The Creeting St. Mary Newsletter



No-way! The River Gipping reclaiming its floodplain photo courtesy of Juliet Davis

Volume 43/1 February/March 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

Next Parish Council meetings 7.30 Village Hall: Thursday 29th February - p 34 Quiz Night and Fish and Chip Supper - Saturday March 15th Eastern Angles - Stones in His Pockets` Saturday April 13th Soup/pancake lunches: 20th Feb., 9th Mar., 20th April.



EDITORIAL

Welcome to 2024 - probably another challenging year - as they all are! Memories of Christmas are probably fading fast but there were many exciting events in December - so thanks to all who organised parties, carols and more to see out the old year and the ones planned for this year.

Change there has been a-plenty. We are very sad to lose Paul Scully - a steadfast supporter of the village in his role as footpath officer and village historian he contributed many interesting articles to this magazine. We hope someone will come forward to step into his rather large shoes. The passing of Keith Sturgeon leaves a big hole - we all used to go to his nursery at Jack's Green to brighten up our plant pots and hanging baskets - sadly no more.

The Village is increasing in size a-pace and we welcome those newcomers and hope we can make their transition as easy as possible and that they will join in with our community. There are many enjoyable and sociable volunteering opportunities. On the subject of change we have a general election to look forward to - choose wisely!

The River Gipping is making itself felt - reclaiming what is, rightly, its domain - the flood plain. It is no surprise that people want that water gone - but the faster it goes the faster it builds up downstream and floods someone else's back yard or house. We must learn to live within nature's parameters.

As ever thanks go to Kathryn Martin (co-Editor) and all the contributors – especially of the lovely photos - the advertisers and deliverers and the Gipping Press printers who do a great job too.

Joan Hardingham Editor

Next newsletter deadline: the 15th of March 2024

A note from your long-suffering Eds.

The newsletter deadline of 15th of the month prior. It takes a week to turn it round at the printers and we pride ourselves that the volunteer deliverers can get it out by the first of the month. From now anything after 20th - cannot be included without exceptional excuses - those pages normally allocated will be left blank.

Number of words A page in this newsletter will take a maximum of 480 densely packed words - if you want it nicely spaced with sub-headings and paragraphs etc. then 450 - or less; a small photo takes up 30 word-spaces. Otherwise your piece will have to be cut and you may not like the result! **However, please continue contributing articles and photos**



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Dawn Boon 07739012015

CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Blacksmiths Field Survey

Following the expiry date (31st December 2023) for the Skatepark Survey, I can report that 53 responses have been received. Thank you to those of you who responded. The results were as follows:

Skatepark – 13 in favour – 41 against

Table Tennis Table - 27 in favour - 21 against

Suggestions were also received as to other possible items for Blacksmiths Field and also ways in which to spend the CiL money within the village, all of which will be considered by the Parish Council at future Parish Council meetings.

Projects

Projects that the Parish Council are currently considering / investigating are: Additional play area equipment

Additional parking for the school

Constitutional parking for the Sci

Speeding in the village

Works to the pond on Blacksmiths Field and the pond on All Saints Road Projects that the Parish Council have agreed to are:

Additional benches - Blacksmiths Field

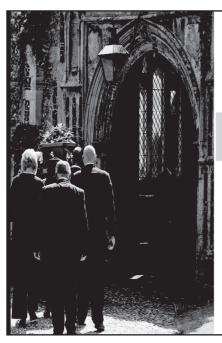
Benches - Lilley's Wood

Planning Applications Considered and Planning Decisions received

Ref: DC/23/05373 - Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/20/03721 Town and Country Planning (General Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Submission of details for the Appearance, Scale, Layout and Landscaping for Plot 1 only - Land at Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary Members had concerns over the limited parking space for this development and the scale of the building would be overdevelopment of the site. It was AGREED: That the Parish Council Object to the application for the above reasons. Clerk to action.

Ref: DC/13/04531 - APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - Application under S73 for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission DC/23/00024 dated 10.03.2023 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Application for approval of reserved matters pursuant to outline permission DC/23/00082 - appearance, landscaping and scale for severance of garden & erection of 2 no. dwellings (previous approvals ref DC/19/04868, DC/23/00082) - To vary Condition 1 (Approved Plans and Documents) to allow changes to plot 1- single garage added and bedroom 2 window revised; changes to plot 2 - general window and external door revisions - Orchard Haven, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application.





