

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

March '25



Inside this Month:

Mothering Sunday Service – page 7

Notes from the Chair – page 12

Cranham Common News – page 18

Flower Rota – centre pages

Village Lunch – page 28

Tennis Club AGM – page 30



**Any views and opinions expressed in the Cranham Magazine
are attributable only to the individual contributors.**

Advertisements in this magazine do not imply recommendation.

Church & Benefice

Rector:	Rev'd Sarah Haslam	07870 126048
Benefice Administrator:	Bea Hyde beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com	07833 727701
Benefice Intercessory Prayer Coordinator	Mike Campbell beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com	07812 000646
Church Warden:	Linda de Cossart decossart@icloud.com	07778 215801
Organist:	Mrs. Beryl Berry, Four Chimneys, Cranham	01452 813200
Hon Treasurer:	Mrs. Helen Daltry, Broadridge House, Cranham, Gloucester, GL4 8HF	01452 863011
PCC Secretary:	Nicki Clapton Bakers Piece, Cranham cranhamchurch@gmail.com	07824 812384
Benefice Office:	Lychgate Rooms, Painswick office@beaconbenefice.org.uk	01452 814795

Cranham Church of England Primary School

Headteacher:	Sarah Scott admin@cranham.gloucs.sch.uk	01452 812660
--------------	--	--------------

Magazine & General

Magazine editors:	Sue & Ian Shaw cranhammagazine@gmail.com	01452 814839
Church articles:	Sue & Ian Shaw cranhammagazine@gmail.com	01452 814839
Magazine layout:	Tony Walker whiskeyw@hotmail.co.uk	07796 175622
Magazine Distribution:	Sue Stick distributioncranmag@gmail.com	01452 813407
Village Hall Bookings:	Nicki Clapton cranhamvillagehall@gmail.com	07824 812384
Community Police	Police Community Support Officer PCSO Nicola Wood nicola.wood@gloucestershire.police.uk	Tel: 101
Cotswold Warden	Mel Petrie cranhamwarden@outlook.com	
Neighbourhood Warden	Mark Dodd mark.dodd@stroud.gov.uk	07876 405833

A Letter from The Clergy



Enjoy the Silence this Lent

“In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength” – these prophetic words found in the Old Testament book of Isaiah are calling to many of us today who, in an increasingly fast-paced, troubled and ‘noisy’ world, are simply searching for peace. Is more peace and quiet something you could do with?

Our ‘Big Ask’ survey last year showed that many churchgoers in our area would appreciate more times of rest and silence. So, during Lent (which begins on March 5th on a day called Ash Wednesday and continues up until Saturday 19th April, ‘Holy Saturday’), we are encouraging our churches to lean into times of stillness and silence as we seek to encounter Christ and experience the peace of the Lord more fully.

What will this look like? Well, in our times of gathered worship on Sundays, service leaders will ensure that a couple of minutes of quiet will be held after the Word has been expounded in the sermon or talk, and other periods of quiet and pauses may also be introduced.

In addition, on Mondays during Lent (with the final session on Monday 7th April) there will be a short service of silent meditation held in Painswick Church between 6-6.30pm. Everyone is welcome. On the final service there will be the opportunity to share in a simple Eucharist, too.

If you have any other ideas about how to enjoy silence collectively – such as joining others on a silent prayer walk – please let us know and our weekly church family newsletter ‘Beacon Light’ will gladly help you to shape and share your plans so that others might join you. Please do let Bea know, by emailing beneficeoffice@gmail.com and include SILENCE in the subject header.

Of course, not everyone enjoys silence, so please note that our regular church worship and activities will continue as usual. As we draw closer to Easter itself (particularly in Holy Week), this will include a number of choral events and extra worship services that are rich with music and participation.

Do keep checking Beacon Light for news of all your local church’s events, services and activities, as well as posters and of course your village magazine and emails as usual.

Revd Sarah

Worship in Cranham - March 2025

Sunday 2nd 11.00am Benefice Communion Revd Sarah & Rosa

Sidesman Tom Daltry
Readers TBA

Sunday 9th 11.00am Holy Communion Fr. David

Sidesman Ian Wotherspoon
Readers Ian W
Janet Gazzard

Sunday 16th 6.30pm Evensong BCP Rosa (Sue)

Sidesman Phil Stick
Readers Phil Stick
Lindsay B

Sunday 23rd 11.00am Morning Worship Revd Helen

Sidesman Roger Moore
Readers Sue Williams
Martin W

Sunday 30th 11.00am Mothering Sunday Worship + Baptism

Revd Sarah & Vics

Sidesman TBA
Readers TBA

Please see page 6 for other Benefice Service's

Fix my Street

website to report potholes and fly tipping etc

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

Church Flowers

No Flowers during lent - March 5th to April 17th

Church Cleaning

1st March	Sue Stick
8th March	Sarah Taylor
15th March	Nicki Clapton
22nd March	Joan Charman
29th March	Kate Ryan
5th April	Linda de Cossart



Refreshments will be served after the following services:

2nd March	11.00am	Benefice Communion
9th March	11.00am	Holy Communion
23rd March	11.00am	Morning Worship
30th March	11.00am	Mothering Sunday



VILLAGE email - cranhammail@gmail.com

Cranhammail is for all village announcements, such as forthcoming social events, society meetings, planned road closures, and general Parish announcements.



