swimming and have all grown in confidence and ability. Our Year 6s recently found out which high school they will be going to, and have been working hard revising for their SATS in May. We are looking forward to going back onto the field once it has dried out a little bit, roll on the warmer weather! Lots of brilliant things are coming up this term and into the start of the Summer term. Visit our website for all information and news.

F. Knights, Chair, PSA (Parents Staff Association) Committee

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

Spring Term 2024
Wednesday 3rd January
to Thursday 28 March
Half term Monday 19 February

CREETING ST. MARY WELFARE CHARITIES.

Charity number: 207445

Providing assistance to Village residents and sometimes outside, in financial need by reason of, age, illness, unemployment or for education. Possible grants are: annual grants to state pensioners; the relief of general hardship; maternity costs; funeral expenses and pendant alarms. No repayments are needed, nor are they means tested.

STUDENT GRANTS

If you are 18 and in Further or Higher education you can apply annually for your course. Provide information on the course and College or University.

GRANTS FOR STATE PENSIONERS

A monetary grant once a year, payable at the end of the year. Previous recipients will need to apply again.

All applications for grants are treated in the strictest confidence.

TRUSTEES: (New volunteers are welcome to get in touch!)

Mr. P Stephenson (Chair) 01449 722868 Mr. D. Primmer (Hon. Clerk);
Rachel Craggs, 07590825564; Mrs. P. Day 01449 720057;
Mrs. K. Martin 01449 720491.

Please make enquires to the Clerk of the Trustees

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

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Footpaths and Bridleways and A Bit of History

I you have been turning the page looking for Paul Scully's pieces on footpaths and village history, or indeed anything on those subjects, you will be sadly disappointed. Paul's contributions will be sadly missed following his passing.

The Parish Clerk advises that the Parish Council have decided that currently no one person is available to adequately do what he did for so many years.

"in relation to the 'post' it has been agreed that as many Cllrs have dogs and walk the footpaths any issues could be raised by any member of the Parish Council. Also, the Highways Report It tool makes it easy for any member of the public to report any issues too (I put the link in the PC summary) So, I don't think there will be just one person, who takes over from Paul."

We hope, however that this gives the opportunity for others to contribute their experiences of walking round the village and its history.

Joan Hardingham co-Editor

Follow in Paul's footsteps -get the maps out - here are the first 20 Footpaths (FP)

in CSM - get these walked in the next 2 months and there will be more (58 in total!)

Let us know what you discover

- FP1 River Gipping towpath FP58 midway between Hawks Mill and Ravens Bridge to St Marys Road at St Marys Cottages
- FP2 River Gipping, Ravens Bridge to Parish boundary, then Creting St Peter FP14 to Flint Hall
- FP3 River Gipping, Ravens Bridge to Watering Farm, Jacks Green Road.
- FP4 St Marys Church to A14 to Jacks Green Road, Birwill/Rosery.
- FP5A All Saints Road at Old Forge to Low Lane.
- FP5 Low Lane across River Jordan to Fenn Lane, Fenn House.
- FP6 Low Lane, Woolney Hall to Parish boundary at River Jordan then Earl Stonham FP58 to Fenn Lane
- FP7 Low Lane, Woolney Hall to Parish boundary at River Jordan then Earl Stonham FP58 to Fenn Lane
- FP11 Junction of FP12 and FP56 from Green Lane to Stonham Aspal FP37 at Burnt House Barn to Stonham Aspal.
- FP12 Coddendam Green Lane Farm to Parish boundary then Stonham Aspal FP29 to Broughton Hall.
- FP15 A140 near Vale Farm to Coddendam Green, Owls End.
- FP16 A140, Chequers Lane to junction of FP18 and FP17 to All Saints Road , Red Houses.
- FP17 All Saints Road, Red Houses to meet FP16 Chequers Lane A140.
- FP18 Junction FP19 and 20 to junction of FP16 and FP17.
- FP19 All Saints Road, Grange Farm to junction of FP18 and FP20.
- FP20 Junction of FP18 and FP19 to Junction of BR21 and BR22



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Creeping St. Mary Women's Institute

Jubilee Hall, Creeping St Mary IP6 8NF
Meetings are at 7.30pm 2nd Wednesday of the month.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The guest speaker in February was Anne Reader who presented a fascinating presentation on the history of millinery. This included plenty of participation and interaction, especially the trying on of all the beautiful hats and headwear that Anne had brought along.

