

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

April '25



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

Advertisements in this magazine do not imply recommendation.

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A Letter from The Clergy

Easter is for Everyone



Before you ask, no, I've never fully understood why the date of Easter moves around quite a bit (something to do with the moons, at any rate), but I do know Easter Sunday is on 20th April this year, and throughout this month there are lots of ways to get ready, think about and get involved in sharing Easter. Afterall, because Jesus's death on a cross was literally for *all* people, Easter really is for everyone!

Yes, I am thoroughly looking forward to celebrating Jesus conquering death and rising again (just as he said he would) in our parishes. But before that point, Cranham school will be the first to 'Experience Easter' in St James the Great church on 3rd April, and on Thursday 10th April families from across our benefice are invited to come along to our 'Sherlock Supper' at Painswick, where our curious sheep will be investigating Easter through activities, crafts, a story and a shared family meal together afterwards in the Church Rooms. Sunday 13th April is Palm Sunday. This is when we commemorate Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where he was welcomed with palm branches and hailed as a king. This marks the start of what us Christians call 'Holy Week' and the events leading up to his crucifixion.

Of course, while the date on which it falls may change, the historical facts and timeline of the events of Easter have not changed, nor could they. Long before Palm Sunday, some people unsuccessfully plotted for Jesus to be killed, while others would have done anything they could to stop it. But while God's timeline is just that – God's alone – so one thing for *us* to consider perhaps in the run up to Easter is that 'time waits for no man'. As we can't stop the passing of time, we really shouldn't put off doing what is important. I do hope you choose to make time to think about Easter and what Jesus's death and resurrection means for you, personally, because, as I said, the important, good news is that Easter really is for everyone.

Happy Easter, everyone!

From Rev'd Sarah

Please check your church and village social media, noticeboards, the listings in this magazine on page 4 and also Beacon Light newsletter for more information about ways in which you and your household can join in with the many Easter and Holy Week events, services and activities going on in your church and community. From soaking up a choral Evensong to making Easter Gardens, we hope you'll find there is something for everyone.

Worship in Cranham - April 2025

Sunday 6th 10.30am Benefice Communion & Confirmations @ St Mary's

Bishop Rachel

Sunday 13th 11.00am Palm Sunday Holy Communion

Revd Sarah

Sidesman Mike Wakeman
Readers Mike Wakeman
Roger Moore

**Holy Tuesday 15th
7.30 pm**

Passiontide in Song and Words

Sue H

Sidesman Phil Stick

**Good Friday 18th
11.00am**

Reflective Service with choir

Sue H

Sidesman Nicole Wotherspoon
Readers TBA

Sunday 20th 11.00am Easter family Communion **Revd David & Vics**

Sidesman Sarah Taylor
Readers Sue Williams
Linda de Cossart

Sunday 27th 11.00am Morning Worship

Sue H

Sidesman Keith Ardron
Readers Keith & Sylvia Ardron

Easter Sunday Services in other Benefice churches

9.30am	Painswick with Pitchcombe	Family Communion	Revd Helen & Karen
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Family Communion	Revd Paul & Sue
11.00am	Harescombe with Edge	Family Communion	Revd Sarah & Mike

Services in the Benefice on Sunday 27th

9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion (BCP)	Revd Sarah
11.30am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion	Revd Helen
11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise	Revd Sarah

Please see page 6 for Holy Week Services in the Benefice

Church Flowers (No Flowers during lent - until April 17th)

19th to 27th April Nicole W, Gillian Smith , Jill Bloomfield

3rd - 11th May Vics Soutar

Church Cleaning

5th April Linda de Cossart

12th April Gill Firth

19th April Di Blandford

26th April Linda Faulkner

17th May Beryl Berry



Refreshments will be served after the following services:

13th April 11.00am Benefice Communion

18th April 11.00am Good Friday Service with Choir

20th April 11.00am Easter Day Holy Communion

27th April 11.00am Morning Worship



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/>

Did you know thatEaster is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon that follows the spring equinox (20th March), which means in 2025, it falls on 20th April.

(please see pages 32 and 33 for other April facts!)