Cranham Parish Council website

lots of info including the minutes of meetings

<https://cranhampc.org.uk/>

Benefice Sunday Services - March 2025

2nd March Sunday next before Lent

11.00am	Cranham	Benefice Communion	Rev. Sarah & Rosa
---------	---------	--------------------	-------------------

9th March 1st Sunday of Lent

9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion	Rev. Helen
11.00am	Painswick	Family Worship & Baptism	Vics + Rev. Sarah
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion	Fr David +
3.00pm	Harescombe with Edge	Daffodil Service	Rev. Sarah

16th March 2nd Sunday of Lent

9.30 am	Edge with Harescombe	Holy Communion	Rev. Sarah
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Morning Worship	Mike
11.00am	Painswick	Holy Communion	Fr. David
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong (BCP)	Rosa(Sue)

23rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent

9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev. Helen & Rosa
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion & Baptism	Rev. Sarah
11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise & Baptism	Mike C & Rev. Paul
11.00am	Cranham	Morning Worship	Rev. Helen

30th March Mothering Sunday

9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion	Fr. David
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Mothering Sunday Worship	Sue
11.00am	Edge with Pitchcombe	Mothering Sunday Worship	Rev. Helen
11.00am	Cranham	Mothering Sunday Worship + Baptism	Rev. Sarah & Vics
3.00pm	Harescombe	Mothering Sunday Worship	Rev. Sarah
6.30pm	Painswick	Evening Worship	Rosa (Mike)

For more detailed information about Cranham services please see page 4

www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Come and celebrate



Mothering Sunday

You are warmly invited to our Family
Service at Cranham Church

Sunday 30th March

11.00am

Followed by
refreshments



Extracts from The Messenger – March 2025

Cheltenham Street Pastor volunteers urgently needed

Street Pastor patrols in Cheltenham are being reduced or even cancelled due to falling numbers of volunteer pastors. Over the last few years volunteer numbers have halved, and the scheme is urgently looking for new volunteers to serve Cheltenham's nighttime streets.

Street Pastors patrol in teams once a month on either a Friday or Saturday night from 10pm to 4am, helping people who might need it and offering a listening ear. Without new recruits, the Pastors may have to further scale back their work, leaving gaps in support for those who rely on them.

It has been running in Cheltenham for 15 years, helping to keep the town safer and more supported during busy night-time hours, but a recent squeeze on volunteer numbers has led to many people prioritising their local church, above volunteering for wider ranging schemes like Street Pastors.

Jenny Bartlett, a Prayer Pastor and member of Trinity, Cheltenham, said: "Street Pastors offers a practical way for Christians to demonstrate their faith in action while continuing to serve within their own churches. The time commitment for a Cheltenham Street Pastors is just once a month on a Friday or Saturday night.

"At the recent commissioning service, we were reminded that Jesus was the first Street Pastor. Cheltenham Street Pastors aim to follow His example of meeting people where they are. All teams are supported by a group of Prayer Pastors and there are many reports of Street Pastors being in the right place at the right time while they are out."

Prayer Pastors and there are many reports of Street Pastors being in the right place at the right time while they are out."

Bishop Robert joined the Cheltenham Street Pastors back in September for their regular community patrol: <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2024/bishop-roberts-night-on-the-town-with-cheltenham-street-pastors>.

On BBC Radio Gloucester, he said: "It was the most wonderful evening. It was joyous to be out with those clubbing who were just having great fun and full of life, and it was equally joyous to be with the team of Street Pastors – a different age group to those clubbing, but also full of life.

Continued on page 9

“These are Christians who are really working out what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, in a way that isn’t just about being in church, but about practical care and service, and being there for everyone.”

If you are interested in becoming a Street Pastor, you can sign up for an hour-long try-out session through their ‘come and see’ campaign. More information at <https://streetpastors.org/locations/cheltenham/>, or you can email cheltenham@streetpastors.org.uk.

Ash Wednesday – what’s it all about?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period in the lead up to Easter. Lent is a chance to slow down and be more intentional about your time and priorities, making time to put God first whether through prayer, acts of kindness, or giving something up.

Ash Wednesday itself started in the early Church, around 1st to 4th century as a form of public repentance, through sprinkling of ashes.

In services today, priests mark people's foreheads with ashes – a symbol of humility and a reminder of human mortality. Priests will say the words *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return"*, originating from Genesis 3:19 when God tells Adam that his life, like all human life, is temporary, but turning back towards God offers something eternal.

Lent represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, where he fasted, prayed, and resisted temptation (Matthew 4:1–11). Just as Jesus withdrew to focus on God, Lent invites us to step away from daily distractions and reflect on our lives – what's going well, where we need growth, and how we can deepen our faith.

In medieval times, Christians followed strict fasting rules, like giving up meat, dairy, and sometimes fish. These days, it's more flexible; some choose to give up something they love, like sweets, caffeine, or social media. Others choose to take on something positive, such as daily prayer, volunteering, or acts of kindness.

Ash Wednesday falls on 5 March this year. Whether you’re a lifelong Christian, someone rediscovering faith, or just curious, you’re welcome to attend a service and experience this tradition for yourself. To find your nearest church, visit www.achurchnearyou.com.

Continued on page 10

If you decide to participate in Lent, remember that Lent isn't about self-denial, but about renewal and a chance to reset, refocus, and prepare for the joy of Easter. We have lots of resources on our website to help guide you through Lent – visit <https://gloucester.anglican.org/living-faith/everyday-faith/lent>.

Uniting Gloucester in prayer - 2025 is the year for every street in Gloucester to be united in prayer. Pray for Gloucester is an ecumenical, Gloucester city-wide initiative, with a free app to track physical and virtual prayer walks. The Revd Jo Pestell, Vicar at St Catharine's, formed this initiative to bring churches together in prayer for all of Gloucester. If you aren't keen on using an app, you can use a paper map to track your route and have someone log it for you. Be part of this mission. Download the app and start prayer walking today at **www.pray4gloucester.uk** or start your own local prayer walk in your home area.

Events and training

More details for all these events at **gloucester.anglican.org/events**

Family pancake party 4th March, 3.30pm to 5pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Gloucester GL2 8BN

For primary school children and their families to do activities and crafts, listen to a story and eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeW33B1SIPn1sNJwJyYSOll5f6qMilyzgqHtn6O3Yl9kG42Q/viewform>

**Holocaust Memorial Day – Remembering Srebrenica
8th March, 7pm at St Mary's Church, Wotton Under Edge,
Gloucester, GL12 7LS**

A Holocaust Memorial Day service with guest speaker Sheila Osmanovic, who will share her experience of the siege of Sarajevo and the Srebrenica genocide.