In March we held our first dabble day, which was a huge success where members tried a variety of crafts from cross stitch to card making and lots in between!



If you enjoy outings, parties or just a delicious piece of cake and a chat this is the group for you, we are always looking to welcome new members so why not come along and join us.

Programme

March 13th - **What no cake** Ukulele band
April 10th - Birthday celebrations {Afternoon tea}
May 8th - Drought Gardening
June 12th- Garden meeting
July 10th- Natural Dyes and colour from plants
August 14th - Outing
September 11th - Stately halls of East Anglia
October 9th - Suffolk ghosts and hauntings
November 13th - AGM and baking competition
December - Christmas celebrations

New for 2024 every other month we hold a Ladies at lunch, trying local restaurants and cafes. Also new for 2024 dabble days our first one will be held on April 17th {Napkin art} so if you would like to join us we are always looking to welcome new members please contact Trilly,

Trilly Roper on 07535788289 or email trillyann47@gmail.com

Be a Local Recorder for CREEPING ST MARY

The Suffolk Local History Council runs a Recorders Scheme. we ensure that the 'present' is recorded at local level for the 'future'. They would note significant events and collect the parish magazines, leaflets, election pamphlets and newspaper cuttings and submit these to the Suffolk Records Office. There is a Newsletter and an annual conference.
www.slhc.org.uk contact recorders@slhc.org.uk



Suffolk Libraries MOBILE LIBRARY

Route 13 at Creeting St. Mary

On Friday every four weeks at
Whissel's Farm at 11.20-11.30 and
outside 30 All Saints Road at 11.35- 45

Dates for 2023:

4 August, 1 September, 29 September,
27 October, 24 November, 22
December, 19th January 2024

Contact no. 07955193623

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/mobile-libraries/ipswich-mobile-library-route-13

You can renew titles on line at Suffolk Libraries



Needham Market Library

The old Middle School music room in School
Street, Needham Market IP6 8BB

Monday Closed

Tuesday 1000 – 1300, 1400 - 1700

Wednesday 14.00 - 19.00

Thursday : 10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 17.00

Friday : 14.00 - 17.00

Sunday 1100 - 1600

Out-of-hours book return box available

- (not for large books though!)

Bookable rooms with regular events from IT training to play groups for young and old!

Manager: Donna Grand, 01449 720780 help@suffolklibraries.co.uk

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/needham-market-library



Suffolk Tree Warden Network (STWN)

Tree wardens champion trees and hedgerows - to tackle climate change, loss of biodiversity and providing 'corridors' for wildlife. Suffolk has only 8% tree cover (London - 20%). STWN offers free locally-sourced tree and hedgerow plants. 30,000 trees have been planted in the last 4 years.

It helps Community Tree Nurseries and works with the Woodland Trust, The Tree Council, County, District & Parish Councils

www.suffolktreewardens.org.uk. secretary@suffolktreewardens.org.uk

LILLEY'S WOOD

Lilleys Wood is around 2 acres of land between the river Gipping and Flordon Road and west of the Needham Market sewage plant. It is 5 minutes walk from the Needham Lake car park. The area is a mix of trees, scrub and cleared areas. As the soil is of low fertility it is a very good habitat for a range of wild flowers and the scrub is superb cover for many small nesting birds, small mammals and a wide range of insects.

Our Lilleys Wood winter working parties have again undertaken sterling work to keep the three clearings within the wood free of trees and brambles. This protects the habitat for our rare plants, The perimeter hedge that was laid last year is beginning to flourish and should have superb hawthorn blossom in April or May. The hedge and the scrub will be alive with bird song through the same months as our migrating birds return from Africa and elsewhere for their summer holidays! A number of the wooden benches have either rotted at the base or been pulled over and broken. We are grateful to the Parish Council for arranging to instal some new benches made of recycled plastic.

