

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

May 2025



Inside this Month:

ACPM - page 7

Christian Aid Week - page 11

CLHS Talk - page 20

Quiz & Chilli Night - page 22

Village Lunch - page 31

Tennis Coaching - page 41



**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

There is no clergy letter this month.



Project: SACT - Cranham - St James the Great - 16th c
Triptych restoration - please see page 6 for more detail

Worship in Cranham - May 2025

Sunday 4th 11.00am Edge Benefice Communion. (Christian Aid)

Revds. Helen & David

6.30pm Evensong

Sidesman Chris Collier
Readers Chris Collier
Nicky Overs

Nicole W

Sunday 11th 11.00am Holy Communion

Sidesman Mark Crowther
Readers Mark Crowther
Nicki Clapton

Rev. Sarah

Sunday 18th 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)

Sidesman Julie Berry
Readers Julie Berry
Richard Tyson

Mike C

Sunday 25th 11.00am Morning Worship

Sidesman Mike Wakeman
Readers Mike Wakeman
Clive Hayden

Sue H

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Ascension Day Service at St Mary's Painswick,

Thursday 29th 12noon Holy Communion

Rev. Sarah & Mary

Church Flowers

3rd - 11th May	Vics Soutar
17th - 25th May	Sue Stick
31st May - 8th June	Jean E & Kathy B
14th - 22nd June	Di Petrie



Church Cleaning

3rd May	Sue Stick
10th May	Sue Williams
17th May	Beryl Berry
24th May	Nicky Overs
31st May	Vics Soutar
7th June	Carol Tringham



Refreshments will be served after the following services:

11th May	11.00am	Holy Communion
25th May	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.



SAVE THE DATE - WEDNESDAY 25th JUNE

AT 7.00 pm

THE RESTORATION OF THE CRANHAM CHURCH TRIPTYCH

A video presentation from leading national art experts and organisations regarding their work on this historic 16th Century painting, which is the altarpiece in St James the Great.

Including the opportunity to see the painting when it is returned to Cranham Church after 20 months of restoration work.

Full details will be published shortly.



Cranham Parish Council website

lots of info including the minutes of meetings

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

www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

You are invited to the
Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting
For St James the Great Church, Cranham

Sunday 11th May 2025
In church following the 11.00am service

Further details available from:

Nicki Clapton, Bakers Piece, Cranham, GL4 8HY

07824 812384 cranhamchurch@gmail.com



Extracts from The Messenger – May 2025

Anne's faith journey at The Door

Anne Townsend is Operations Manager at The Door, a Christian charity that provides opportunities and services like mentoring, youth centres, and support to young people and their families. She tells us about her vocation to her role at The Door.



Anne's journey began with a desire to gain experience and find a meaningful way to contribute to her community. After finishing her A-levels, she spent a year volunteering at The Door. "I really enjoyed my time volunteering. Everyone was kind and welcoming and the cause felt important. The Door doesn't just offer second chances; we offer third, fourth, fifth chances. Forgiveness is key in our work, and it's at the core of how we operate," Anne said.

Anne started looking for paid work, around the same time that The Door was looking for some administrative support. I didn't see it at first, but being at The Door has definitely been part of my faith journey, and part of God's plan for me.

"I was born into a Christian family, and I attended church throughout my life. I think, for a lot of young people that are born into that space, you accept it as just being normal, and then you start to ask questions as you get older.

I guess around the age of 16 or 17, I was like, yeah, cool, I'm in. This is me. Jesus is part of my life. But I never saw The Door as being part of my calling or my faith journey at that time.

"Since working here though, I've become more aware of God. I've learnt to listen to Him. Now, I see my role as using the gifts God has given me to serve others."

Anne's work is an inspiring expression of her faith. She is deeply involved in making sure that staff have the tools and support they need to make a difference in the lives of young people.

Due to working at The Door, Anne has found other opportunities to serve, working as Secretary for Churches Together, and volunteering at Christian youth camps and with The Door's Christian Outreach Arm, engaging directly with young people.

Continued on page 9

"It's incredibly rewarding to hear their stories, share my own faith journey, and walk alongside them as they explore their own."

Through these conversations and experiences, Anne sees the bigger picture of ministry; service to others doesn't always have to follow a traditional path.

If you would like to look deeper into your calling and reflect on God's plans for your life, you might find it helpful to connect with your local priest or reach out to the Revd Canon Ann Sargent and her team of vocations advisors at <https://gloucester.anglican.org/discover-your-vocation/>

Welcome to our new Archdeacon of Cheltenham

The Ven Katrina Scott was officially collated, installed and welcomed as Archdeacon of Cheltenham at the end of March.

She said, "The service was incredibly special. There were people from all parts of my life there – it felt like a real gathering of love and support."



Katrina has served in the Diocese of Gloucester since 2015, most recently as Area Dean of North Cotswold and Rector of a cluster of Cotswold parishes. As Archdeacon of Cheltenham, Katrina now supports churches and clergy across Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, Cirencester and the Cotswolds.