Benefice Holy Week Services - April 2025

13th April Palm Sunday

9.30am	Edge with Harescombe	Morning Worship	Revd. Sarah
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion	Fr. David
11.00am	Painswick	Family Worship	Vics & Mike

14th April 1st Holy Monday

9.30am	Edge	Morning Prayer	Ann K
6.30pm	Harescombe	Compline	Karen R

15th April 2nd Holy Tuesday

9.00 am	Painswick	Morning Prayer	Revd Sarah
6.00pm	Pitchcombe	Evensong	Fr. David
7.00pm	Painswick	Prayer & Praise	Revd Paul

16th April Holy Wednesday

9.00am	Via zoom	Beacon Prayer	Revd. Helen & Rosa
11.00am	Resthaven	Holy Communion	Revd Sarah
6.30pm	Edge	Worship in Poetry and Music	Revd Sarah

17th April Maundy Thursday

9.30am	Via zoom		Fr. David
11.00am	Cathedral	Eucharist & Blessing of Oils	
11.00am	Painswick	Eucharist & Watch (to 10.pm)	

18th April Good Friday

9.30am	Sheepscombe	Good Friday Devotion	Mike C
10.30am	Painswick	Procession of Witness	Revd Sarah
2.00pm	Painswick	Good Friday Devotion	Revd Sarah

For Cranham and other Benefice 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 – April 2025



Christ's final hours to be reenacted on the streets of Gloucester for Good Friday

On Good Friday, the streets of Gloucester will once again transform into a stage for a powerful reenactment of Christ's final hours in a play called 'The Way of the Cross'.

It's an open-air performance written and directed by Rachel Forrest, the vicar of Holy Trinity, Longlevens.

Rachel said: "We are telling the story of what happened to Jesus. Easter is a fun time with chocolate and Easter eggs, but there is also pain, suffering, generosity and sacrifice. It's important that we tell that story in the lead up to Easter as well.

"Jesus came as part of God, ministered for three years, healed, and taught about God's love. He was rejected, put to death on the cross, and then rose again. It's not a story of tragedy but of redemption and hope. That's the Easter promise. It's the ultimate story, and that's why we tell it."

This year will see the addition of The Ermine Street Guard, who are professional Roman soldier re-enactors. In 2024, 'The Way of the Cross' drew widespread attention, becoming the top story on *BBC Points West*.

Churches across the diocese contribute to the performance which depicts the last hours of Christ's life, from his sentencing by Pilate to his crucifixion, which will unfold outside the Cathedral.

"Many spectators come with little or no understanding of Good Friday, while others find themselves deeply moved by the portrayal. For the cast, who have been rehearsing every Sunday throughout Lent, the experience is a spiritual journey, strengthening their personal connection to the story they are telling," Rachel said.

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During rehearsals, a professional actor works with the performers, helping them with improvisation and working with each other. Much of the performance is ad-libbed, responding to the dynamics of the crowd and the setting. "The crucifixion scene is unseen by the cast until the actual performance. I rehearse that privately with the Roman soldiers and the actor playing Jesus," Rachel said. "It's powerful for everyone. I am very clear with the cast that when we step out of the Cathedral for the start of the reenactment, we are in 1st century Palestine. It is quite graphic, but Good Friday was graphic too."

The performance starts at 11am on Friday 18th April, beginning outside the Cathedral and going out onto the streets of Gloucester, before returning to the Cathedral for the final crucifixion scene, finishing just before 12pm. Rachel said: "I feel incredibly humbled and grateful to do this again. Every year it seems to grow."

'Online church live-streams and Zoom got me through those difficult days'

Janet Bannister, a lifelong Christian worshipping at St Giles, Uley, moved to France in 2019, just before the pandemic began. Since then, online church has given her a vital connection to her home church.



Janet remains actively engaged with her benefice through live streamed services, morning and evening prayer, and Lent study courses via Zoom. This technology proved invaluable during the difficult early days of the pandemic, particularly as she was also caring for her husband. She said: "Without my church family in the UK, things would have been very bleak."

Janet encourages those who struggle with attending in-person services to give online services a try. She said: "Don't be afraid to try. It's anonymous, easy to use, and doesn't require passwords or logins. Even with basic internet knowledge, it's simple. Plus, you can watch anytime, not just Sunday."

Continued on page 10

For Janet, live streaming has enhanced her connection to her faith community. "I can access services from different churches in my benefice, including ones I couldn't physically attend. Live streaming allows me to watch services at the appointed time or later, including weddings, funerals, and festivals. "By using chat and following the rules, you connect with others who join every service. The leaders make everyone feel included, welcoming online viewers. Even if your benefice doesn't live stream, you can find alternatives."