We plan to have another open event at the Wood on the morning of Sunday 12 May from 10am to 11.30am. This to provide an opportunity to have a look at some of the rare plants contained within the wood as well as enjoying the song birds and the insect life. There will be refreshment and cake for those who are able to join us. Do come along. If you need any further information or possibly to join the volunteer team which will re-start work in the autumn, please do get in touch with me on wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk.

William Barnes

Ed.: As the area is special for lots of different wildlife and plants unusual in the area, please limit disturbance and keep dogs under close control.



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SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

Stowmarket branch



Suffolk
Wildlife Trust

We are volunteers who care about wildlife, its beauty, diversity and importance to everyone. We support the Trust's aims and vision for a Living Landscape - with all Wildlife Sites forming networks of linked-up habitat.

We look after local wildlife reserves: Work parties maintain Combs Wood at Stowmarket and Bonny Woods at Barking.

Local SWT reserves Bonny Wood, Combs Wood, Bradfield Woods Bulls Wood. Mickfield Meadow, Black Bourn Valley,

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

We run events at the Village Hall, Stowupland, IP14 4BQ
7.30 pm Admission £3.00.

Wednesday 24 April, 7.30pm – RSPB MINSMERE PAST AND PRESENT

A talk by David Staff on the history of the site from the earliest records, through its transformation from wartime defence to a world-class nature reserve. how it will withstand the pressures of climate change.

Next talk June 26th WILDLIFE IN OUR GARDENS by Geoff Abbott

To check event updates see www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events

Contact :John Thompson - 01449 676471 - swtstowmarket@gmail.com

Stowmarket Eco-futures Group (SEFG)

Red Gables Ipswich Rd, Stowmarket IP14 1BE

REPAIR CAFE from clean clothes to bicycles don't bin it - repair it!

TERRACYCLE RECYCLING - we collect clean items which usually have to go in the domestic waste bin so they can be recycled not go to landfill.
coffee Pods, clean pet food pouches; Plastic toothbrushes not tubes, floss containers; wrappers;crisp packets, Tetra Pack Cartons

OR - BETTER - AVOID PRODUCTS IN DIFFICULT-TO-RECYCLE CONTAINERS!

2nd Sunday each month: Repair Café and Terracycling, Red Gables, 2-4pm

4th Thurs. each month Terracycling Stall, Stowmarket Market, 9.30-11.30

Picture this: imagine a dam wall as the resistance to addressing the climate issue; The "water" building up behind is every person who sees the need for change, every "green" action – every damaging product not bought, repaired, reused, recycled, every green vote cast, every eco decision made, every gram of carbon saved. Weather and pollution events are waking people up, pushing against the wall of resistance. The radicals have taken action – not universally popular – but have drawn attention to how strongly some perceive the danger but now moderate people must speak up too.

ecofuture@gmail.com

stowrepaircafe@gmail.com

contact Stella Davis 07599 398866



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NEEDHAM MARKET AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY **Needham Market Community Centre, IP6 8BB**

Meetings are once a month usually on the first Thursday at 7.30pm in the Burton Room, with occasional outings to see gardens and an annual supper in October. Membership is annual at £12.50.

You are very welcome to attend the talks as a new or renewing member. Guests are £4 per meeting.

2024 Programme

- Thursday April 4th, Sweet Peas with John Henson
- Thursday May 9th, Suffolk Heritage Garden, Suffolk Punch Centre, Mary Owles. ***Please note this is the 2nd Thursday of the month*** as May 2nd is local election day.
- Thursday June 6th, Herbs - Wild and Tame with Ed Bieger
- **June trip to Elton Hall**, Peterborough - book through Windmill Tours.

For more details and for joining please email: sec.hortsoc@gmail.com or call 01449 723704 or come to a meeting.

The full programme can be found at nmdhs.onesuffolk.net

Hazel Mackintosh

My council tax bill is coming out in March, I am dreading opening it. My income has stayed the same but everything else seems more expensive and I have hardly anything left over - how will I cope if my payments go up?

Many are feeling overwhelmed as we see our basic bills and essential costs go up. You're not alone in finding things difficult but support is available.