<https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/holocaust-memorial-day-remembering-srebrenica/>

Spring craft fayre

29th March, 10am to 1pm, St Stephen's Church, Belle Vue Road, Cinderford GL14 2AA

Showcasing a range of stalls by local artisans, along with Fairtrade food and gifts from global sources. Free entry, with hot food, drinks, and cakes.

<https://allevents.in/gloucester/spring-craft-fayre/>

The collation, installation and welcome of the Archdeacon of Cheltenham

30th March, 3pm to 5pm, Gloucester Cathedral, College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY

A welcome service for the Revd Canon Katrina Scott, who has been appointed as Archdeacon of Cheltenham. All are invited to attend as Katrina starts this new ministry.

<https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/the-collation-installation-and-welcome-of-the-archdeacon-of-cheltenham/>

Have your say

Visit Facebook **Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at **kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk**, follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website **gloucester.anglican.org**

These extracts are from The Messenger, a monthly communication produced by diocesan communications office at Church House, College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY. The full 'Messenger' is available on www.gloucester.anglican.org and can be emailed to all parish and church representatives who request it. The extracts printed here are provided by Church House and published without alteration and therefore do not necessarily reflect the views of the Cranham magazine editorial team.

Notes from the Chair

Highways The Parish Clerk and Cllr Sue Willams have given updates about outstanding Highways issues. The general state of the lanes and numerous potholes have been a further topic for discussion. The Parish Clerk and Cllr Sue Willams have given updates about outstanding Highways issues. The resurfacing programme for the village has been completed but the road by the school still needs patching and we are still waiting for an update from Highways.

We are still waiting for a response about the replacement of alien infill made at the time of the National Grid work.

It has been confirmed that lower Mill Lane is to be reprofiled to improve drainage. The work is timetabled for 2025/2026. Mill Lane is in the programme for 2025/2026 for large patching.

After a number of incidents 'Unsuitable for HGV' signs are due to be replaced at the junction of Mill Lane with the A 46 and placed at the junction of the lane past Freams Farm with the A 46 and on the lane leaving the village past the church.

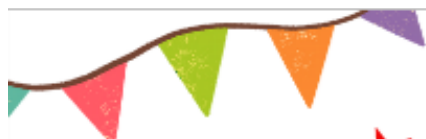
Please continue to report any problems with public rights of way (roads/tracks/pathways) to Fix My Street - <https://www.fixmystreet.com>
With the erection of camera signage, the community Speed Watch Scheme is now complete. Further statistics will be reported in the Spring when it is hoped that there will be a further reduction of excessively speeding vehicles through the village.

Planning Applications Although the Parish Council is supportive of the erection of a single storey extension and alterations to the house and related landscaping at Sutton's Mill, we wanted to raise awareness of a previous flooding event in 2007 requesting that consideration be given to steps to mitigate the possibility of a build up of surface water at new barriers created by the proposed structure.

Playing field and Playground Four people have expressed an interest to Cllr Steve Bodenham about becoming involved in Cranham Playing Field Committee. It is hoped that once the committee is up and running progress can be made to improve the facilities.

Allotments The Parish council will be advertising for a volunteer Allotment Manager. We are in the process of producing Allotment contracts for April 2025.

Next meeting - Tuesday 4th March 2025



★ New Route
For 2025 ★



Save the date

06/

Cranham Monster Trail

In aid of Cranham CofE Primary School

21st and 22nd June



Reducing Energy Bills

As winter grinds on and energy bills remain high it is worth checking to see if there are ways in which you can reduce your energy bills and make your home cosier and healthier. There are a number of ways in which you can get free home insulation, these include:

- If you are an owner occupier and live in a house that is council tax A-D and is energy inefficient with an EPC rating of D or lower you should be entitled to free cavity wall and loft insulation if your home needs it. This would be under the Great British Insulation Scheme. If you are a renter then your house would need to be EPC E or lower.
- If you have an income under £36,000 or are on benefits which include job seekers' allowance, employment support allowance, income support, pension credit, work tax credits, child tax credit, universal credit, housing benefit or child benefit (subject to income levels), you are likely to be eligible for a wide range of energy efficiency improvements if your home is energy inefficient. This is through the Energy Company Obligation scheme.

If you have cardiovascular, respiratory, immuno-suppression, or mobility health conditions you may be eligible for help with a referral from the NHS if your home is energy inefficient. This too is available through the Energy Company Obligation scheme.

These schemes can appear complex at first and District Councillor Gary Luff is happy to support any resident who thinks they might be eligible. Please contact him on 07773 778050 or by email to: cllr.gary.luff@stroud.gov.uk

Alternatively, Gary would be happy to meet one or more Cranhamites at the Pop Up Cafes - Tuesday and Friday's at the Village Hall or hold an evening meeting if there is sufficient interest.

You can contact Gary directly
or via Liza Darroch
(email: lizadarroch@gmail.com or phone: 07905 037288)

"SPRING WHIMSY"

An Eclectic mix of A Capella songs from
Light to Classical by

CADENZA

A Gloucestershire choir who have performed for over
30 years around the county for fun and charitable causes

with guest soprano soloist
KATE HICKS BEACH

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL at 7.00 pm
ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH, CRANHAM

Tickets £7.50 each

from Beryl Berry, Four Chimneys, Cranham GL4 4HP
(cash or cheque only) or to request tickets paying by
BACS email tom@daltry.net

Wine and soft drinks available from Donations bar
Proceeds to Cranham Church Organ Fund



www.cotsnatsfield.club

The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club (CNFC) promotes interest in the natural history, environment, antiquities and cultural heritage of Gloucestershire, the Cotswolds and elsewhere.

Coming Up: The Work of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust & Women in the Arts and Crafts Movement

Our next talk will be on 5th of March at 2.30pm in the Painswick Centre, when there will be an opportunity to hear about some of the women involved in the arts and crafts movement in the Cotswolds in a talk given by Dr Katherine Bradley, retired lecturer and co-founder of the annual Oxford International Women's Festival. Further information from Paul Wyeth: 07472 021517 or CNFCLectureSec.pw@gmail.com

Followed by a talk on 18th March at 2.30pm in Box Village Hall, given by Fergus Dignan of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. Fergus is an experienced and engaging speaker who will give us an overview of the work of the Trust locally including current projects, successes and ways individuals can get involved at home or out and about. For more information contact Susan Bennett: 07767014957 or susan.bennett4722@yahoo.co.uk

Lectures are FREE for Members, non-members welcome (£5 charge), just drop in.