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PLANNING DECISIONS

The following Planning decisions were noted:

Ref: DC/23/03586 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey front and rear extensions (following removal of existing rear extension) including decking and replace window to flank wall with french doors. 4 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/23/03024 - Householder Application - Erection of two storey rear and front extensions, re-roofing and rendering (following demolition of existing conservatory and entrance porch and garage) - Windmill House, Creeting Hills, Creeting St Mary – Granted

Ref: DC/23/02754 - Full Planning Application - Change of use from agricultural land to mixed use including Arboricultural / Landscaper's yard providing storage of vehicles, work equipment and sale of timber - Crossways, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary - Granted

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. Also the Village Hall and Social Club, plus others, would love to hear from you if you can help!`

Report from Mid-Suffolk District Councillor Needham Market Ward This ward has 2 councillors representing Needham Market, Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, and Darmsden.

Terry Lawrence Terry.lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk Mobile 07928 512599 and Dr. Ross Piper ross.piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk; Telephone: 07928512581 As there is not room here for both reports they will be alternated. See the other report on the Parish Council website https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-council/parish-council-documents/

Dr. Ross Piper's Report Empty homes and Council Tax

To incentivise bringing more homes back into use, MSDC proposes increase the amount of Council Tax payable on long-term empty homes. Currently these attract a levy of 50% on the Council Tax payable. The new policy will be levies of 100% for empty homes being left for one (to five) years, 200% for five (to ten) years and 300% for ten years or more. **continued p.8.....**

.....continued from p.7

Exceptions will apply – such as property under probate or properties undergoing major repairs. If approved, this will be from April 2024. Additionally, it is proposed that second homes attract a 100% levy. If approved, this will be from April 2025 as a year's notice has to be given. There had been the opportunity to increase some of these from 2019 but the previous Administration did not take these up.

Greenhouse gas emissions

MSDC has published its Greenhouse Gas Emissions report for 2022/23 which shows a reduction in emissions against 2018/19 when the Council declared a climate emergency and committed to be carbon neutral by 2030.

The leisure centres are the biggest cause of emissions. As the first reductions made are the "low-hanging fruit", there will be a lot more work to continue this downward trend.

Fees & charges for 2024/25

For the annual review process of setting fees or charges MSDC has to consider factors such as inflation and the hours involved. The Council cannot charge for some statutory services and national Government sets others. Discretionary charges, such as vehicle licensing, litter bin emptying and pavement licensing, can be set locally and for these MSDC aims to cover

Stowmarket sports facilities improvements

MSDC Cabinet is proposing approval of the full business case of the Stowmarket Sports Health and Leisure Project to allow the first stage, covering new and updated sports facilities, to go ahead. This includes a 3G pitch, special athletics track, multi-games area (MUGA), improving existing pitches and other facilities. If Council approves this, it is hoped work can start in 2024.

Home insulation

costs.

The Cosy Homes initiative launched with a £2 million fund and we are encouraging householders to apply. Eligible households can apply for free energy efficiency measures in their own homes, including if privately rented. Full details to be available via www.midsuffolk.gov.uk

This initiative is in addition to a programme of retrofit for the Council's own housing stock. Also, particularly vulnerable households can continue to access help via the wider Suffolk scheme, www.warmhomessuffolk.org

Flooding

Flood payments (of £500 for residents and £2,500 for businesses) are being processed by Mid Suffolk on the basis of information from the SCC highways reporting tool and information submitted to MSDC.

Affected households may also be eligible for a discount on council tax.

Locality Award

A reminder that this year's locality awards are still open for applications. Any group or organisation can apply for amounts of £250 or more

REPORT FOR THE SUFFOLK COUNTY THREDLING DIVISION

Matthew Hicks Tel: (01728) 628176; Mob: 07824 474741

matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk

More public money for adult and children's care -an additional £42.7 million for children's services and £29.9 million for adult care are being proposed in the budget.

The Council had committed £3.4m to relocate the West Suffolk Archives branch to the proposed Western Way development. West Suffolk Council has since decided not to progress with the Western Way development, ending that opportunity. Centralising the three branches into one in Ipswich brings Suffolk in line with the majority of archive services across the country and is better value for taxpayers' money.

£15.9 million of reserves will be used to balance the 2024/25 budget.

We are putting adult and children's care at the heart of our plans but we must make difficult decisions about all the other services we deliver as the demand on council services for those most in need in Suffolk is at an all-time high.

Beware the five scams warn Trading Standards

Fake websites, scam texts and bogus competitions are just some of the tactics fraudsters use. Be wary of offers that look too good to be true and try to stick with reputable websites. Be suspicious of requests to make a bank transfer and research any individual or businesses requesting financial or personal details. The five scams to look out for over are:

Scam delivery texts and emails – a message saying your package has been delayed and it asks you to click on a link to track its status. This could lead you to a phishing site that steals your personal information.