The role of an archdeacon involves both spiritual and practical leadership. At the service, the collation welcomes an archdeacon into the spiritual side of the role, while the installation focuses on the legal responsibilities. "My first priorities are lots of induction meetings and getting to know people – building relationships is the most important part."

Got a story or something interesting to share?

You don't need to write it all up, just email Natalie (nsansom@glosdioc.org.uk) with a quick line about what you would like covered, and she'll take it from there!

Also, if you have any parish magazines to share, please email them over electronically to Natalie, so she can look for potential stories to share across the diocese.

Continued on page 10

Events and training

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

An audience with Jonathan Veira, St John the Evangelist Churchdown and Innsworth, 3rd May: Jonathan Veira is performing his 'Not Dead Yet' concert, described as being full of 'life, love and laughter'. The concert aims to fundraise for the Church. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/an-audience-with-jonathan-veira/>

80th Anniversary Concert for Christian Aid, St Michael and All Angels Church, 10th May: Anniversary Concert with Gloucestershire Christian Choir, conducted by Pamela Dewick and guest singers from Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/80th-anniversary-concert-for-christian-aid-tickets-1301827774919>

Fun quiz with cheese and wine, Tewkesbury Abbey Parish Centre, 10th May: £12 per ticket (£6 for under 16s), come as a team of six or can be matched up on the night. <https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/whats-on/>

Crafts that built the Cathedral: Stone carving workshop, Gloucester Cathedral, 3 May and Saturday 31 May: Join award-winning stone carver Deb Harrison for a hands-on, four-hour workshop in the Cathedral's Medieval Learning Hub, where you'll carve your own relief tile using ancient techniques. No experience required. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/crafts-that-built-the-cathedral-stone-carving-workshop-2>

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.



Christian Aid Week

May 11th – 18th

We have a long tradition in Cranham of being generous supporters of Christian Aid's work in the most needy areas of the world.

What does Christian Aid do? : We work with local partners and communities to fight injustice, respond to humanitarian emergencies, campaign for change, and help people claim the services and rights they are entitled to.

Who does Christian Aid support : We help all people, of every background, culture and religion.

Where do they work : Our projects are with those in the most vulnerable communities around the world, particularly in areas where war, injustice and climate change are affecting people's lives and survival.

In emergencies : Over the past year Christian Aid humanitarian appeals have been reaching people in Ukraine, the Middle East, Myanmar and Sudan

How to donate

In some areas of the village this year there will be a door to door collection for cash or card donations.

In other areas, or if you are not in, you will receive an envelope. With this you can give by QR code, or there will be instructions where to drop off a cash donation.



On behalf of those in need : Thank you.

Camino

This concert explores the idea of pilgrimage, inspired by a walk from Gloucester to Santiago de Compostela in the spring and summer of 2024. The walk was punctuated by the wildflowers on the wayside, the extraordinary range of cathedrals, churches & chapels and the histories of the three countries visited. The underlying and constant experience on the walk was that of "creation" in its many guises, whether in nature or man-made.

The concert opens with a movement from Haydn's Creation, is punctuated by Britten's Flower Songs and a verse of Stamford's Psalm 150, sounded in the churches visited to bring their acoustics to life. The programme follows music from England, France & Spain and culminates with Psalm 150 with organ accompaniment. For a postscript, Eleanor Kercher has composed "Before the End of Light", based on the Gregorian chant of Compline sung by the monks at Prinknash Abbey, heard there at the outset of the long journey to Santiago de Compostela.

1. Flower Songs – Britten
2. England:
 1. The Heavens are Telling - Haydn
 2. Torrents in Summer - Elgar
 3. This fairest Isle - Purcell
3. France
 1. Les Fleurs et les Arbres - Saint Saens
 2. Dialogue of the Carmelites (Final Movement) - Poulenc
 3. Il est bel et bon - Passereau
4. Spain:
 1. Ave Virgo Sanctissima – Guerrero
 2. Orri Mari Domingi – Junkal Guerrero (Basque folk song)
 3. Adios Rios, Adios Fontes – Viro (Galician folk song)
5. Link
 1. Psalm 150 – Stamford
6. Close
 1. "Before the End of Light": New composition by Eleanor Kercher

Gloucestershire based Sabrinensis was conceived in 2017, with the idea of combining singing and the spoken word. Initially our concert focused on poets, often with a Gloucestershire connection: Ivor Gurney, John Clare, FW Harvey (Gloucester Three Choirs Festival 2019) and Edward Thomas (Gloucester Three Choirs Festival 2023). The name Sabrinensis comes from the Roman name Sabrina, the goddess of the River Severn which flows through Gloucestershire on its way to the sea. The word Severn is an Anglicisation of the word Sabrina.