Our next two excursions (The Mansion House, home of the Bathurst family in Cirencester Park in taking place in March and the Javelin Park incinerator tours in March and April) are now fully booked with waiting lists, but there is much to look forward to over coming months with a visit in May to the A417 Missing Links construction site for a presentation and view of the latest works; a private guided tour of Woodchester Mansion in June, a guided walk along the Stroudwater Canal, plus a Salisbury excursion later in the year.

Membership of CNFC remains £25 per annum for an individual or £40 for two or more people at the same address. For more information contact Clare Woodman CNFCMembershipSec@outlook.com or **01452 812767**

*Further Club information can be found on our website
or Facebook page*

TRAC WEEKEND RESIDENTIAL



Join us for an epic 3-day, action-packed Sportily camp and enjoy playing sports and exploring the Christian Faith.

Highlights include using our climbing wall, paddle boating, go-karts, archery and more!

Friday 6th June -
Sunday 8th June 2025

Tom Roberts Adventure
Centre, GL18 1HE

School years 5 - 6

➤ Head to the website for more
info and to book now.



For more information contact
hello@sportily.org.uk
sportily.org.uk

sportily
PLAY SPORTS, TALK LIFE

Cranham Common News

We have now reached the end of the winter clearance on the common. A lot of clearance has been done by many different groups of people and grazers: I would like to give a special thank you to everyone who helped on our **village workparties**. We cleared a lot of blackthorn, hawthorn and general scrub in various areas, and the brush cutting team have worked hard on clearing bramble patches.

Natural England also did a lot of clearance including robo-mowing bramble patches, and also ran volunteer days with people outside the village.

The **cows** were grazing from July to early February and have now left the common until later summer. The **Hebridean sheep** have grazed various areas.

There is always more that could be done, but we have to prioritise different areas to work on each year. Every year seems to bring different climate conditions that challenge or favour different species, and this is closely monitored so we can respond accordingly with winter management.

The aim of winter clearance on the common is to preserve the limestone grassland and its flora and fauna, to provide a balance of different habitats. Short grazed areas, longer tussocky grass, bramble patches, and mixed scrub all provide different habitats to support the diversity of birds, reptiles and small mammals with whom we share our common.

We now look forward to the spring and summer when the common and its wildflowers really comes alive.

This time of the year adders appear on sunny days emerging from winter hibernation. They usually bask close to bramble patches so they can retreat for safety. Many people worry about the adders, but adder : people interactions are very rare and many long standing residents have never yet seen an adder. It is safe to walk around the common, but a sensible precaution is to wear walking boots and stick to the paths.

Continued on page 19

From page 18

PLEASE KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL and out of bramble patches. Dogs that disturb adders are at risk of being bitten.

In the unlikely event of adder bites human or pet, you should seek medical attention.

Skylarks

Skylarks will soon be returning to the common from their winter migration. They are ground nesting birds that nest in the longer areas of grass. With the increased footfall on the common in recent years, fewer skylarks have been seen. We are reliably informed that they are still in the area but have moved to quieter places where there is less disturbance by dogs in particular, so another reason for keeping dogs close and out of the long grass.

Liz Hayden

Chair, Cranham Common Management Committee
(chair.ccmc@gmail.com, 07974 386341)

Foodbank



Thank you to those who came to support the Foodbank last month, the date below will be our next collection date in Painswick.

Our next collection will on **Wednesday 12th March**

Volunteers will be in the
Stamages Lane car park from 10.00am - 12noon

As always, if you prefer to make a bank donation, you can do so using the following details:

Stroud District Foodbank CIO

Sort code: 09-01-29 Account: 21994911

Thank you!
The Foodbank Team
Mobile: 07950 651228

Georgian Pleasure Gardens: how one came to be built in Cranham in 1820

A talk given to the Cranham Local History Society

on 30th January 2025 by Jan Whitton

Jan's talk packed out the Village Hall. It was enjoyed by all. Jan has kindly provided a summary.

Pleasure Gardens first appeared in London, reaching their peak of popularity during the Georgian period. They were commercial enterprises and entry was by day or season tokens. There was a strong desire to experience health-giving spas or find remedies in botanic and herbal gardens. The gentry in town had little to do, with an army of servants, gardeners and grooms to look after them. Their evenings would have been spent visiting the theatre and attending balls, leaving them in need of a little diversion during the day. The additional advantage of pleasure gardens was that they allowed the socialising to be 'en famille'.

Although the entertainments afforded by these establishments varied considerably they always provided the attractive setting of shrubs, lawns, arbours and a maze of walkways. A long covered area was also provided to afford shelter if the weather was inclement, known as 'The Long-room'. In their heyday some gardens also presented concerts, firework displays and even an air balloon ascent by one Lt Gale, which took place from the Cremorne Gardens in May 1848. Many famous pleasure gardens, such as Vauxhall and Ranelagh, later gained dubious reputations as places of assignation, bad behaviour and cruel sports such as cock fighting.

Cranham Pleasure Gardens date to 1820. They were built by a local entrepreneur, Mr Todd. He agreed with the then Lord of the Manor, Mr Pitt, that he could enclose an area of land on payment of £4pa. It is believed he obtained the services of architect J P Bouronotti Papworth to design the cottages. From the records of Cranham Court Leets it appears he was always encroaching further than agreed and being late with his rent!

Continued on page 21

From page 20

On a map of 1825 'Cranham Cottages' are labelled 'Todds Cottages', they were also referred to as 'Swiss Cottages'.