Phone call from a bank offering to safeguard funds by transfering money into a bogus safe account;. Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 and send scam emails to_report@phishing.gov.uk

Fake and copy-cat websites - emails offering deals, sales, and bargains. Some lead to look-alike websites that trick people into downloading malware, making non-existent purchases, and sharing private information. Authenticate a website by checking the address is spelt correctly. Ideally, type it in rather than clicking on a link, or go to getsafeonline.org/checkawebsite

Bogus charities - Only donate to trusted, well-known charities. Before giving, check the charity's name and registration number. You can verify this at the Charity Commission's website at_charitycommission.gov.uk

Gift Card scams - Fraudsters impersonate one of your email contacts to ask you to buy a gift card for them. They will typically say they need help buying it as a present as they are too ill, too busy or have an issue with their payment card. The scammer then asks you to share the serial numbers of gift cards to steal the value purchased. If you receive an email asking for personal information or any form of financial help, call that friend or family member on a trusted number and let them know their account may have been hacked

Fake social media contests, giveaways, and bogus sellers - Social media platforms are full of bargains but are also where scammers lie in wait with too-good-to-be-true offers. Fraudsters set up fake pages with offers to catch your eye and encourage you to share. These are designed to get any personal information that you have publicly available on your profile. Search for the official page to see if an offer or giveaway is legitimate. continued on p. 24.



Farm Shop & Butchery, Cafe & Crafts

Finalist in the Farm Retail Best Farm Shop Awards 2024

Our own multi-award winning ice cream

Voted Grand Champion in the Great British Food Awards

Award-winning artisan butchery

With our own Great British Food Award Winning Sausages

Fresh fruit & vegetables

Including our own home grown pumpkins & squashes

Garden Centre with Plants by Katie's Gardens
Farm Nature Trail

Opening Hours

Farm Shop: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Sun & Bank Hols10am-4pm

Butchery: Tues - Sat 9am - 4pm

Cafe: Mon - Sat 9:30 - 4:30

Sun & Bank Hols 10am - 4pm

New Pottery Opening March 2024

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

CREETING ST MARY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thursday, 11th May 2023 at 7pm at the Village Hall . All welcome!

Once a year in May organisations in the village report their activities to the Parish Council. They are be featured in the newsletter over the next year 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/Novembe 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

ST MARY VILLAGE HALL REPORT TO APM MAY 2023

I am pleased to report that our Hall has had a reasonably good year, bookings have remained steady, and we have regular users who enjoy our facilities. Our main project over the last year has been the complete refurbishment of the toilets, and this was completed fairly recently. We have been pleased with the results achieved, and have had favourable comments from our hirers. Cleaning is now a lot easier too.

We have added to our Trustees over the year and also have a new Booking Secretary. Our bookings now run off a dedicated mobile phone which can be handed to a another person when holidays etc intervene, plus of course email too. Our website has been modernised and upgraded and we hope this will result in more accessibility and future bookings.

Roots and Shoots have provided us with flowers for our planters, and we would again like to thank the WI for their watering rota.

We come to the end of our electricity contract in July and it will be a challenge to deal with the inevitable increased costs. We have adjusted our hire rates recently in reflection of what is to come, but are also determined that we must stay competitive. Our solar panels help of course, and we are looking at the viability of having more installed.

The Creeting population is growing substantially, and we hope that this will provide more Hall use in the coming years.

Looking ahead, we are now looking at a full refurbishment of the lounge area, and possibly making the doors into the billiards room wider too, making that area more usable. Grants for this are currently being explored.

Chris Bingley (Chair)

Reports to the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2023 continued

Newsletter Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2023

The Creeting St. Mary Newsletter continues to be published every 2 months with the February edition being the first of what is now Volume 42. It is delivered to all the approximately 370 houses in Creeting by a reliable band of volunteers co-ordinated by David Haynes. There are 10 distributors altogether, and the numbers of copies they distribute vary between 16 and 71. It is clear that once the two big developments at the Breheny and Charity Land housing estates are completed, more will be needed but hopefully would be recruited from their inhabitants.

The Newsletter continues to be a source of information for every household, with a who's-who; details of village events arranged by the very active Social Club; numerous other organisations and some for which up-to-date information would be appreciated. Reports on events went and photos would be welcome to dilute the words! There are also the reports from Parish, District and County Councillors to be digested.