Events and training More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events **Library Tours: Medieval Special, Gloucester Cathedral, 12th April** A tour of the Cathedral's hidden 15th Century monastic library located up a winding spiral staircase. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/library-tours-medieval-special>

Easter Trail at Tewkesbury Abbey, Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RZ, 12th to 27th April An interactive trail at Tewkesbury Abbey ending with a chocolate prize. <https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/lent-holy-week-and-easter>

Chrism Eucharist 2025, Gloucester Cathedral, Maundy Thursday, 17th April, 11am to 12.30pm A special service led by Bishop Rachel, attended by 400 clergy and lay ministers who will be renewing their commitment to ministry. All are welcome. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/chrism-eucharist-2025/>

Bach's St John Passion, Gloucester Cathedral, Good Friday, 18th April, 7.00pm A performance of Bach's *St John Passion*, first performed in Leipzig on Good Friday, 1724, depicting Jesus' final hours. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/bach-s-st-john-passion-on-good-friday-2025>

Have your say

Visit Facebook **Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/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.



★ New Route
For 2025 ★



Save the date

06

Cranham Monster Trail

In aid of Cranham CofE Primary School

21st and 22nd June



Parking, Bar, Food
and Stalls at
Cranham Cricket
Club

Longfield Community Hospice News



LONGFIELD
Community Hospice

You may have seen our shops but how much do you know about your local Hospice?

Longfield Community Hospice, based in Minchinhampton, provides community hospice care for much of Gloucestershire, from diagnosis onwards.

As well as providing Hospice at Home end of life care, Longfield also offers help and support to patients, families and carers through a range of Wellbeing, Counselling and Bereavement Support services at the hospice in Minchinhampton, all free of charge.

To help fund these services, we have many ways to donate money, as well as a continuous programme of fundraising events which you can get involved with through our website.

A few things that we have coming up are:

- **Bridal Gown Sale popping up 24th - 27th April in the Five Valleys Shopping Centre.**
A chance to pop in, browse, try on, and buy from a large selection of new designer dresses at 75% off RRP.
- A chance to sign up to **run the 2026 London Marathon in aid of Longfield Hospice.** We have a handful of runners running for us this year and you can read Lizzie's story on our website.
- **Spring Raffle** - Look out for our Spring Raffle tickets for a chance to win a cash prize whilst helping raise funds.

We are keen to be part of the community we serve and are happy to do talks to community groups or invite relevant groups in to see what we do.

If you are intrigued, do check out our website and help us to spread the word about the services we offer to anyone who may need them.



www.cotsnatsfield.club

April will see the Field Club showcasing the work of two important conservation organisations working in the Cotswolds National Landscape, the new name for our local Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. On **2nd April at 2.30pm in the Painswick Centre** we will have a chance to hear about the Glorious Cotswold Grasslands Program. In the 1930s, 40% of the Cotswolds National Landscape was covered in wildflower-rich grassland, abundant with a vast diversity of wildlife... however less than 1.5% remains. This project aims to restore around 200 hectares of this grassland. Then on **15th April at 2.30pm at Box Village Hall (GL6 9HE)** we will be hearing from the National Trust Warden for Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons, Richard Evans, who will talk about The National Trust's developing approach to conservation. Lectures are FREE for Members, non-members welcome (£5 charge), just drop in or contact Paul Wyeth; CNFCLectureSec.pw@gmail.com

We have now opened bookings for our guided site visit to the A417 Missing Link at Shab/Crickley Hill (29th May) and our private tour of Woodchester Mansion on 4th June. We also have plans in the offing for a second trip to the Bathurst Estate, a guided tour of the Historic Trinity Church in Minchinhampton and a walking tour of Roman Cirencester among others. Further afield we plan trips to Hopewell Colliery (still worked by freeminers) and Salisbury with its magnificent Cathedral – finally scaffolding free! Excursions are charged at cost price. Info from Jane Rowe cotsnats@gmail.com

Membership of CNFC is currently £25 per annum or £40 for two or more people at the same address.

Sylvia May, Email: cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com

"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

Capture Your Moment for Cobalt

We are excited to announce our 2025 charity photography competition, open from April through July, for participants of all ages and skill levels. By sharing your inspirational photos, you stand a chance to win a prize and support our charity. Each entry costs just £2. All funds raised will support the Cobalt Teenage and Young Adult Nurse in Gloucestershire. For more details, visit our website.