First off, there are discounts available to some people depending on their circumstances. You might be eligible for an automatic reduction to your council tax.

It depends on who lives in the property. Some people aren't counted - they're called 'disregarded people' and include under 18s, student nurses or someone on an apprenticeship scheme and many more. Checking the government website (<https://www.gov.uk/council-tax/who-has-to-pay>). If this applies to everyone you will still receive a council tax bill, but with a 50% discount. If everyone is a student or severely mentally impaired, you won't pay any council tax.

If someone has moved out, tell the council as this might change your eligibility. If you are entitled to a discount as a result, it will be valid from when the person moved out, even if you told the council later and the reduction may be backdated.

You can find your council's contact details via <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-council-tax-discount>

You mention that your income hasn't increased. If you are on a low income, and on benefits you could get your council tax reduced. When you apply you will be asked details about your income and your circumstances.

If everyone aged 18 or over, you might all be responsible for paying council tax. Only one of you needs to apply for a council tax reduction. The council will make a decision and reduce the amount of council tax you have to pay accordingly.

You may also be eligible for additional support if you've reached State Pension age <https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age>. If you're under State Pension age, the 'working age rules' apply and it depends if you or your partner get certain benefits.

- Universal Credit
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income Support

If you've reached State Pension age and don't get any of these benefits, the 'pension age rules' apply.

However your local council can still reduce your council tax bill or cancel it altogether, this is called 'discretionary reduction'. They'll normally only do this if you can show that you're suffering severe hardship and can't afford to pay council tax.

If you're in this situation you should ask your local council for help. You'll need to show them evidence of your circumstances. If your immigration status doesn't let you claim public funds, you can still apply for a discretionary reduction. A discretionary reduction doesn't count as public funds.

We know that times are incredibly tough and council tax is a priority bill so it's important to keep in contact with your council if you can't keep up payments. Citizens Advice is here to help you find a way forward, without judgement, working with you side by side.

We advise on debt, employment, benefits and family law.

Contact Tel: 01449 742477 or 676060 or use the form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/

Consumer helpline is 0808 223 1133 or ask an online adviser

Stowmarket address: 5 Milton Rd. South, IP14 1EZ - opening hours are Mon-Thurs 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Needham Market Community Centre Fridays 9.30-12.30 no appointment needed.

Charity Number 1107152 Company Registration Number 5296023

Facebook: @midsuffolkcitizensadvice (X) Twitter : @midsuffolkcab

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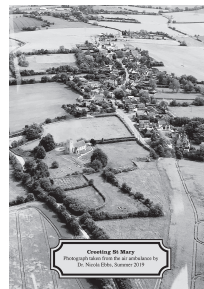
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Photo taken by Dr Nicola Ebbs from the East Anglian Air Ambulance with the proceeds to the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

To order copies please contact:

Steve Fearnie at Creeting House (opposite the church)
stevefearnie@creetinghouse.com or home 01449 720988



Puppy Socialisation

The early weeks of a dog's life have a big impact on how they behave when they grow up. With the right training and encouragement, they can learn how to interact positively with others and feel confident in everyday situations. This process is called 'socialisation'.

The best time is during the first three or four months of their life. Puppies stay with their mother and the breeder for the first eight weeks, during which time they should have started socialisation. When you welcome the new puppy into your home, it's important to make sure they have a good variety of new encounters and experiences.

Why puppy socialisation is important

We want our dogs to feel confident when encountering people and animals, at home and out and about and be happy around the normal hustle and bustle of life. Otherwise a dog will be anxious and fearful and behave in ways we don't want them to, including aggressively.

How to socialise a dog

During the socialisation period, a puppy needs to be introduced to new experiences in a safe and positive way. It's good to invite friends and family to your house, both adults and children. Allow the puppy to approach the new person, rather than the other way round. If they behave well, reward them with praise and treats. If they are anxious, it's ok to stop and try again. Before introducing your dog to other dogs, make sure your puppy is vaccinated. Diseases such as parvovirus and distemper can be fatal for puppies. Once they've had their jabs, puppy parties and classes are another great tool for socialising your dog, allowing your pup to meet other dogs and people in a safe environment with expert help on hand.