St Mary's Priory has been selected as the venue as its 8th century saxon design and the accompanying acoustic gives a link to the acoustics of Romanesque churches on the way across England, France and Spain. There is also a link to pilgrimage; The British Pilgrimage Trust writes "A 14-mile pilgrimage walk between Tewkesbury Abbey and Gloucester Cathedral along the river Severn leads past the door of these Saxon wonders. For some reason, the tiny village of Deerhurst has two. Not only that, one of them contains a treasury of early Christian art and artifacts, and still operates as a parish church. The other is a simple, unused (Odda's) chapel in the care of English Heritage." Nearby Odda's Chapel merits a visit, as does the River Severn, a short walk from St Mary's.



Camino...

A choral pilgrimage through
England, France & Spain

Music - Readings - Images

Including music by Britten, Haydn, Elgar, Purcell,
Saint-Saëns, Fauré, Guerrero and the premier of
'Before the End of Light' by Eleanor Kercher.

Sabrinensis

Judith Sheridan - Conductor
James Quinn - Accompanist

Sunday 18th May @ 3.00pm
Followed by Tea and Cake

The Priory Church of St Mary
Deerhurst, GL19 4BX

**Tickets £15 from 3choirs.org/whats-on
and on the door**

Bell-Tide

Those who have been living in the village for a while may remember Cranham Handbell Ringers playing at various events, particularly Christmas concerts. A few members now play with a team called Bell-Tide. You are warmly invited to a to enjoy the sound of handbells at summer concert in June in aid of TIC+ (to be rebranded Talk Well).



BELL-TIDE &
NEW WEDNESDAYS SINGING GROUP

Present

A LITTLE LIGHT MUSIC

Featuring handbells & voices in aid of

After 30 years, we're rebranding...

The Pavilion
Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham GL51 6PN

at 3pm Saturday 14 June 2025

Refreshments available during the interval

Retiring collection

For more information contact:
belltideteam@gmail.com

Are you interested in being part of a project to monitor reptiles and amphibians in our local gardens?

GLOUCESTERSHIRE GARDENLINK PROJECT

Amphibian and Reptile Identification and Monitoring Talk By Kate Gamez
(formerly of Natural England)

Thursday 15th May 6 - 8pm in Cranham Village Hall

Anyone lucky enough to live in the Painswick Valley knows how rich it is in wildlife habitats and the species they support. Connecting up these habitats is critical in allowing species to move about the landscape and adapt to changes in land use and pressures such as climate change. Some of the most vulnerable, and often overlooked, species are our reptiles and amphibians. Most of our native frogs, toads, lizards and snakes are declining in the UK and, not only important in their own right, being extra sensitive to changes in habitats, they are also the canaries in the coal mine that tell us about the health of our ecosystems.

Fortunately, many amphibians and reptiles are very happy to live in our gardens if we can just make a few small changes and give them the odd untidy corner in which to make themselves at home. In return, we may get to enjoy closeup encounters with these fascinating creatures and they will help keep on top of the local slug population.

If you would like to learn more about reptiles and amphibians and how to make your garden more suitable for them, please come along and join us on 15th May (see below).

Kate Gamez (ex-Natural England) will be teaming up Sachi from the Longridge/Slad Wildlife Corridor project and others involved in managing protected sites around the Painswick Valley to give some very informal training covering:

- Reptile and amphibian identification
- Ecology of reptiles and amphibians
- How to enhance your garden for reptiles, amphibians and other wildlife
- Reptile mats and how to site and monitor them

Continued on page 16

From page 15

As well as supplying hot drinks and cake, we will be able to offer a reptile monitoring mat to anyone on the training with a suitable garden who is interested in keeping track of whether or not they have reptiles in the garden. We will also be setting up a WhatsApp group to allow anyone who wants to be involved to share their experiences and access ongoing support if needed.

Booking essential, places limited:

Contact Liz Hayden at chair.ccmc@gmail.com

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 14th May

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

The top items required by the Foodbank this month are: pasta sauces, tinned ham and corned beef, marmite and jam, tinned rice or custard, laundry detergent, instant coffee, tinned potatoes or veg, multi-pack crisps, fruit juice, squash and Fray Bentos pies. If you are able to donate any items from this list, we would be very grateful. Other non-perishable items will also be received with thanks.

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



“An Evening of Operatic Delights”

at

ST MARY’S CHURCH, PAINSWICK

Saturday 17th May at 7pm

Andrew Macnair (Tenor) Elizabeth Key (Mezzo)
Katy Batho (Soprano) Michael Robinson (Piano)

Tickets **£28**, available from:

<https://coventgardenvoices.eventbrite.co.uk/>

If you can’t make it on the night but would still like to make donation please use this link

www.justgiving.com/page/margaret-macnair

**In aid of Longfield Community Hospice
and in memory of Mrs Margaret Macnair**

In aid of

LONGFIELD
Community Hospice
Registered Charity No. 298627

The Royal Progress of 1535

A talk given to the Cranham Local History Society
on 20th March 2025 by Alan Pilbeam

The history society welcomed back Alan, remembered for many excellent talks in the past, to talk this time about the remarkable Royal Progress made through Gloucestershire in 1535 by Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn and Thomas Cromwell. Progresses allowed monarchs to get closer to their subjects but this was on a different scale, lasted several months, and had a clear ulterior motive. The party, 500 strong, spent five weeks in the county, moving over that time from Sudeley south to Lower Sodbury.