Upcoming Events

For full details, please visit our website.

- **Make A Will Month** - April
During April, local partnering solicitors have volunteered their time to write a basic will in exchange for a small donation to Cobalt.
- **Quenington Open Garden & Rare Plant Fair** - 13th April
Stroll riverside gardens, browse rare plants, and enjoy homemade treats. Entry £8 (cash only). Open 11 AM - 4 PM.
- **Lunch at Prithvi** - 9th May
Why not treat yourself to a 2-course lunch at this wonderful restaurant in aid of Cobalt?
- **Snowdon Sunrise Trek** - 16th May
Climb Snowdon under the stars and witness a breathtaking sunrise, all for a great cause.
- **Highnam Open Garden** - 22nd June
Explore the many beautiful gardens at Highnam Court in Gloucester.

Discover more about Cobalt at: www.cobalthealth.co.uk emailing us at: fundraising@cobalthealth.co.uk, or calling 01242 535922.

Your support makes all the difference!



CRANHAM CHOIR PRESENTS

The Passiontide
IN WORDS AND SONGS



TUESDAY 15TH APRIL
7.30PM

ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRANHAM



DONATIONS TO CRANHAM CHURCH
ORGAN FUND
REFRESHMENTS AFTER



Ebworth

After some lovely warm sunny weather at the beginning of March it was a shock to drive through snow on my way to Ebworth this week! There are still plenty of signs of spring about though. I have heard my first chiffchaff singing and there seems to be sweet violets in flower everywhere. After a long winter it is always so nice to see signs of spring and know that the long sunny days of summer are not far away!

There are still plenty of winter visitors around however to remind us that snow in March can be expected! Big flocks of redwings and common gull can still be seen feeding on the fields. The redwings will be fuelling up on invertebrates ready for their flight north to Scandinavia.

Autumn is usually the time of year you associate with fungi but there is one very fancy fungi which can be seen at this time of year. That is the scarlet elf cup. The name does a very good job at describing this mushroom which is bright red and the edges of its cap turn up to create a cup shape.



They can be found growing out of dead wood lying on the woodland floor. A great example of how important dead wood is to a whole host of organisms.

As we move into the bird nesting season we stop our woodland work and turn our attention on our site infrastructure. Over the next few months, we will be repairing gates, fences and tracks around the site.

Where we can we have been removing styles and replacing them with gates to make the site more accessible. To build on this we have recently been working with the Disabled Ramblers and Cotswold National Landscape to designate a 5.5 mile off road mobility scooter (Tramper) accessible route around Ebworth and Sheepscombe Common. Starting and finishing at The Ebworth Centre. Once finalised and uploaded this route can be found on the Disabled Ramblers and Cotswold National Landscape websites.



A hoverfly *Eristalis tenax* feeding on a lesser celandine.

Tom Griffin

Area Ranger Ebworth and Crickley Hill
National Trust



The Bisley Flicks in the Sticks
Presents:
Conclave

At Bisley Village Hall

8.00pm

Tuesday 8th April 2025

Doors Open 7:30pm for Tea,
Coffee and Wine

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 9th April**

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

Are You Ready To Vote?

Have you got photo ID to be able to vote?

The Gloucestershire County Council Elections will take place on Thursday 1st May 2025. All voters are required to show an accepted form of photographic identification (photo ID) to be able to vote at a polling station. This will affect all voters who vote at a polling station. This change will not affect postal voters.

Your ID can be expired however your photo must still resemble a likeness to you to be able to present it in the polling station and be issued a ballot paper. If your name on your ID does not match what is listed on the electoral register, you may need to provide additional documentation (such as a marriage certificate) to confirm your identity. If you do not know if you have updated the electoral register you can re-register online on the link below or contact the office on the number below.

If you or someone you know doesn't have photo ID, then you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate to use instead. Details of how to do this can be found on the link below.

You can apply online for a postal or proxy vote at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote> and register to vote online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Key dates for Thursday 1st May 2025 elections:

Registration Deadline – Midnight, Friday 11th April 2025

Deadline to apply to vote by Post- 5pm, Monday 14th April 2025

Deadline to apply to vote by Proxy- 5pm, Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate – 5pm, Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Polling Day – Thursday 1st May 2025 **7am – 10pm**

For more information about the upcoming elections and for a full list of accepted photo ID's, please go to the website:

www.stroud.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/elections or call 01453 766321.