A difficulty for the editors can be people not adhering to the deadline which is 15th of the month prior to publication (January, March, May, July, September and November). The Editors sometimes have too much coming in late – requiring re-organising of the pages 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 over-long articles – a page is about 500 words, with no space for photos!

The revenue from advertising covers most of the costs but more advertisers are welcome.

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

Joan Hardingham and Kathryn Martin – co-Editors



With the hustle and bustle of Christmas and the New Year firmly behind us, it is the opportune time to take a few moments and reflect on key events of 2023. Last year saw the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, a day of great celebration for many. It was an historic moment and our communities rallied together to host events in celebration of this once in a lifetime event. Sadly, many of us were also impacted by the once in a generation flooding caused by Storm Babet in late October and I was pleased to play my part in securing the flood recovery relief fund, thanks to my direct intervention with the Prime Minister. I still continue to support residents as they recover from the flooding and press our local councils to get this money out to residents as quickly as possible in order that recovery works can get underway.

Representing the views of residents here in Central Suffolk and North Ipswich remains, as ever, my top priority and throughout 2023, I have enjoyed visiting many schools, businesses, charities, health settings and other voluntary organisations. My team and I have dealt with thousands of casework enquiries from individuals needing help throughout the year and I have received over 15,000 emails on topics such as health services, the Israel Gaza conflict, animal welfare, energy and the environment.

As a practising NHS hospital doctor, healthcare is a top priority and it is vital that residents have access to high quality services. I continue to remain focused on securing a new GP practice in Needham Market supporting residents in Claydon, Barham, Great Blakenham, Henley and surrounding villages.

I continue to support residents in the fight against National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury pylon proposals and as a key member of the Energy Security and Net Zero Select Committee, and also the OffSET group of MPs, I have long supported an offshore route as the preferred option for energy transmission. In recent weeks, I met with the Defence Secretary to discuss my concerns over the impact of the pylon proposals on the operability of military flights in and out of Wattisham Air Base. This will continue to be a key focus for me moving into 2024.

Supporting our farmers and rural communities has also been a continued focus this year, and I have pushed for greater support for our sugar beet farmers in their recent round of negotiations with British Sugar.

Visiting schools across Central Suffolk and North Ipswich remains a key part of my role and as ever, I will continue to push central government for further funding to ensure that every child in Suffolk has the very best start in life. As ever, I look forward to meeting many of you at events during the coming months and in the meantime, would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2024.

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

CHURCH SERVICES

The Benefice of North Bosmere

The Churches of Coddenham, 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 4 February, 09.30 am, Morning Worship at Creeting St Peter Sun 11 February, 11.00 am, Morning Prayer BCP at Creeting St Mary Sun 18 February, 11.00 am, Holy Communion BCP at Creeting St Peter Tue 20 February, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary Sun 25 February, 11.00 am, Holy Communion at Creeting St Mary Tue 27 February, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary Fri 1 March, 10.00 am, World Day of Prayer at Earl Stonham Sun 3 March, 09.30 am, Morning Worship at Creeting St Peter continued opposite.......

Creeting St. Mary Church News

https://www.creeting-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

Toy and Gift service. Thank you to everyone who was so generous with their gifts for the Family Refuge at Christmas. Along with the gifts from Creeting St Peter and Earl Stonham the donations were very much appreciated.

School Bazaar Friends from our Church were very pleased to help at the Bazaar. It was a bustling, happy occasion with lots of things for the children to join in with.

Carol service. The Church was beautifully decorated for our Carol service in December. The service led by Rev Philip, took the form of six lessons and six carols with music from Ian Galbraith and the benefice choir. Afterwardsthere was a chance to chat with mulled wine and mince pies. Donations were sent to FIND an Ipswich charity which cares for the homeless and people in need of support, food and advice

Benefice service. We hosted the last service of the year on 31st December and were very pleased to welcome friends from the other parishes within the benefice. **Soup lunches** see Social Club programme

Paul Sculley.

It was with deep sadness that we learnt the news that Paul sadly died after a very short illness. Paul was a true village man who cared for the village, its history and environment. Paul along with Pat worked tirelessly to help keep the churchyard neat and tidy giving up many hours to do so. We send our deepest sympathy to Pat and the family. He will be sadly missed.

Glynis Clint 01449 720740.



From the Rectory

Rev. Philip Payne AFTER THE FLOOD

It's early January and once more I am typing to the sound of heavy rain, traffic and travel warnings. Disruption due to flooding has become something of a winter staple. Travelling the same route day after day, we think we know what lies ahead. Turning a corner to find the road has become a river catches us out. So far I have avoided disaster, though I know many less fortunate. As our roads deteriorate and floods appear where I've never seen them before, I am learning to take more care; not just for my own needs but of how my reaction to the storm impacts others.