They were tumultuous times. Henry, resolved to divorce his first wife, Catherine, had broken with Rome. He had married Anne Boleyn in search of a male heir. And beyond and within our shores the Reformation was undermining both old ideas and institutions.

Henry had another concern: a consuming love of hunting. Deer parks were essential to the itinerary. Pleasure aside, with tensions riding high in Europe he had to find funding for both army and coastal defences. Anne Boleyn may have been pursuing interests of her own: she carried with her William Tyndale's English translation of the Bible, at that time still banned. (Tyndale was a Gloucestershire man). The Act of Supremacy of 1534 had established the church irrevocably under royal control and Cromwell's aim was to maximise revenues from monastic properties. A first batch of dissolved monasteries included Tintern. Revenues passed to the Crown. Running at the same time as the Progress Cromwell had commissioners working on an audit of monastic wealth. Gloucestershire, in the north of which, on Alan's estimate, 80% of land was held by the church, would have been a prime target.

Continued on page 19

Alan then took us in a tour with the help of slides of the various locations of the Progress. Sudeley was the starting point: the rooms which Henry and Anne occupied can still be traced. From there they moved to Tewkesbury, the wealthiest of the abbeys (the abbot had his own deer park), and then on to St Peter's, Gloucester. Henry hunted at Prinknash and Miserden. Then on via the priory at Leonard Stanley to Berkeley Castle, which still has its own herd of fallow deer, and on to Thornbury Castle, now a hotel, where the layout of the Tudor knot garden is still preserved. Nicholas Poyntz built a whole new east wing for the king and queen at their next stop, Acton Court, long a ruin, now the subject of a remarkable restoration. It can be visited unlike their final stop, Little Sodbury Manor.

Alan concluded by looking at the impact of the Dissolution in Gloucestershire. Monastic land was put up for auction. Nicholas Poyntz built Newark, as a hunting lodge, on land he acquired. To the north of the county, Toddington was a vast estate, gathered together from old monastic lands, all but abandoned in the later 18th century. There were also impacts local to Cranham. Jan Whitton reminded us that there may have been a royal hunting lodge at Climperwell. And the land we know as Overtown was bought at auction and immediately resold. The ravages of the Dissolution were felt much more strongly elsewhere, not least up north. Gloucestershire got off lightly.

The many questions at the end were testimony to the interest the talk aroused – a big thank you to Alan.

Chris Collier

CRANHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Newark Park:
an unexpected history

A talk given
by local guide
Helen Roberts

Cranham Village Hall

on

Thursday 22nd May 2025

at 7.45pm

* * *

Members Free/ Visitors £4.00

Refreshments are included

All welcome

New Route
for 2025



Cranham Monster Trail

In aid of
Cranham C of E Primary School

Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd June
~ 10am to 4pm ~

FREE PARKING
at Cranham
Cricket Club
GL4 8JA



BBQ

PRIZES

FACE PAINTING

ICE CREAM

TOMBOLA

RAFFLE

LUCKY DIP

MAPS £5
EACH
(or 3 for £12)
From Cranham
Cricket Club

Buggy & Dog
Friendly

FOLLOW THE MAP TO BREAK
THE CODE

The Cranham Big Space Cancer Appeal committee

??? QUIZ ??? and



CHILLI NIGHT



Saturday 10th May 2025

DOORS OPEN 7pm – QUIZ STARTS 7.30pm!

Cranham Village Hall

Teams of up to 6 - £10 per person for

3 ROUNDS OF QUIZ – CHILLI – 3 MORE ROUNDS OF QUIZ

PAY BAR

Book your team with Jean Gouldsmith-Skinner

07985 031148



**THE BIG SPACE CANCER
APPEAL**

Help us transform cancer care
in Gloucestershire
www.bigspacecancerappeal.co.uk

**Cheltenham
Gloucester
HOSPITALS CHARITY**

Cranham Common News

The start of spring this year has been much dryer and warmer than in recent years, which will benefit some species more than others. The grass should now start a period of strong growth, so long as there is sufficient rain. The first wildflowers have now come into bloom, including cowslips and we are hopeful that they will repeat their impressive display from last year. Overwintering butterflies are now emerging from hibernation with early sightings of peacocks and small tortoiseshells. This is encouraging as butterfly numbers have been low in recent years.

Reptiles are becoming more active as they emerge from hibernation. We are lucky to have adders, grass snakes, slow worms and lizards on the common. Adders need dense ground cover to hide from predators (mostly birds) and therefore areas of scrub have been left across the common. Adders will now be basking in the morning sunshine. They will always try and avoid encounters with people or dogs, so please keep your dogs under close control so they don't stray into riskier areas. There are ponds local to the common so also look out for frogs and toads, particularly on roads.