PAINSWICK

Easter egg hunt



GAMES | TEDDY BEAR
TOMBOLA | PLANTS | HOT
FOOD | CAKES | BAR | FACE
PAINTING

EASTER SATURDAY
19TH APRIL 2025
12 - 4 PM

THE GREAT PAINSWICK
BAKE OFF IS BACK

Hunt starts from St
Marys Churchyard



More information can be found at:
www.facebook.com/painswickeasteregg hunt
(← or use QR code)
Egg hunt to run 19th - 22nd April

In aid of Painswick Playgroup
Registered Charity Number 900465

Voluntary Allotment Manager Vacancy

Cranham Parish Council is looking for a dedicated and enthusiastic individual to volunteer as our Allotment Manager. In this role, you'll have the opportunity to make a positive impact by overseeing and managing our community allotment space on Church Close.

What you'll be doing:

- Communicating with allotment holders to ensure smooth operation.
 - Promoting sustainability and eco-friendly practices.
 - Helping with the management of any issues, or concerns that arise.
- Regular reporting of water meter readings to the Parish Clerk.

What we're looking for:

- A passion for gardening, or outdoor activities.
 - Strong organisational and communication skills.
 - Friendly, approachable, and community-minded.
- Ideally someone who already holds an allotment on site.

What's in it for you:

- The chance to develop new skills and gain hands-on experience.
- Be part of a vibrant, supportive community.
- Opportunities for personal growth and networking.

A deep sense of fulfilment in guiding others to connect with nature, while serving as a valuable resource and point of reference for fellow allotment garden holders.

This is an unpaid, voluntary position with flexible hours to suit your schedule. If you're ready to help create a thriving green space for everyone, we'd love to hear from you.

**To apply, or for further information please
email: cranhampc@gmail.com, or speak with
your local Councillor**

I've recently found myself living alone after the breakdown of my relationship. My council tax bill is due soon, and I'm worried I won't be able to afford to pay it on my own. I'm already struggling to cover the cost of my other bills. What can I do?



You're not alone in worrying about struggling to pay your bills. It's a difficult time for people who are battling rising costs for food and essentials - as well as seeing their bills creep up.

Fortunately, there are options available to people struggling to pay their council tax, but you'll need to find out if you're eligible first. You might be entitled to pay less, or not at all, depending on your circumstances, because councils offer discounts and other reductions.

Firstly, because you're the only adult living in your home, your council tax bill can be reduced by a quarter. For example, if your bill is £1,000 for the year, you'll only have to pay £750 now that you live on your own. You'll need to tell your council someone has moved out of your home and the date that they left. You're entitled to the discount from when they moved out - even if it was a while ago.

When the council works out how many people live in a property, there are certain people that don't count - they're called 'disregarded people'. This includes under-18s, full-time students, long-term hospital patients, people with severe mental impairments, and many more. You can check our website (www.citizensadvice.org.uk) for more information on disregarded people. In some situations, everyone living in a home is disregarded. If this is the case, the council tax bill will be reduced by half. If everyone in a home is a student or severely mentally impaired, there'll be no council tax to pay.

If you live with an adult who isn't disregarded, but who is on a low income or receives certain benefits, you might be able to get a discount called a 'second adult rebate'. You can find out more about getting a second adult rebate on our website.

If you or someone you live with is disabled, this can also affect your council tax banding. If your home has been adapted, you can ask to be placed down one band. For example, if you're living in a band C property that has been adapted for a disabled resident, you should only be charged council tax for a band B property.

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There's also something called Council Tax Reduction, which is designed for people on low incomes. Your council will ask for details about your income and circumstances, to check if you're eligible. If you are, they'll reduce the amount of council tax you have to pay. When it comes to Council Tax Reductions, different rules apply depending on whether you've reached State Pension age.

And lastly, if you're struggling to pay for essentials, your council can reduce your bill further, or cancel it altogether, under what's known as a 'discretionary reduction'. This usually only happens if you can provide evidence that you're suffering severe hardship and can't afford to pay council tax. If you're in this situation, ask your council for help.