The guidebooks of the time suggested that from Cheltenham it would be an hour's drive travelling by a horse-drawn carriage up Leckhampton hill, before taking the turnpike road branching right towards Painswick. The gardens could then be found situated in a glade on the left just past the 7-mile-post. The thatched cottages with their gothic windows filled with stained glass were described by many writers as having a 'faerie-like' quality.

Once there, visitors, having admired the cottages and taken walks and refreshment, could also take advantage of the following pursuits: archery, dancing in a 53' long rustic ballroom and billiards. They could also ascend the lookout tree to admire the view of a narrow verdant valley descending between woods to some ponds and a mill. (Ladlecombe)

Sadly, the idyll did not last long. In 1826 there was a widespread failure of banks and quite possibly this was the reason that Mr Todd, who had borrowed money to build his dream, was declared bankrupt. The family left the villas in 1828, having sold the contents, and the property then passed through a variety of owners and alterations before eventually becoming the principle building of the Cotswold Sanatorium company in 1898.





Church Flowers 2025 - 2026

Thank you for all the lovely flower arrangements last year.

Many thanks to all our helpers.

Here is the new rota. Please note your new date and change by mutual arrangement if the date doesn't suit you. You only have to provide flowers at the altar.

New volunteer flower arrangers are always needed. Please contact me if

you are able to help. Thank you. Nicole Wotherspoon

nicolewotherspoon@gmail.com Phone: 07836 714216

2025			
April	20	Easter Nicole, Gillian Smith & Jill Bloomfield	07836 714216
	27	-do-	-do-
May	4	Victoria Soutar	813543
	11	Victoria Soutar	- do -
	18	Sue Stick	813407
	25	Sue Stick	- do -
June	1	Jean Evans and Kathy Bonney	813330
	8	Jean Evans and Kathy Bonney	- do -
	15	Diane Petrie	
	22	Diane Petrie	
	29	Gill Hopkins & Philippa Crowther	812485
July	6	Gill Hopkins & Philippa Crowther	- do -
	13	Nicole	07836 714216
	20	Wedding flowers	
	27	Patronal Festival - Helen Sammon	07554 992892
August	3	Helen Sammon	- do -
	10	Sarah Taylor	812262
	17	Sarah Taylor	- do -
	24	Angela Harris	07843 759892
	31	Angela Harris	- do -



Church Flowers 2025 - 2026



Sept	7	Feast Flowers - Organised by Hannah Daniels	
	14		
	21	Deb Carrington-Stait	813060
	28	Deb Carrington-Stait	-do-
Oct	5	Harvest - Di Blandford & Helpers	812302
	12		
	19	Hazel Roberts	812661
	26	Liz Cattle	810859
Nov	2	Liz Cattle	- do -
	9	Remembrance - Janet Witton + helpers	812417
	16		- do -
	23	Nicole & Janet Whitton	07836 714216
	30	Advent - No Flowers	
Dec	7		
	14		
	21		
	24/25	Christmas - Ann Green + helpers	813728
	28	- do -	- do -
2026			
Jan	4	- do -	- do -
	11	Carrie Rodgers	07985 144061
	18	Carrie Rodgers	- do -
	25	Jill Bloomfield	812470
Feb	1	Jill Bloomfield	- do -
	8	Gillian Smith & Nicole	812387
	15	Gillian Smith & Nicole	- do -
	22	Lent - 18th February – 5th April No Flowers during Lent	

Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society



Our coffee morning talk on Saturday 1st March will take us to sunny Crete, when Pam Turner will tell us about the flora of this fascinating island, with its many lovely plants that bloom high in the mountains early in the year, well before all the tourists arrive to sun themselves on the beaches. Come along and hear about one of the richest floras of the Mediterranean! We meet in Brimpsfield Village Hall, with coffee and home-made cake on offer from 10.30am, with the talk starting at 11.00am.

One of the most cheering sights in a garden in winter is the first snowdrop to bloom, a promise of things to come at the start of the year. The common snowdrop, *Galanthus nivalis*, is not usually in flower in these parts until February, but there are many other varieties, some of which can brighten up your garden before then; if you want a patch of early-flowering ones in your garden, March is the time to go shopping, as snowdrops are best divided (and sold) just after flowering. Some varieties flower in autumn, but if that seems a bit unseasonable to you, try *G. elwesii* (in flower in my garden at Christmas this winter) or *G. atkinsii* (the Painswick Rococo Garden snowdrop, often blooming from New Year); both are widely available. The Rococo Garden is running a workshop on 'Lifting & Dividing Snowdrops' on 25th March, including some to take home; see their website for details. And if your own snowdrops need dividing, pot some up for a friend or neighbour!

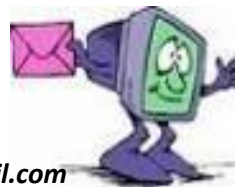
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

*All general articles: **cranhammagazine@gmail.com***

*All church articles: **cranhammagazine@gmail.com***

*Advertising enquiries: **advertisingcranhammag@gmail.com***

*Distribution enquiries : **distributioncranmag@gmail.com***



**..Coming soon..
..to a barn near you..**

The Cranham Big Space Cancer Appeal committee will soon
be announcing a date for their next event



CAN YOU SING? PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? DANCE?
DO MAGIC TRICKS? TELL A JOKE?

Join us for this celebration of talented Cranham...



Support Cobalt: Your Local Medical Charity

Cobalt is making a difference across Gloucestershire, and your support helps change lives. Whether you organise an event or join one of ours, there are plenty of ways to get involved.

Make A Will Month – April 2025

Partner solicitors will write or update a straightforward will in exchange for a donation:

- **£150** for a single will / **£200** for joint mirror wills

In 14 years, this initiative has raised over £130,000 for vital equipment and services. Places are limited—visit our website or call **01242 535922** to find out more.

Upcoming Events

- **Walk for Cobalt** - 22nd March 2025: Family-friendly walk through Cheltenham's history.
- **Quenington Open Garden** - 13th April 2025: Rare plants and home-made treats.
- **Snowdon Sunrise Trek** - 16th May 2025: A magical climb for a great cause.

Learn more at: www.cobalthealth.co.uk.

Your support makes all the difference!