The common is home to foxes and badgers, both of which generally give birth in February and initially look after their cubs underground. The cubs should start venturing out of their dens (or sets) for the first time towards the end of April and they are most likely to be seen out and about in the late evening or early morning.

Migrant birds have started to return from their overwintering sites, with swallows being the most visible of these. Ground nesting birds such as skylarks and meadow pipits will start building their nests. These birds need grass between 20cm and 50cm high to provide suitable protection from predators. The grazing strategy for the common allows grass to grow in the spring and thereby provide the required habitat for these birds. Sadly, both skylarks and meadow pipets are in decline nationally and numbers on the common have fallen in recent years. The key issue on the common is thought to be disturbance so another good reason to keep your dogs under close control and stick to the paths.

So, in summary, please enjoy the common this spring but spare a thought for the plants and animals that live here.

Malcolm Chapman
Member, CCMC



Welcome to Terry and her partner

Mark, (and Freddie, when not at Uni) who have moved into Bramley along with their two dogs - black lab/retriever called Macey and Cockerpoo called Wilson and a white and ginger cat called Simba - and several acquired gold fish and some black ones, available if anyone needs their pond topping up, they're clearly a hardy breed!



Poppy Appeal Coordinator

Looking for a Poppy Appeal Coordinator for the village - it's such a lovely thing to be involved with and not as much work as you might think...



I am set to (sort of!) leave the village at the end of April and, as such, I don't think I'll be best placed to continue as the Poppy Appeal Coordinator thereafter. If anyone is interested in taking this on (it's less work than you might think - I make it look hard...) then do let me know. Not only is it a real honour and privilege, but it's also a great way to be involved in the fabric of the village and meet new (lovely) people.

Do drop me a line if you fancy a natter with no expectations attached - 07733 017920

Bond



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

Small Things Like These

**At Bisley Village Hall
8.00pm**

Tuesday 13th May 2025

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

www.cotsnatsfield.club



May signals the end of our winter programme of talks with a meeting on **Wednesday 7th May at 2.30 pm in the Painswick Centre** when Malcolm Watkins will give a talk called 'Casting Stones at Napier's Bones', the historic rise of maritime trading and commerce leading to early portable computing techniques. Following her entertaining presentation last year about the Land Girls, Fiona Warin will return to **Box Village Hall on Tuesday 20th May at 2.30pm** to give us a talk entitled 'Lost the Plot – the history of allotments'. She will be 'digging' into the history of this unique feature of British life drawing on her practical experience as an allotment holder and a manager of council allotments. Non-members welcome (£5 charge). No need to book, just drop in (light refreshments provided). For more information contact Paul Wyeth: CNFCLectureSec.pw@gmail.com 07472 021 517. We are very grateful to Sue Bennett and Paul Wyeth who have organised an interesting and broad range of talks for us again this year.

We have also arranged visits to two very different local Mansions. Places are still available; for further information please contact Jane Rowe on: cotsnats@gmail.com

On Thursday 8th May, a morning visit to **The Mansion House, Cirencester Park**, home of the Bathurst family, where we step through the tallest yew hedge in Europe for a guided tour of the Mansion's State Rooms followed by refreshments. Cost £25 (£28 non-members).

On Wednesday 4th June, a guided tour of **Woodchester Mansion**, a Grade 1 listed unfinished Victorian Gothic house, hidden in a quiet sheltered valley about 5 miles south of Stroud. Also followed by refreshments, cost £21 (£25 non-members).

All 45 places on the site visit to the A417 Missing Link at Shab/Crickley Hill on Thursday May 29th are fully booked, but a waiting list for cancellations is available.

For further information about membership of the Club please contact John Elbert, our new Membership Secretary by email: CNFCMembershipSec@outlook.com Further information about the Club and its activities can be found on the CNFC website www.cotsnatsfield.club

Sylvia May, email: cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com

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

TRAC SUMMER RESIDENTIAL



Join us for an epic 5-day, action-packed Sportily camp and enjoy a week of playing sports and exploring the Christian Faith.

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

Wednesday 23rd July -
Sunday 27th July 2025

Tom Roberts Adventure
Centre, GL18 1HE

School years 7 - 13

➤ 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

Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society

'Climate change' is a phrase very much on people's minds these days. When the subject first came to prominence, some years ago, it was known as 'global warming', and the gardening press confidently started to predict that we in the UK would be able to grow all manner of tender plants as our weather started to become hotter. Now we know that it's not as simple as that; our naturally variable weather has become even more unpredictable, and you only have to think of last year's wet and cold summer, contrasted with the dry spell this spring, to realise that, although the weather across the world as a whole may be warming up, in this country the climate is going to continue to throw up all sorts of challenges besides heatwaves. Flooding, for example, is a real problem for some gardens, and the arid-zone plants advocated all those years ago simply wouldn't cope with it.