It's not just the weather. We live in stormy times, and just as a modern car shields us from the weather, our quiet and comfortable corner of Suffolk can shield us from the storms around us. There is so much in life we take for granted; such as food, shelter, peace and safety. Like the clear road ahead, there is no guarantee it will be there tomorrow. Our wellbeing is inextricably entwined with the wellbeing both of the natural world, and of our neighbours near and far. A modern car is comfortable and safe, but that protection can all too easily help us lose touch with the world around us, until it's too late. Do we allow our peace and comfort to shield us from the impact of the many storms raging in the world right now? Are we paying attention, willing to learn how we can help others in their storm? Will we still remember the needs of others when we no longer feel threatened? St Paul reminds us (Galatians 6:2) it is in bearing one another's burdens we fulfil the law of Christ. There can be no higher calling *Rev. Phillip.*

5 March, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary

Sun 10 March, 09.30 am, Mothering Sunday Worship at Creeting St Peter 11.00 am, Mothering Sunday Worship at Creeting St Mary

Tue 12 March, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary

Sun 17 March, 11.00 am, Holy Communion BCP at Creeting St Peter

Tue 19 March, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary

Sun 24 March, Palm Sunday - to be confirmed, not at Creeting St Mary.

Tue 26 March, 4.00 pm, Compline at Creeting St Mary

Thur 28 March, Maundy Thursday. 7.00 pm, Holy Communion Creeting St Peter Fri 29 March, Good Friday. 09.30 am, Devotional service at Creeting St Mary 12 noon, Walk to Earl Stonham

Sun 31 March, Easter Sunday. 09.30 am, Easter Worship at Creeting St Peter 6.30 pm, Festal Evensong at Creeting St Mary



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

If you would like to get more involved in the Village and, possibly, get to know more people locally, a very good way of doing this would be to become a member of either the Village Hall Management Committee or the Social Club Committee. These groups are both looking for more individuals to come forward over the months ahead. The first group are responsible for upkeep and improvement of our Village Hall for the benefit of our community. The Social Club, which runs most of its events at the Hall, provides a programme of events to appeal to local people and, through volunteering, do so at a modest cost.

There are particular skills that may be very useful to one or other group including maintenance, procurement, accounting and secretarial skills. However, the groups are also able to make very good use of people who will be keen simply to roll up their sleeves and help with particular projects or events. In case it is helpful, here is some information on each group:

The Village Hall Management Committee meets on a weekday evening around 8 times annually and consists of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and around 7 other individuals together with the Hall Bookings Secretary.

The Social Club Committee meets more-or-less monthly and has around 10 attendees at most meetings. This committee is supported by a good number of additional volunteers who help with manning the bar and with other events. The Fireworks is a good example with at least 20 people working well together to deliver this very successful evening.

To find out more about becoming involved, simply contact one of the following:

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.

26th January Friday Bar 7pm to 10.30pm

20th February Soup or Pancake Lunch 12 midday to 1.30pm 23rd February Friday Bar (likely Elvis evening) 7pm to 10.30pm

12th Marc'h Soup Lunch 12 midday to 1.30pm

16th March Quiz night and fish & chip supper 7pm to 10.30pm

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

There are several matters to highlight:

Jacqui Mann is arranging another of her very popular quiz nights on Saturday 16 March. This is likely to again be a sell-out. The event will be promoted in the forthcoming newsletter so good if you can get your ticket order in before the newsletter is distributed

David Allan has organised the Eastern Angles play for Saturday 13 April.

More details will follow but see

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

https://w.wiki/8qvv

The Spring Soup Lunch programme starts on 20 February with a pancake lunch. 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.

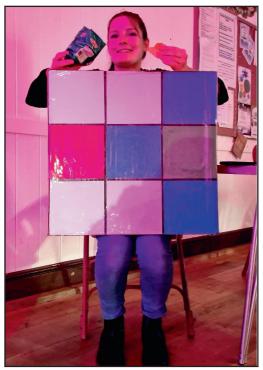
I am taking this opportunity to share a picture of various items of clothing left at the Fireworks event at the Hall in November. (the hats and the boot are black and the scarf purple) If you recognise any of these and would like to claim them please email me on wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk

William Barnes Social Club Secretary



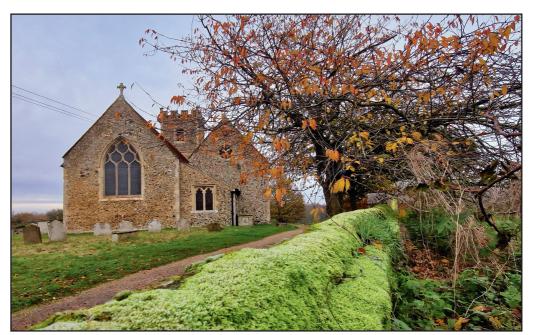


Christmas Party at the Village Hall *above* and below(right Jodi) entering the spirit! - photos courtesy Juliet Davis





Page 18



An unusual view of St. Mary's church photo courtesy Juliet Davis



Paul Scully 4th from right - contributed to the village in so many ways including the 2019 bi-annual litter pick. *photo Joan Hardingham*



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The Diamond Jubilee Village Hall

Village Hall Management Comittee

WWW.HIGHFLYERSCLOTHING.CO.UK

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

CREETING ST. MARY VOLUNTARY-AIDED CHURCH SCHOOL

We have had a fabulous start to the year, with everyone full of the joys of Christmas and New Year and ready to begin again! This term we have some staffing changes with Mrs Fawkner, our Reception Class teacher, retiring after being with us for 17 years. She will be missed by everyone!



We also said goodbye to Mrs Barker one of our TA's.

We start swimming this term for our Year 4s and 5s. This is an important part of the curriculum, with the aim that all children when leaving primary school can swim 25 metres unaided and complete their Gold award which focuses on water safety. We travel to Stowmarket Leisure centre once a week for 10 weeks between January and March.

Meanwhile the Year 6s that are left at school will be starting their SATS prep ready for May.

Elsewhere in the school children are enjoying looking at books with moving parts, Anglo Saxons, Making cushions, 3D modelling and Map skills.

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

This Trust provides assistance to residents of the Village 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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Matrimonial Matters

Footpaths and Bridleways and A Bit of History Paul Scully

It was with shock and sadness that 'I received the news from Paul at the end of the last PC meeting, that he was resigning from both the Parish Council and his delivery of the Newsletter, as from that moment. It was with huge shock and sorrow that I received the news of his death. Paul had been a Member of the PC for many years. Never one to hold back his point, no 'Yes' man but his points were always valid and well presented. Paul was Footpath Officer; a role

he carried out excellently, walking all the footpaths regularly; doggedly making representation when needed to whichever arm of Authority was involved, arguing his point when others would have given up. Paul, aided by Pat, spent much time helping to clear the churchyard; clearing the path along All Saints Rd to the church. It is hoped we have gained funding this year to keep this clear sadly, Paul was aware of this but won't see it through. I will also miss his historical contributions to the Newsletter, and of course, the jokes! Paul, thank you for all your work and help over the years, you will be greatly missed. Rest in Peace.

Sue Haynes - Chair of the Parish Council

Paul's contribution to the Newsletter

For years 2 pages were filled by Paul, one with useful information about the footpaths around our village, encouraging people to go out and explore their surroundings and a page of facscinating village history. It is so sad that Paul will not be involved in revealing to the Village the exciting discovery of the huge old map in the Church, which he told us about in the last issue.

Joan Hardingham co-Editor

Matthew Hicks County Council report continued from p. 9.....

Anyone losing money to fraud should contact their bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 20 40 or at_www.actionfraud.police.uk

Foxhall Recycling Centre redevelopment completed ahead of scheduleThe new and improved Foxhall Recycling Centre in Ipswich is now fully open to all customers as construction works have been completed ahead of schedule.

Father Gritmas, Gritty Gritty Bang Bang and Spread Sheeran are gritting lorries prepared for county's cold snap. Our highways teams have been carefully planning our winter gritting operation for months to ensure we are prepared for whatever the weather throws our way. Over the past week, our 39-strong gritting fleet, named by the Suffolk public, including Father Gritmas, Gritty Gritty Bang Bang and Spread Sheeran went on multiple treatment runs across half of the entire local road network in Suffolk. During the 2022/23 winter season, Suffolk used around 12,989 tonnes of salt to treat a total distance of 177,983 miles – which equates to travelling the circumference of Earth over seven times! Suffolk Highways currently has a stock of around 17,000 tonnes of salt across the county for the season ahead and is well prepared for any further drop in temperatures.

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

You are very welcome to attend the talks as a new or renewing member, in the Burton Room.

2024 Programme

Thursday February 1st, with Eleanor Gilbert from Growing Places.