CRANHAM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE



Cranham Village Hall is a Charitable Trust and the 100 Club is one of our fundraising activities. It is a hassle-free and there are **spare numbers available!**

So.... What is the 100 club??

Each number is £12 per year with payment requested by Standing Order or Direct Debit annually on 1st March. Half the total subscriptions are paid out in monthly prizes.

Prizes £25 for the winner draw for January, March, April, June, July, Sept, October, December with **£100** for the winner draw for February, May, August, November.

Winners are contacted and names shown on the VH noticeboard
please contact: 100clubcranham@gmail.com for more information

1st Annual payment will be 1st March 2025

**The Bisley Flicks in the
Sticks Presents:**

Thelma

At Bisley Village Hall

7.30pm

Tuesday 11th March 2025

**Doors Open 7:00pm for Tea,
Coffee and Wine**

(Winter hours now apply)



Cranham Village Lunch

The next village lunch will be held on

Monday 17th March

12.15 for 12.30pm

We will be back in the **Village Hall** for this month

The menu for this day will be as follows:



Fruit juice

Curried Parsnip Soup, and Roll

Jacket Potatoes, with Cheese, Cold Meat and Salad

Trifle or Stewed Fruit

Tea/Coffee

Cost will be £5.00, we looking forward to seeing you.

Thank you, Nicky.

(nickyovers@hotmail.co.uk, 07884 432886 or 812429)

Cranham School

Tuesday 7th January	
Sp	Turbo write  It was night, ^{the sky} pitch black abbiys. Olivia was packing her back pack: a torch, flint and steel, knives ^{rope} and blanket and water. She climbed out the window onto the the conveniently placed tree. She edged down the mossy branches and onto the floor... ✓
Sp	not even close to being there ✓ Now, at almost there, she wondered if she'd ever see her house ^{and family} again. By dawn she was exhausted, so she sat down at the edge of a rushing river and admired ^{admired} the sunrise. It was rose pink coming down and into yellowy-orange. As she looked closer she could see the outlined shape of what she was looking for: the Temple of doom! She just had to cross the river; it was the only way. Using the knife, she chopped down some branches and using the rope, she fixed ^{fixed} them together to make a raft. Once she had ^{fixed} got past the rapids it was easy enough to get to the other side. After ^{After} she was safely on the bank she made her way through the undergrowth towards the arch. She entered and a grumpy bony hand gripped her shoulder and the cold shape of a gun was pressed against her forehead... ✓
Sp	This is beautifully written Bea - great description + sentence structure! lovely handwriting 😊 Well done! 😊

Bea N
Year 6



Cranham Tennis Club

The evenings will soon get longer, and we look forward to starting our 2025 tennis season.

We invite all members, and others who are interested, to the

Tennis Club AGM

on Monday 17th March

at 7.00pm

in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Wine and soft drinks will be served.

This will be a time to hear about last year's activities, elect office holders and committee members, and to share thoughts and ideas for the coming season.

The Tennis Club is a great asset to our village community. Your support will help us keep it active and enjoyable for all.

.....

Application forms

Members will be receiving their renewal forms by email immediately after the AGM.

If you are not currently a member and would like to receive an application form for 2025, please email :

cranhamtennisclub@gmail.com

Helen Sammon, acting secretary

Ebworth

Although it has felt very cold recently, when the sun shines it feels like spring is just around the corner. As I write this on Valentine's day I am regularly hearing mistle and song thrush, robin, dunnoek, chaffinch, goldfinch, coal, great and blue tit and nuthatch in song. It won't be long until the first wheatear and chiffchaffs arrive and the redwings and fieldfares depart.

I have also seen my first flowers. Lesser celandine and primroses are always two of the first seen in the spring. The bluebells and ramsons are poking their leaves up from the soil.



Over the last month we have been finishing off our in-house forestry work. In areas where the trees are smaller we do the thinning ourselves and use the thinner, pole-stage tree trunks to feed our biomass boiler at the Ebworth Centre. This keeps us warm(ish) during the winter! It is really nice to be able to heat the office using the timber which is a byproduct of our woodland habitat creation and improvement works. Work we would do anyway, to improve the biodiversity of the woodlands. We are always very careful to leave plenty of dead wood for fungi and invertebrates. This works well for us because moving logs is hard work so anything which lands on the tracks is taken for the biomass boiler everything else is left in the woods, creating amazing habitat.



After some heavy rain it was great to see the natural flood management in action on Overtown Farm. This work was done in partnership with Stroud District Council. Woody dams or earth bunds are constructed across valley bottoms. These act as leaky dams. Holding water back during heavy rains and slowly releasing it. Reduces peak flows downstream and reduces flooding in places like Stroud.

The work repairing the last of the wall along the main drive to Ebworth has been completed. This means that both the walls along the drive are now standing! It's great to be able to restore these iconic pieces of Cotswold heritage.

Tom Griffin, Area Ranger
Ebworth and Crickley Hill
National Trust

“March” is named for the Roman god of war, Mars. However, we think of it as the beginning of spring, as March brings the vernal equinox, the Full Worm Moon and the return of Daylight-Saving Time!

The Month of March

“March” is named for the Roman god of war, Mars. This was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter.

In the early Roman calendar, March (or Martius) was the first month of the calendar year. As March brought the first day of spring with the vernal equinox, it was the start of new beginnings.

March was known as Hlyda, or Lide in Old English, which means ‘loud. This was referring to the March winds, which were considered very noisy.

It was on 15th March 44BC that Julius Caesar was assassinated in the Senate chamber in Rome – the assassination was led by Marcus Junius Brutus.

The flower of March is the daffodil and the birthstone is the aquamarine

It was in March 1889 that the Eiffel Tower was officially opened to the public. It was the tallest building in the world at the time at 330m. The current tallest building is the Burj Khalifa in Dubai at a staggering 828m (2,717ft) tall!

Alexander Graham Bell made the first ever phone call on 10th March 1876. He called his assistant and said “Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you.”

It was on 29th March 1886 that Coca-Cola was developed. The original formula included a small amount of cocaine to give the drinker a bit of a buzz.