Another phrase in the news at the moment is Artificial Intelligence (AI), and you may be thinking that it doesn't have much to do with gardens, or climate change. But Royal Horticultural Society scientists are using AI to help them identify plants suited to specific purposes and conditions. You may be familiar with their 'Plants for Pollinators' logo; this scheme is being relaunched with a wider scope - look out for it if you're buying plants to help the wildlife in your garden. Over the next few years, they, with the help of AI, will produce lists of plants that can cope with flooding, drought, pollution and other ecological niches – look out for these to help you make your garden more sustainable!

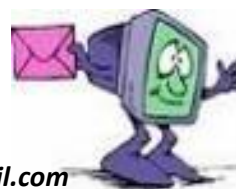
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

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Ebworth

We have had some lovely weather this spring and with it came lots of summer migrants. Some like swallows, chiffchaffs and blackcaps will stay here to breed and some like the wheatears are just passing through.

We have had a peak count of 8 wheatear along the Ebworth drive so far this year. This is really nice to see, but even better were the two-ring ouzel which were along the drive on the 9th and 10th of April.

Ring ouzels are mountain thrushes, breeding in rocky, mountainous areas in Wales, N England and Scotland. They look like blackbirds with a white band around their necks. Like a fancy necklace! They spend their winters in Southern Spain and North Africa and the birds seen at Ebworth will be on their way north. They aren't very common, so it was great to see them at Ebworth!

Our newly created woodland rides are looking amazing at the moment. It is incredible that after just one year you can see such a difference in the vegetation, with flushes of wood anemone, violets and dandelions. One particularly promising sign is the many new fingered sedge plants. Fingered sedge is a very rare plant nationally and Ebworth is one of its strongholds so it's great to see it responding so well after the works.



Fingered sedge plant growing on the edge of a new ride.

We have been busy in the woods doing repairs to the woodland tracks after the forestry works.

This involves using an excavator to scrape off the layer of mud which has built up over the winter and adding extra stone into potholes which have developed. This work is now complete so the woodland tracks should be looking great!

Another bit of work we have done recently is to fence off 5x5m squares in Stoney Field, which is next to Cranham Common. This fencing will exclude the cattle from grazing them and allow for longer grass and eventually scrub to develop along the edge of the field. This is to create habitat for reptiles and birds such as garden warbler and whitethroat. Once scrub has developed (this may take a long time) we will remove the fencing and allow the cattle to browse it. This browsing stimulates the shrubs to grow in a much denser way and to produce more spikes creating a much better more protective habitat for these species."

Tom Griffin

Area Ranger Ebworth and Crickley Hill

National Trust

Cranham Village Lunch

This month's village lunch will be held on

Monday 19th May

12.15 for 12.30pm

in the **VILLAGE HALL**

The menu for this day will be:

Fruit Juice

Hot, Homemade Sausage Rolls

New Potatoes

Coleslaw and Salad



Fresh Fruit Salad, Cream and Shortbread biscuit.

Tea/Coffee.

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

Please let me know if you would like to come but were not at the April Lunch. Thank you.

Nicky Overs

07884 432886 or nickyovers@hotmail.co.uk

I'm thinking of renting on my own for the first time. It feels like there's so much to think about! What should I be looking out for?



Most properties available for rent are listed online or with lettings agents.

Renting directly from a landlord might be a bit cheaper before you move in, as they may ask for fewer references and you might not need to do a credit check. But you'll have to deal with them directly if any issues arise during the tenancy. Some landlords use a lettings agent to find their tenants and then manage the properties themselves. If an agent is managing the property then you'll deal with them rather than with the landlord directly, eg, if you need to get any repairs done.

Never pay any money before you've seen the property as this is a common tactic used by rental fraudsters. If you can, take someone with you when viewing properties for a second opinion. If repairs are being done when you view a property, take photographs and send an email afterwards so you've got a record of the issues and that you were told they'd be sorted before you move in.

Things often happen very quickly when trying to find somewhere to rent. Ask the landlord or letting agent the following key questions to make sure properties you're considering are suitable:

- Is the tenancy for a self-contained property or are there are shared facilities?
- Is it a joint tenancy with other people?
- How much is the rent? Is it payable monthly or weekly?
- How long is the tenancy for?
- Are bills included in the rent?
- Are any appliances or furniture included?

Continued on page 33

- Is there a break clause allowing any fixed term to be ended early, if needed?
- Does the landlord need a guarantor?
- Is there a tenancy deposit, how much is it, and how will it be protected?

Check if you'll need to pay a holding deposit while the landlord carries out pre-tenancy checks. A deposit can't be more than a week's rent and should be returned to you at the start of the tenancy. You should also ask your landlord or letting agent what documents you'll need to provide when you agree to rent the property including evidence of your Right to Rent.

Avoid 'subletting' - renting directly from an existing tenant, as they might not have the landlord's permission to rent to you, which could cause problems later on. If a tenant shows you the property on behalf of the landlord they should give you the landlord's contact details.