Whether you're new to owning a dog, or you've raised puppies before, there's support available to make sure their socialisation goes well.

For more information on how to socialise a puppy, including booking a place at a puppy party or class, please contact Stowe Veterinary Group

Stowe Veterinary Centre runs a 24/7 out-of-hours emergency service for registered clients and, if you need urgent assistance out of normal opening hours, the duty team can be contacted on 07900 266357. If you have any non-urgent queries, you can contact the practice on 01449 613130.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Editors of the Creeting St. Mary Newsletter:

creetingnewsletter@gmail.com

Content: Joan Hardingham, Alder Carr Farm,

Liaison with contributors and advertisers: Kathryn Martin,

Advertising: Jennie Blackburn 01449 721369

clerk@csmmpc.co.uk (Advertising rates and deadlines see the next page)

Distribution: David Haynes 01449 722570



Creeting 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)

Footpaths and Bridleways - post vacant as Paul Scully has sadly passed away.

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

Lesley Plummer - 01449 720359

Phil Piper - 07923489436

Dan Cage - has stepped down

There are 2 vacancies on the Parish Council

Parish Council Clerk : Jennie Blackburn - 01449 721369

or email: clerk@csmmpc.co.uk Meeting agendas and dates are on the village noticeboards during the week prior to the meetings, and also on the website:

<https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-council/>

Creeting St Mary Website

www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk

Contact the Parish Clerk Jennie Blackburn at 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

Janet Mayell (Village Hall Management Committee Chair) .

To hire all or part of the hall: contact 07849 817488 csmbookhall@gmail.com

Creeting St Mary Social Club: csm_socialclub@outlook.com.

Lisa Nobes (Chair), William Barnes, (Secretary) 0777814651

Lilley's Wood Work Parties monthly meetings

contact William Barnes 07771 814651. wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk

Creeting St Mary Footpaths - Details of village footpaths

<https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/footpaths-and-bridleways/>

Report footpath issues to the County Council:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/report-a-public-right-of-way->

Highway Issues - for potholes or road dangers.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue/>

Creeting St Mary Welfare Charities

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

Suffolk County Councillor for the Thredling Division:

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

Mid-Suffolk District Councillors:

Ross Piper -ross.piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk 07752 504093 Green Party

Terry Lawrence - terry.lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk 07928 512599 - Lib Dems.

Mid-Suffolk District Council - general number 0300 1234000

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

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

Creeting St Mary Neighbourhood Watch Representative:

Sue Haynes: 01449 722570

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

St. Mary's Church

<https://www.creating-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-church/>

volunteers: Glynis Clint 01449 720740

Parochial Church Council

PCC Secretary: Hazel Minter - 01449 722148

Treasurer: David Haynes - 01449 722570

Suffolk Libraries mobile library tel: 07955193623

Defibrillators

Diamond Jubilee Village Hall IP6 8NF and Phone box at Jack's Green IP6 8NA

The Newsletter is delivered bi-monthly to 395 houses in Creeting St.Mary

Newsletter deadlines: the 15th of the month of:

September - October/November edition - fireworks and Christmas events

November - December/January edition

January - February/March edition i.e. Easter

March - April-May edition - i.e. Easter if its late

May - June-July edition i.e. all those early summer events

July - August-September edition - summer holiday events

Advertising Costs

Deadline 15th of month previous.

One insertion (depending on space)

Full page - £30

1/2 page - £20

1/4 page - £15

Series of 6 adverts:

Full page - £150 (inside)

1/2 page - £100.

1/4 page - £70

colour advert by arrangement

plus a piece on your business (approx 100 words) per year

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Creeping St Mary Village Hall
Saturday 13th April, 7.30pm
Tickets: £12
01449 720740 | 01449 720061

eastern angles

The poster features a central image of a brown and white cow's face, looking directly at the viewer. The cow is wearing a black collar with yellow tags. The background is a collage of film strips showing various scenes of cows in different settings, some in green and some in orange. A large, circular, metallic-looking frame is superimposed over the cow's face, containing the title and credits. The overall design has a cinematic, indie feel.