Famous people born in the month of March include Albert Einstein, Vincent Van Gogh, Daniel Craig, Justin Bieber and Bruce Willis.

March was originally the first month of the Roman calendar and was named after the Roman god of war, Mars.

In book The Lord of the Rings 25th March is set as the start of a new year in Gondor - this is to honour the fall of Sauron.

The phrase ‘mad as a March hare’ comes from the view that a hare will behave oddly during the breeding season, which is in March.

Continued on page 33

March 2025 Calendar

March 4th is Mardi Gras (aka “Fat Tuesday” or Shrove Tuesday), which is the final feasting day before the Christian tradition of Lent begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday (5th March).

8th March is International Women’s Day, which is a day that not only celebrates the achievements of women and the progress made toward women’s rights but also brings attention to ongoing struggles for equality around the world.

9th March is the start of Daylight-Saving Time, which begins at 2:00 A.M. that day. Don’t forget to “spring forward” and set the clocks one hour ahead!

15th March is the Ides of March courtesy of one William Shakespear! Legend surrounds this ill-fated day. Beware the Ides of March!

17th March is St. Patrick’s Day. According to folklore, folks wear a shamrock on St. Patrick’s Day because the saint used its three leaves to explain the Trinity.

20th March brings about the March equinox - also called the vernal or spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere - marking the beginning of spring. In the Southern Hemisphere, this date marks the autumnal equinox and the beginning of fall. On this day, the Sun stands directly over Earth’s equator.

March 29-31 are known as the Borrowing Days. According to lore, the last three days of March have a reputation for being stormy.

Did you know that March is also National Umbrella Month?

In Like a Leo, Out Like an Aries?

You may have heard the weather proverb, “If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb,” which means that if the month starts off stormy, it will end with mild weather. There is, however, a different interpretation: The constellation Leo, the lion, rises in the east at the beginning of March. Thus, the month “comes in like a lion,” while Aries, the ram, sets in the west at the end of the month, and hence, the month “will go out like a lamb.”

ADVERTISEMENT



- 🐾 MSc qualified and fully insured veterinary physio
- 🐾 Electrotherapy services including LASER, PEMFT, ultrasound and TENS



k.wakeman

VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPY

Canine physiotherapy clinic based in Cranham
specialising in post operative rehabilitation and
maintenance for all ages.
Mobile equine physiotherapy

WHAT WE OFFER

- ✓ Neurological and orthopaedic rehabilitation
- ✓ Conservative and surgical management
- ✓ Elderly wellbeing and mobility
- ✓ Sports performance and maintenance



07395143634



kwakemanvetphysio.co.uk



ADVERTISEMENTS

AirLane Private Travel

An efficient, fully licensed family run private hire taxi transfer service ready to take you to your destination in total safety and comfort.

Our taxi services include:

Airport, Seaport & Business transfers anywhere in the UK, 24/7, 365

Our 9-seater executive vehicles are fully sanitised

Private hires for groups up to 8 passengers

Weddings, concerts, sports events, shopping trips, nights out, etc

Air BnB taxi transfers

Contact us now on: M: +44(0)7931861543, E: airlaneprivatetravel@gmail.com

W: airlaneprivatetravel.co.uk FB: [airlaneprivatetravel](https://www.facebook.com/airlaneprivatetravel)

Exedra Nursery

PAINSWICK | GLOUCESTERSHIRE



SPECIALISTS IN PERENNIALS

DAVID AUSTIN ROSES

SHRUBS, CLIMBERS, ALPINES & HERBS

PEAT FREE COMPOST

GARDENING ACCESSORIES & GIFT VOUCHERS

Painswick Rococo Garden
GL6 6TH

www.exedranursery.co.uk

07487 537026

ADVERTISEMENTS



CHORLEY'S
Auctioneers & Valuers

Free & Friendly Auction Valuations

Monthly Auctions of Art & Antiques

Probate & Insurance Valuations

Contact us today for your valuation

Sold for £8,000

A 20th Century 'toi et moi' diamond ring

01452 344499 | info@chorleys.com | chorleys.com

STEVE STEWART
07917 458730

srsmaintenanceservices@outlook.com

SRS
MAINTENANCE

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL

PAINTING & DECORATING; KITCHEN & BATHROOM
REPAIRS & REFURBISHMENTS; MINOR PLUMBING, TILING
& CARPENTRY WORK; FLAT PACKS, SHELF FITTING &
HOME IMPROVEMENTS; RENTAL PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE; OUTBUILDINGS, GARDEN SHEDS &
SUMMER HOUSE PACK BUILDS; MINOR OUTDOOR
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS; PATHWAY & PATIO REPAIRS

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR
TO DISCUSS FUTURE NEEDS & REQUIREMENTS

ADVERTISEMENTS



Stepwise Foot Care

Mobile service...treat your feet to some TLC!

- * Routine nail care.
- * Diabetic foot care.
- * Corns & callus.
- * Cracked heels.
- * Ingrown toe nails.
- and much more!

Call Lizzy Hanchet, B.Sc, PGDip, MCMA
07387822770

PIC•COLLAGE



STOVES & FUEL • NATURAL BODYCARE
• ECO CLEANING • NATURAL PAINTS & WOOD FINISHES
• PURE WOOL RUGS • LOCAL PRODUCE



LOOSE FOOD NOW AVAILABLE

*Organic & Locally sourced
Meat, Dairy & More!*

GREENSHOP.CO.UK

ADVERTISEMENTS



PROFESSIONAL WINDOW & EXTERIOR CLEANING

- Window cleaning using extendable water-fed pole (suitable for delicate windows)
- Solar Panels
- Conservatories/Orangeries
- Soffit, Fascia & Gutters
- Glass Verandas & more
- Fully Insured



Locally known
husband & wife team
- Dan & Lois

07552 398638

www.claricoexteriorcleaning.co.uk



FAMILY TREE FUNERAL COMPANY



A family-run independent business with a fresh approach to funerals
Individual end-of-life and funeral planning • Pre-paid funeral plans offered

01453 767 769

WWW.FAMILYTREEFUNERALS.CO.UK

ADVERTISEMENTS



GREENSHOP
— PAINTS —

We sell ecological paints that are better for you, and better for the planet. Discover one of the largest selections of natural paints and finishes in the UK. We're focused on sustainability and stock a range of eco-friendly and sustainable paint products from trusted, industry-leading brands such as Aura, Treatex, Earthborn, Osma and more!