If you're not given a discretionary reduction, you might be able to appeal to a valuation tribunal. If the tribunal agrees with you, they can order your council to reduce or even cancel your council tax bill.

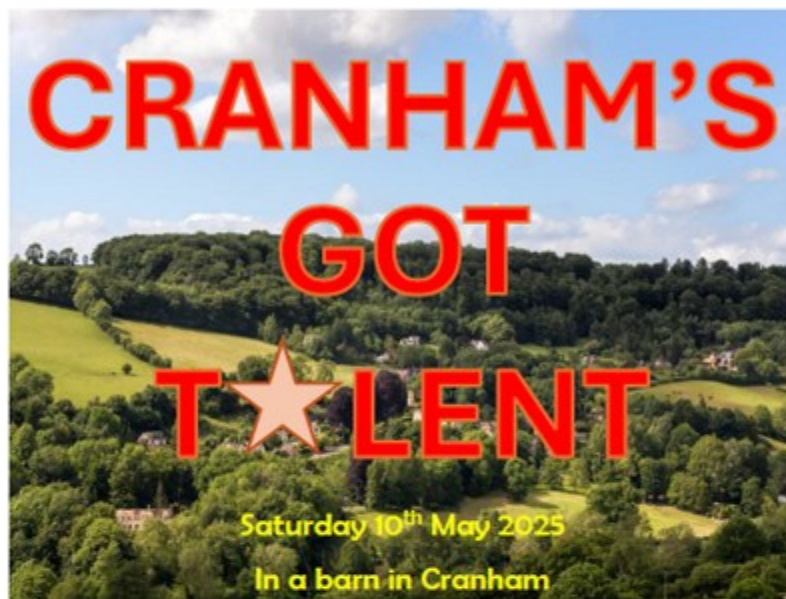
Whatever circumstances you're in, if you're struggling with your council tax payments, it's important to let your council know. Citizens Advice is also here to help you find a way forward, should you need our support.

Cranham Village Hall



*Will be closed between
Monday 7th to Friday 11th April
for essential electrical works*

The Cranham Big Space Cancer Appeal committee



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



Join us for this celebration of talented Cranham,

Please contact Rachel Monro 07737545159 for more details
on becoming a contestant

Family
friendly
event

Tickets on sale very soon

Family
friendly
event

PAY BAR, BBQ, TUCK SHOP, ICE CREAM



Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society



We all hope that, by April, spring will be well underway – but don't forget that it's still early days for the tenderer plants and be prepared for cold snaps and wet and windy intervals. Tender plants, including many summer bedding and (for example) tomatoes or courgettes, need to be kept indoors or in a heated greenhouse until temperatures reach a minimum of about 16C (60F), even at night. If you don't have somewhere suitable to shelter them, it's better to hold off buying plants until next month. Watch the forecast carefully, and don't put them outside until frost is past (usually around mid-May) – and remember to harden them off first.

The Garden Society's AGM and Lunch is on 5th April; details have been sent to members. Membership cards will be available, upon payment of the subscription, at the AGM, or you can join at a later meeting. Our next event after the AGM is the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday 26th April in Brimpsfield Village Hall; refreshments will be on offer from 10.30am with the selling starting at 11.00am. It's a bring-and-buy sale in aid of the Society's funds, so do bring along any plants, cuttings, seeds etc to sell, and pick up a few more for your garden!

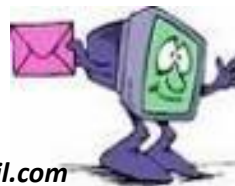
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

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

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

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

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



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<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

***At Haregrove, Remembering My First Reading of
Arthur Cooper's Chinese Poetry Translations***

From the permissive path
behind the house,
I wonder if *that* small window
or *that* looked in on you,
your desk and your books.

A few lean sculptures or
scrolls
depicting 'Li-Tu,' perhaps,
staff poised
to take the unfamiliar slopes
and hearts up ahead.

Autumn Evening Walk

The late sun
deepening its colours
and its crow pair's quiet,
I pass the old thorn
on my way.

From the gate
Cranham's woods already
are fully ablaze,
the smoke-blue Malverns
adrift beyond.

His breast an ember,
only at the last pigeon's clap
above the dark trees
do I turn
to head for home.

A nodded goodnight,
as always,
for one gnarled silhouette
and the eyes
among its haws.