AGM is Thursday March 7th when we hope to have a talk from Chelsea Gold Medal winners, Lincolnshire Pond Plants.

On April 4th we welcome John Hewson to speak on Sweet Peas **In May,** Mary Owles from the Suffolk Heritage Garden (Hollesley Bay).

We have two full day outings in 2024 in conjunction with Windmill Tours.

Membership to cover 9 talks is has increases to £12.50.

For more details please email: sec.hortsoc@gmail.com or call 01449 723704. or details of the full programme can be found at nmdhs.onesuffolk.net Membership is annual at £12.50. Meetings are once a month usually on the first Thursday at 7.30pm with occasional outings to see gardens and an annual supper in October. If you are interested in joining email: sec.hortsoc@gmail.com or come to a meeting.

Hazel Mackintosh

Creeting St. Mary Women's Institute

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



What a busy month for the Women's Institute: we started the INS month off with a festive flower arranging workshop, where members created both wreaths and floral displays.



In December members visited the White Horse for a Christmas meal. Our last meeting was held on December 13th with a Christmas party, a festive lucky dip, and a festive guiz - well done Ann with the top score in the guiz! January 10th we had: Improving Our World Through the WI - followed by bingo and on February 14th - A Short History of Millinery.

Do come along to one of our meeting; the 2024 programme is as follows:

March 13th - What No Cake? Ukulele band

April 10th - Birthday celebrations

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

We will also be holding 4 craft making events and a new lunch club is launching in 2024 so if you would like to join us, we always welcome new members

Trilly Roper on 07535788289 or email trillyann47@gmail.com

Be a Local Recorder for CREETING 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 and 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

Lilley's Wood is a couple of acres donated to the Parish Council by Mrs Lilley. It is a rare piece of chalk grassland with a mosaic of hedges and scrub. It is located on the banks of the River Gipping a short walk from the Duck and Teapot café at Needham Lake along the riverside path that goes towards Stowmarket.

A group of volunteers manages the scrub and hedgerows, clearing the glades. to ensure they continue to suit a range of wildflowers (and the insects that depend on them) that are increasingly rare.

Do get in touch on wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk or 07771 814651

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.

A SPRING BUFFET

It has not been mentioned elsewhere that the Parish Council has paid for another 5,000 daffodil bulbs to be planted round the village and several hundred Bluebells have been put in Blacksmith's Field. These will certainly brighten up the village in the future. Many thanks to Hugo Craggs and his (very) small team of volunteers for this back-breaking work.

The pollen and nectar of spring flowers are very important to many animals. After hunkering down all winter, they may wake up too early, drawn out by a mild spell in early Spring, their energy stores already depleted - and then there is another cold snap. A buffet of flowers at this time will see them through till Spring proper arrives.

It is important to have a sequence of flowering times which can be achieved by planting as wide a variety as possible - mahonia, helebores, aconites snowdrops, crocuses, primroses and willow all flower before daffs. Wallflowers are great too. So think about planting these in your garden to spread the bounty.

Joan Hardingham







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SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST



Stowmarket branch

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

2nd Sunday each month: Repair Café and Terracycling, Red Gables, 2-4pm 4th Thurs. each month Terracycling Stall, Stowmarket Market, 9.30-11.30 REPAIR CAFE from clean clothes to bicycles don't bin it - repair it! TERRACYCLE RECYCLING - we collect items which usually have to go in the domestic waste bin so they can be recycled not go to landfill.

We take: Coffee Pods, dry and wet (clean and dry) pet food pouches; Plastic toothbrushes and tubes, floss containers; cheese wrappers; pens, felt tips. correction fluids & tape; flat crisp packets, clean Tetra Pack Cartons

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

stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com

Contact Stella Davis 07599 398866

stowrepaircafe@gmail.com



A monthly social group for the over 60's in Needham Market & surrounding areas.

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Needham Market Community Centre School Street Needham Market, IP6 8BB 2pm - 4pm

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I've built up a bit of debt and I am panicking. Even though I cut back, Christmas was expensive, my rent has gone up and my paycheque just doesn't stretch as far as it used to. I'm doing everything I can but it's not enough - what can I do?

First of all it's important to know you're not alone in finding things difficult and, crucially, there's support available. You say you've built up a bit of debt. The first step is to collect all the information you have about your debts. This might include contracts, bills and statements.