GREENSHOPPAINTS.CO.UK
01452 772020
CALF WAY, BISLEY,
STROUD GL6 7BX

Jasper Drake Forestry & Land Maintenance

- Grounds and Woodland Maintenance
- Professional Tree Work
- Fire Wood

Wellfield, Mill Lane, Painswick,
Gloucester, GL6 6TX

Office 01452 813697 Mobile 07795 597 901



ADVERTISEMENTS



BOS LANDSCAPES
creating your dream garden

For all your hard landscaping projects.

- ❖ Patios & Walkways
- ❖ Walling & Fencing
- ❖ Water Features
- ❖ Raised Beds, Planting and so much more....

See our website for images and local testimonials of work completed. www.boslandscapes.co.uk
Contact Josh on **0787 1525376**
Email: bosjc@outlook.com

THE SHARPENING SERVICE
BISLEY



**Kitchen knives, scissors, garden tools
and most other blunt instruments!**

Restoration of old shears a speciality

For a fast and reliable service please contact Rupert Miles

01452 770788
or milesrup@btinternet.com

ADVERTISEMENTS



Revive Beauty
 Chloe McCarthy Tel: 07859 880641
www.revivepainswick.co.uk

Painswick Beauty Room	Cranham Village Studio
Three Gables Centre, Cheltenham Rd	*New Location*
Tuesdays 9.30am - 7pm	Thursday 9.30am - 6pm
Wednesdays 10am - 2.30pm	Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm




HOLBROOK GARAGE
 EST. 1971
MOT • SERVICE • REPAIRS

**MURCO PETROL STATION
 &
 GREENSHOP**
 LOCAL PRODUCE • ORGANIC MEATS
 • ETHICAL GIFTS
 • AUTOGAS & CALOR GAS • FIRE & STOVE FUELS

DIAGNOSTICS & ELECTRONIC REPAIR SPECIALIST
 01452 770272
holbrookcars.co.uk **RAC** **RM1**

REGULAR EVENTS

(although all may be subject to cancellation or change, so please check directly with the organisers)

Village Lunch	Monthly on a Monday 12.15 for 12.30pm (Nicky Overs 07884 432886)
Orchestra	Mondays 8.00pm - V Hall (Beryl Berry 813200)
Post Office	Tuesdays 10.00am - 12noon - V Hall
Rachel's Pop Up Café	Tuesdays 9.30am - 2.00pm - V Hall
Cranham Art Group	Tuesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm - V Hall (Lyn Barker 813025)
Choir	Tuesdays 7.30pm - V Hall (Virginia Pittman 07989 712263 virginiapittman3@gmail.com)
Handbell Ringers	Note - not currently running (Jenny Barraclough 07977 997375 jenny.barraclough@btinternet.com)
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Wednesdays - Scout Centre - times as follows: Beaver Scouts (6 to 8 yrs) 4.45 to 5.45pm Cub Scouts (8 to 10 yrs) 5.50 to 7.10pm Scouts (10 to 14 yrs) 7.30 to 9.00pm
Table Tennis Club	Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm - V Hall (Clive Hayden 07833 635762 chayden814@gmail.com)
Cranham Ramblers	1st Thursday of month 9.45am - Car Park (Joan Charman 812708)
Cranham Bell Ringers	Thursdays 6.30 – 8.00pm - Church (Rob Garratt 07703 503547)
S'Combe Bridge Club	2nd and 4th Thursdays 7.00pm - Sheepscombe V Hall (Contact Joy Edwards 812588)
Rachel's Pop Up Café	Fridays 9.30 - 12.30pm - V Hall
Parent and Toddler	Fridays 9.15 - 10.45am - V Hall (Contact tbc)
Explorer Scouts	Note - not currently running (Contact Alaric - explorers@cranham-scouts.org.uk for info)
Garden Club	Brimpsfield, Phone Francis Ellery 01452 862412 for further info

No new people in the village this month!

Welcome!

However, If we have missed anyone, please accept our apologies and make yourself known and we will include you next time.



MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

All articles for the forthcoming month should be forwarded to the editors by email to:

cranhammagazine@gmail.com

(preferred option).

Articles should be forwarded as either a WORD or WORKS document and preferably in Calibri font size 10 on A5 size paper settings. Articles may also be sent manually typed or hand written.

Please refrain from using ADOBE EDITOR as all articles have to be edited prior to inserting into the magazine.

All hard copies should be forward to **Baggend (at the Knoll)**.

All items to be included within next months magazine will need to be in the hands of the editors by the following dates:

WEDNESDAY 19th MARCH 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on **Sunday 30th March** or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email.

Tel: 01452 814839

cranhammagazine@gmail.com

CRANHAM DIARY



MARCH 2025

1	Sat	Garden Society Meeting	B'field V Hall	10.30 for 11.00am
2	Sun	Benefice Communion	Church	11.00am
	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
5	Wed	CNFC Talk	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
6	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
9	Sun	Holy Communion	Church	11.00am
11	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
		Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V Hall	7.00pm for 7.30pm
12	Wed	Foodbank Collection	Painswick	10.00am - 12noon
16	Sun	Evensong	Church	6.30pm
17	Mon	Village Lunch	Village Hall	12.15 for 12.30pm
		Tennis Club AGM	Village Hall	7.00pm
18	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		CNFC Talk	Box V Hall	2.30pm
19	Wed	** Magazine Articles Deadline Date **		
23	Sun	Morning Worship	Church	11.00am
25	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
30	Sun	Mothering Sunday Service	Church	11.00am

APRIL 2025

3	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
26	Sat	Spring Whimsy	Church	7.00pm

***For Regular Events -
please see page 42***