***Passing Midwinter Cottage
After First Snowfall***

With sunshine bouncing off
the whole white common
beyond,
there's little of bleakness
abroad today.

Big un-wind-driven flakes
have settled slowly onto
everything,
spread a brief new canopy
even
over the beechwood trees.

Through this narrow lane
alone
particles cooler, keener,
more austere still in their
beauty
fall and rise upon the air -

piano notes, extending
across the years
from under thin fingers
toward one small mind's ear.

Paul Russell Miller

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Cranham Village Lunch

The next village lunch will be held on

Monday 14th April

12.15 for 12.30pm

in the **Scout HQ** this month

The menu for this day will be as follows:

Fruit juice

Pork Casserole with Mustard Mash

Carrots and Cabbage

Apple Charlotte and Cream

Stewed Apple

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 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

THE 100 CLUB

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, April or May. 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

If you would like to support the VH and join the 100 club,

please contact 100clubcranham@gmail.com

Winners 2025

January – Andrea Patient £25

February – Kate Ryan £100

March – Sarah Taylor £25



Cranham Tennis Club

Start of Season Tennis Open Afternoon

Sunday 27th April 2.30 – 4.30pm at the tennis court.

This is a free, open event for all current members and any, of all ages, who may like to have a go at tennis this year.

There will be fun tennis games and coaching for children from 2.30 - 3.30pm and for adults 3.30 - 4.30pm, led by tennis coach Sophie, from Painswick.

All standards welcome.

With drinks, scones and cakes served during the afternoon, and time to meet one another.

Please bring your own chair!

.....

Tennis Club membership.

Membership entitles you to

Use of the court at any time, with online booking

Weekly social tennis on Thursday evenings 6 – 8pm

A WhatsApp group for arranging social games

Opportunity for coaching for adults and children

A doubles tournament and social events through the season.

Adult membership £30; children £15; Family membership £55

If you would like to receive an application form for 2025, or discuss membership, please email : cranhamtennisclub@gmail.com

Helen Sammon, acting secretary

Rachel's pop up
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Fridays 4th and 25th only

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serving teas & coffee, cakes & bakes, breakfast for take away

or table service in the committee room with the main hall being available for



Parents and carers are welcome to bring their own toys/activities and use the hall for runaround space

NB...Committee room is reserved for quiet natter & guests!!



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**BOOK SWAP RACK
IN THE VH FOYER**

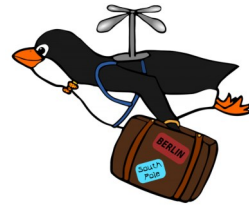
A café for the community – a warm welcome for everyone

It's time to greet April, the time of year when spring is sensed in the air, when the sky is bright and clear and the sunshine rays are warm and near! We start the month with laughter and fun, trying to fool everyone. But, the fun's end isn't even near! Here are 20 fun facts about April

1. 'Open' the doors To 'blooming' April - The origin of the word April is in the Latin word 'aperire', which means to open. This is about the many flowers that bloom in the month.

2. The funniest day in April - One of the most popular dates of April's calendar is the 1st of April – commonly known as April Fools' Day! Nobody's quite sure, but some believe April Fool's Day was inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in "Canterbury Tales" called "Nun's Priest's Tale."

3. The BBC has a sense of humour...On the 1st of April - Believe it or not, April Fool's Day pranks include a news piece ran by BBC about spaghetti being grown in Sweden and another about flying penguins.



4. April hosted the first modern Olympics - The first Olympics of the modern era were held in Athens, on the 6th of April 1896, after a break of 1,500 years.

5. An April tragedy - On the 26th of April 1986, the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine blew up, and the created radioactive cloud forced a 300-mile radius to be evacuated.

6. April was also fatal for the Titanic - The Titanic hit an iceberg in the Atlantic Ocean on the 15th of April 1912 and sank. Only 700 of the 2,224 passengers were rescued.

7. April has brought many famous people to life - Charlie Chaplin, Leonardo da Vinci, Hans Christian Anderson, Shirley Temple, Queen Elizabeth II are just a few of the famous people born in April.

8. In fact, we have April to thank For William Shakespeare - April marks the birth of perhaps one of the most significant writers of all time – William Shakespeare, on the 26th in 1564.