If a landlord refuses to rent to you because of who you are, this may be discrimination. A 'no kids policy' or refusing to rent to you because you get benefits could also be discrimination. You only need to tell a landlord or letting agent you receive benefits if they ask.

If you run into problems, you can find information on our website – www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call us on 0808 800 5010.

Magazine subscription 2025/26

The cost remains at £10.00 pa for the 9th year

This is largely due to the revenue received from the advertisers.

Thank you, Advertisers!

Payment is due between **1st May & 1st June**

Thank you to the many who have already set up a standing order
or who plan to pay by BACS.

Cash payments will be collected by the person who delivers your
magazine in May or June.

But - please consider paying by bank transfer if you can.

I will send a reminder email in May, as well as Facebook reminders!

The wonderful deliverers are: Joan C, Kate R, Deb & Nita, Len,
Keith D, Philippa, Gill & Andy, Helen D, John W & me!

Thank you

Subscription charge for Postal Copies.

The cost for this also remains unchanged for the 9th year,
despite the cost of postage increasing.

£10.00 for the magazine, £10.00 for postage and envelope = £20.00 pa

Sue Stick: distributioncranmag@gmail.com

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.

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.cobalthhealth.co.uk
emailing us at: fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk, or calling 01242 535922.

Your support makes all the difference!

Longfield Community Hospice News



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:

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.

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Facts about May!

May is the fifth month of the year in Julian and Gregorian calendars, has 31 days and is a month of spring. Here are some fun facts about May that you may not have known about...

1. Who is May named after? May is believed to have been named after the Greek goddess of fertility known as Maia. Ovid, the Roman poet, however, believed that May was named for the maiores (the elderly) and June for the iuniores (the youth).

2. May breeds Prime Ministers... apparently! More UK prime ministers have been born in May than in any other month...

Nine, in case you were wondering! Weirdly enough, Theresa May isn't one of them – she was born in October!

3. Can you feel the force? The 4th of May (or rather May the Fourth (may the force be with you)) is commonly known as Star Wars day. Star Wars fans use this as an excuse to rewatch the movies.



4. Who are some May-born celebrities? Bob Dylan, Dwayne Johnson, John F Kennedy, George Clooney and Adele are some of the famous people that were born in the month of May.

5. What's your sign? People born between the 1st and 20th of May are Taurus and are known as smart, trustworthy, and ambitious. People who are born on the 21st and after are Gemini, who are believed to be more dynamic and passionate.

6. Healthier all around, then? Research conducted by the University of Columbia has shown that people who are born in May have a lower risk of acquiring respiratory, neurological, cardiovascular, and reproductive diseases.

7. Catch the cheese! There is a cheese rolling contest to celebrate May Day at Coopers Hill just to the South of Cranham! This ceremony originally took place each Whit Monday, but was later moved to the Spring Bank Holiday. The first written evidence of cheese rolling is found in a message written to the Gloucester town crier in 1826. Even then it was apparent that the event was an old tradition, and it is believed to be at least six hundred years old!

8. Emerald is the birthstone associated with May. This signifies youth and rebirth and is primarily mined in countries such as Brazil, Zambia, Colombia, and Afghanistan.

11. Although May is the fifth month of the year, it was the third month in early Roman calendars.

12. In the UK, there are 2 bank holidays in May. May Day is usually celebrated on the first Monday in May (although confusingly in 2020 it was on Friday the 8th May). The latter bank holiday, Spring Bank Holiday is the last Monday in the month.

Continued on page 39

13. And... this is VERY British. Morris Dancing is seen as a traditional dance during the month of May. It's a form of folk dancing performed by groups of men or women, using bells, handkerchiefs, and maypoles. Did you also know that a maypole was built in 1543 that was 100 feet high. Isaac Newton later purchased the pole in 1713 and used it to prop up a telescope. Maypoles were actually banned in England in 1644. Those who were found to have erected them were fined five shillings every week it was standing.

Historic May Events

1 May 1707 The Union between England and Scotland is proclaimed. The Empire State Building was also officially opened in 1931.

2 May 1611 The Authorized Version of the Bible (King James Version) was first published, and became the standard English language Bible.

3 May 1841 New Zealand was declared a British colony.

4 May 1471 The Battle of Tewkesbury, the last battle in the Wars of the Roses, took place; Edward IV's Yorkists defeated the Lancastrians.

5 May 1821 Napoleon Bonaparte "the Little Corporal", died in exile on the remote British island of St. Helena. He was 51.

6 May 1954 Roger Bannister was the first man to run a mile in under 4 minutes, at the Iffley Road Sports Ground, Oxford, England.

7 May 1945 Nazi Germany surrendered to the Allies at Rheims and the war in Europe ended. VE Day is celebrated across Europe and North America on the following day.

8 May 1429 The French warrior maiden, Joan of Arc, led the Dauphin's troops to victory over the English laying siege to Orleans.