Next, make a list of your debts and write down the details of each. This could include whom you owe the money to (this person/company is your 'creditor); when you first missed a payment; and how much you now owe. You'll also need to make a note of your account or reference number and what steps the creditor has taken to get the money back, eg. sending you letters. It might feel overwhelming when you see all of your debts written down - but try not to worry, the important thing is that you're sorting them out. If you're behind on household bills, prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council Tax first. Not paying these bills has the most serious consequences. You should speak to the person or company you owe money to, to find any manageable steps you can take to start reducing your debt.

Once you've got these debts under control, you should look at any other debts like credit card or store card debts, payday loans or missed Buy Now Pay Later payments. While you're looking at the money going out, do remember to consider money that could be coming in. It's always worth checking if there are any benefits that you're eligible for, including support with your energy costs and living costs. There's a benefits calculator, advice on how to reduce living costs and information on other ways to increase your income on the National Citizens Advice website at citizensadvice.org.uk

There's also emergency support that you may be able to access locally, such as a food bank, local welfare support or fuel vouchers. We know that times are incredibly tough but please remember, you don't have to face this alone.

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



How spring plants threaten your pet

After a cold winter, spring is finally returning to Suffolk and spring flowers will burst into bloom. However some plants do pose hidden dangers.

Poisonous plants

An iconic part of springtime are daffodils Despite their innocent appearance, every part of daffodils, especially the bulb, can cause gastrointestinal and respiratory problems. Even the water left in a vase of daffodils can be toxic to dogs and cats. Rhododendrons and bluebells are a similar threat. Lilies and tulips, often given as gifts, are especially dangerous to cats. They have toxic pollen and just licking the pollen off their fur can be fatal. Tulips and many varieties of lily can also cause sickness and irritation in dogs.

These plants are some of the most common springtime threats that could be posed to your pets, but you should research the full list of toxic species before adding plants to your garden. Keeping your pet away is vital especially when pruning and tidying is being done.

While it is not common for most dogs to eat plants, puppies and more inquisitive dogs tend to be at risk, as they look to chew anything. Symptoms of poisoning include vomiting, diarrhoea, drowsiness or fitting. If your pet shows any of these signs and you suspect they have ingested a plant, contact an emergency vet immediately. It can be a good idea to take a picture or sample of the plant with you.

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:

(6 editions annually) creetingnewsletter@gmail.com

Content: Joan Hardingham, Alder Carr Farm,

Liaison with contributers and advertisers: Kathryn Martin,

Advertising: Jennie Blackburn 01449 721369

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

Creeting St Mary Website

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

Contact the Parish Clerk Jennie Blackburn at clerk@csmpc.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-insuffolk/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/

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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.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk

Priest-in-Charge North Bosmere Benefice

Rev'd Philip Payne, The Rectory, The Street, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AQ 01449 711684 revphilippayne@btinternet.com

St. Mary's Church

https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-church/

Parochial Church Council

PCC Secretary: Hazel Minter - 01449 722148 Treasurer: David Haynes - 01449 722570

Suffolk Libraries mobile library tel: 07955193623

Defibrillators

Diamond Jubillee 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

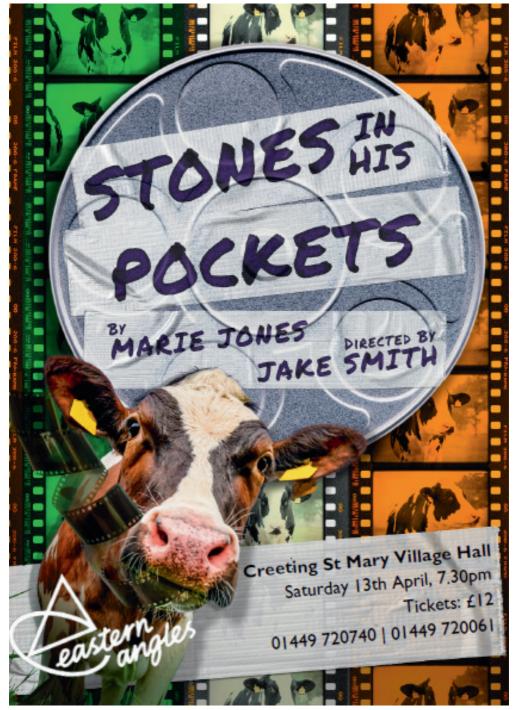
May - June-July edition i.e. all those early summer events

July - August-September edition - summer holiday events

Advertising Costs Deadline 15th of month previous. One insertion (depending on space) Full page - £20 1/2 page - £15 Series of 6 adverts: Full page - £108.00 (inside) £125.00 (colour -back cover) 1/2 page - £75.00 1/4 page - £48.00

1/4 page - £10

An editorial piece for your business (approx 100 words) per year



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