Continued on page 33

April greetings - from page 32

9. Houston, we have a problem! Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy on the 11th of April 1970, and only 56 hours later it ran into difficulties.
10. Yuri Gagarin made history in April - The Russian astronaut Yuri Gagarin was the first human who went into space, on the 12th of April 1961. He travelled 187 miles above the Earth in the spacecraft called Vostok 1.
11. Is April the 4th or the 5th month of the year? We know April as the 4th month of the year, but that's only by the Gregorian calendar, previously it was the 5th month according to the Julian calendar.
12. April has an extra day - April only had 29 days, but an extra day was added when Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar.
13. April in the north – October in the south - April is the seasonal equivalent to October in the Southern Hemisphere.
14. The birthstone of innocence - Diamond, represents innocence, and it's the birthstone for those born in April.
15. April has not one, but two birth flowers - People born in April are lucky enough to have two birth flowers, the Daisy and the Sweet Pea.
16. April is reserved for Aries and Taurus - In April there are two zodiac signs. The first one is Aries, which is until the 19th of April, and the second one is Taurus, which is from the 20th of April onwards.
17. April will be rainy... With some meteor showers - Take out your special umbrella, it's April, a time for meteor showers! One of those meteor showers is called Lyrids and appears from the 16th April to the 26th April, each year. There's another one known as the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that happens after the 21st April.
18. The first inauguration happened in April - On the 30th of April, 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as the First President of the United States.
19. April was holy back in ancient times - April was sacred to the goddess Venus, back in the time of the Ancient Romans.
20. Come out, come out...It's April! In the Northern Hemisphere, the smaller animals that hibernate during the winter usually start coming out of their burrows in April.

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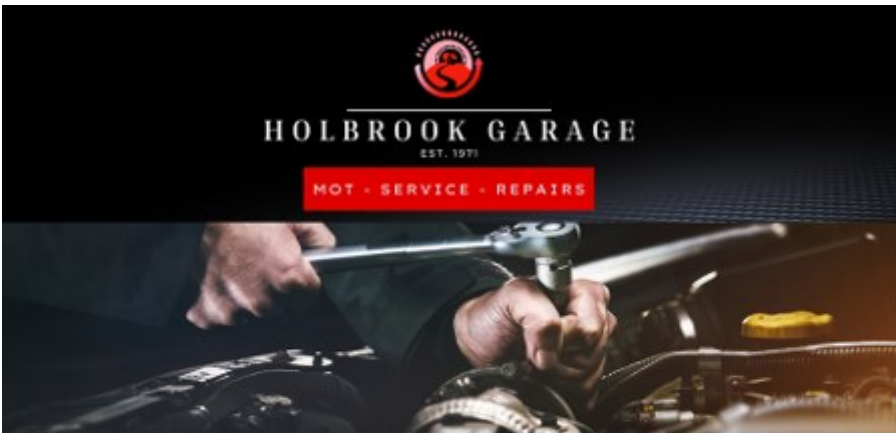
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REGULAR EVENTS

(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 10.00am - 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 10.00am - 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 16th APRIL 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on **Sunday 27th April** or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email.

814839

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CRANHAM DIARY



APRIL 2025

1	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
2	Wed	CNFC Talk	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
3	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
5	Sat	Garden S'ty AGM & Lunch	B'field V Hall	tbc
6	Sun	Benefice Communion	St. Mary's	10.30am
7-11		Village Hall Closed		
8	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
		Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V Hall	7.30pm for 8.00pm
9	Wed	Foodbank Collection	Painswick	10.00am - 12noon
13	Sun	Palm Sunday	Church	11.00am
14	Mon	Village Lunch	Scout HQ	12.15 for 12.30pm
15	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		CNFC Talk	Box V Hall	2.30pm
		Passiontide Songs/Words	Church	7.30pm
16	Wed	** Magazine Articles Deadline Date**		
18	Fri	Good Friday Service	Church	11.00am
19	Sat	Painswick Easter Hunt	Painswick	12noon - 4.00pm
20	Sun	Easter Family Communion	Church	11.00am
22	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
26	Sat	Garden Society Meeting	B'field V Hall	10.30 for 11.00am
		Spring Whimsy	Church	7.00pm
27	Sun	Morning Worship	Church	11.00am
		Tennis Club Opens	Tennis Club	2.30 - 4.30pm
29	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		

MAY 2025

1	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
10	Sat	Cranham's Got Talent	Barn	tbc

For Regular Events - please see page 42