9 May 1887 Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show opened in London.

10 May 1940 Promising his people nothing but "blood, toil, tears and sweat", Winston Churchill replaces Neville Chamberlain as British Prime Minister. Churchill is to form an all-party war government as German troops storm Europe.

11 May 973 Edgar the Peaceful was crowned at Bath as King of all England; he then went to Chester, where eight Scottish Kings and Welsh princes rowed him on the River Dee.

12 May 1926 Britain's Trades Union Congress called off the General Strike that had brought the nation to a standstill for nine days. Workers across the country had downed tools in support of miners, protesting a wage cut.

13 May 1607 Riots took place in Northamptonshire and other Midland counties of England in protest at widespread enclosure of common land.

14 May 1080 Walcher, Bishop of Durham and Earl of Northumberland was murdered; William (the Conqueror) consequently ravaged the area; he also invaded Scotland and built the castle at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

15 May 1567 Mary Queen of Scots married Bothwell in Edinburgh.

16 May 1943 RAF Lancaster bombers caused chaos to Nazi German industry by destroying two huge dams. Dr Barnes Wallis's bouncing bombs skimmed the surface of the water to reach their targets.

17 May 1900 The siege of the British garrison at Mafeking by Boer forces was broken. Commander of the garrison, Colonel Robert Baden-Powell and his forces had held firm for 217 days.

18 May 1803 Bored with nobody to fight for almost a year, Britain abandons the Treaty of Amiens and declares war on France, again!

19 May 1536 Anne Boleyn, King Henry VIII's second wife, was beheaded in London. She was 29. The charges brought against her included incest with her brother and no less than four counts of adultery.

20 May 1191 English King Richard I 'the Lion Heart' conquered Cyprus on his way to join the Crusaders at Acre in north west Israel.

21 May 1894 The official opening of the Manchester Ship Canal by Queen Victoria.

22 May 1455 In the first battle of the Wars of the Roses, Richard of York and the Nevilles attacked the court at St Albans, capturing Henry VI and killing Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset.

23 May 878 The Saxon King Alfred defeated the Danes at Edington, Wiltshire; as part of the peace agreement, the Danish King, Guthrum, accepted Christianity.

24 May 1809 Dartmoor Prison in Devon is opened to house French prisoners of war.

Continued on page 41

25 May 1659 Richard Cromwell resigns as Lord Protector of England.

26 May 735 The Venerable Bede, English monk, scholar, historian and writer, died having just completed his translation of St. John into Anglo-Saxon.

27 May 1657 Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell refuses parliament's offer of the title King of England.

28 May 1759 Birthday of William Pitt (the Younger), English statesman who became the youngest ever British Prime Minister at the age of 24.

29 May 1660 Charles Stuart entered London to become King Charles II, restoring England's monarchy following Oliver Cromwell's commonwealth.

30 May 1536 Eleven days after he had his wife Anne Boleyn beheaded, King Henry VIII marries Jane Seymour, former lady-in-waiting to Anne.

31 May 1902 The Peace of Vereeniging ended the Boer War, in which 450,000 British troops had fought against 80,000 Boers

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Summer holidays: Tues 26th, Wed 27th, Thurs 28th and Fri 29th August.

The sessions for both weeks will be from 9.30am to 11am (5 to 8 year olds) and 11am to 12.30pm (8 to 14 year olds)

The age ranges and times are slightly flexible at this stage; it will depend on the demand for these fun tennis sessions.

Members: £25 for four days or £7 per session.

Non-members: £32 for four days or £9 per session.

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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 10.00 - 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

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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 14th MAY 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on **Sunday 25th May** or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email.

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CRANHAM DIARY



MAY 2025

1	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
4	Sun	Benefice Communion	Edge	11.00am
		Evensong	Church	6.30pm
6	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
7	Wed	CNFC Talk	P'wick Centre	2.30pm
10	Sat	Quiz Night & Chilli	Village Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm start
11 - 18		Christian Aid Week		
11	Sun	Holy Communion	Church	11.00am
		APCM Meeting	Church	11.00am after service
13	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V Hall	7.30pm for 8.00pm
14	Wed	** Magazine Articles Due **		
		Foodbank Collection	Painswick	10.00am - 12noon
15	Thurs	Reptile Monitoring Talk	Village Hall	6.00 - 8.00pm
17	Sat	Covent Garden Voices	St. Mary's	7.00pm
18	Sun	Evensong	Church	6.30pm
19	Mon	Village Lunch	Village Hall	12.15 for 12.30pm
20	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
		CNFC Talk	Box V Hall	2.30pm
22	Thurs	CLHS Talk	Village Hall	7.45pm
25	Sun	Morning Worship	Church	11.00am
26 - 30		Tennis Coaching	Courts	9.30am - 12.30pm
27	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
29	Thurs	Ascension Day Service	St. Mary's	11.00am

JUNE 2025

5	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
14	Sat	Bell-Tide & Singing	Cheltenham	3.00pm
21 & 22		Monster Trail	Cranham	10.00am - 4.00pm
25	Wed	Restoration Presentation	Church	tbc