

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

JULY '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



July at St James the Great

Some people believe July is a quiet month for the church. It is called a month of 'ordinary time'— a period when we focus on the everyday in between the big festivals of Easter and Christmas. Nevertheless, God is at work all the time, in all places, and in all sorts of different ways, and July is by no means an exception!

At our 11am Morning Worship service on Sunday 13th July, Reverend Sarah is inviting her friend from Stroud Women's Refuge to tell us about the life-changing work of the refuge. Everyone is very welcome to come along and find out about the challenges faced by the women who are helped by the refuge and how we can support them.

We shall then turn our attention to celebrating the wedding of Rosie Murray and Edward Alleyn on Saturday 19th July. Our patronal festival on the 27th July is an extra special one this year, too, as our Songs of Praise service in which we give thanks to God for all our blessings, will include the baptism of Matilda May. Tilly is known to many of us already as she is a pupil of Cranham School. Our service will be held at 11am on 27th July and everyone is welcome to join us.

Of course, school's out for Summer towards the end of the month, so we have been busy in June preparing for our "4 days of family fun", which includes a family Rounders Match and BBQ lunch on Wednesday 23rd July at the Cricket Club. 'Pay as you can' events for children of all ages and their adults will take place between Monday 21st July - Thursday 24th July around our villages, so please do come along and join in the fun!

Meanwhile, behind the scenes, a number of our churches including Cranham are busy thinking about how we can improve our facilities and our welcome to all visitors and churchgoers, and we hope to have our brand-new website up and running soon, too. With all this going on, you will be pleased to know that I'm taking a church group away on a residential stay for some much-needed r&r in the first week of July. I look forward to seeing you around and about the village on my return!

Rev'd Sarah

Worship in Cranham – July 2025

Sunday 6th 11.00am Sheepscombe Benefice Communion

Revd Sarah & Mike

6.30pm Evening Worship Keith Ardron

Sidesman Sue Williams

Readers Sue Williams

Lindsay B

**Sunday 13th 11.00am Holy Communion Revd Sarah & Ellen Perrett
Stroud Woman's Refuge**

Sidesman Chris Collier

Readers Chris Collier

Sarah Taylor

Sunday 20th 6.30am Evensong (BCP) Fr. David Reynish

Sidesman Sylvia Ardron

Readers Sylvia Ardron

Keith Ardron

St James the Great Patronal Festival

Sunday 27th 11.00am Songs of Praise & Baptism Revd Helen

Sidesman Ian Wotherspoon

Readers Ian W

Nicole W

Church Flowers

12th July	Nicole Wotherspoon
20th July	Wedding
27th July & 3rd Aug	Helen Sammon



Church Cleaning

5th July	Nicki Clapton
12th July	Joan Charman
19th July	Kate Ryan
26th July	Linda de C
2nd Aug	Gill Firth



Refreshments will be served after the following services:

13th July	11.00am	Holy Communion
27th July	11.00am	St James the Great Patronal Festival Songs of Praise & Baptism



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.



www.beaconbenefice.org.uk



BEACON BENEFICE



Summer's Here!

4 days of family fun

Monday 21st July

Sherlock investigates...
The Big Fish!

Sherlock Supper – 4.30-6.00pm.
Activities in St. Mary's Church
followed by fish & chips
in the Church Rooms.

Book [here](#)
by Friday 18th July



Tuesday 22nd July

'The Lion, The Witch and
the Wardrobe'

Film afternoon – 2.30pm,
Edge Village Hall, followed
by picnic on the green.
BYO rug and picnic. Drinks
and popcorn available.

Thursday 24th July

St. Mary's Mums (Baby &
Toddler Group) – 9.30-11.00am
Come and play! at Painswick
Recreation Ground. Cakes
provided. BYO coffee!
Everyone welcome.
Family Hub open 1.00 – 2.30pm
for coffee and chat.

Wednesday 23rd July

Rounders match – 11.00am
at Cranham Cricket Club GL4
8JA followed by BBQ lunch.
Sausages, burgers & drinks
available, bring anything else
you'd like to eat!

Pay as you can cash donations welcome at all events, for more
information please contact Vics Soutar
familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk





Sherlock Supper

Monday 21st July 2025

4.30-6.00pm - St Mary's in Painswick



Sherlock Investigates...



"The BIG FISH"



Activities, story, then pay-as-you-feel
meal in the Church Rooms
Children, bring your own adult with you!
Cash donations on the door



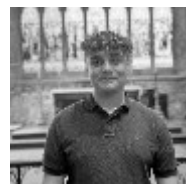
To book your place

use the QR code before 18.07.25

For more info, email Vics Soutar familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk

Extracts from The Messenger - July 2025

RECOGNISE: A time to celebrate Children, Youth and Families Ministry



RECOGNISE, from 7th to 13th July, is a week-long celebration of the work of those in Children, Youth and Families Ministry.

RECOGNISE brings to the forefront people like Joshua Robertson, who serves as the Children, Youth, and Families Minister at St Mary's Church in Newent.

"I first got into youth ministry for the volunteering element of my Duke of Edinburgh Award," he said. "A curate needed help with a youth Alpha course, and I needed to volunteer. So, I joined in – and I fell in love with it. Talking with young people, engaging with families, helping them find a voice in the church – that's when I knew this was my calling."

As a Children, Youth and Families Minister, Josh's role is to help children, young people and their families grow in faith.

He said: "The most rewarding part of my role is seeing the lights go on in a young person's eyes when faith becomes personal. It's that moment when they say, 'Oh, I get it now,' and it's theirs. That personal connection with Jesus is what it's all about."

"The biggest shock is realising how many young people don't even know who Jesus is, right here, on our doorstep. It drives me to make church accessible, relevant, and welcoming."

"I hope more churches will invest in youth ministry, not just paid roles, but someone championing this work in every parish."

"We need our voices heard nationally. Youth and Families Ministry is vital." Barrie Voyce, Senior Youth Connector for the Diocese of Gloucester, said: "I'm super excited that we get to RECOGNISE the hours of work and dedication given by those in ministry to children, youth and families across our churches."

"Investing in people and programmes that inspire young people often happens around the edges of church, and this week of celebration will bring it to the front and centre. We encourage everyone to get involved."

RECOGNISE is a time to show gratitude to those who work hard to help to guide the faith journey of the next generation.

On 13th July, churches nationwide are asked to make space in their usual Sunday service to 'recognise' the children and young people who serve and contribute to CYPF Ministry.

Share your appreciation online using #RECOGNISE to help amplify the message across the Church and beyond.

For more information about the 30k project, visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/30kproject>.

Cubs in the Cathedral, Lions at Large!

This summer, from 11th to 14th September, a pride of decorated lion cubs will be hiding around Gloucester Cathedral – as well as 32 large lion sculptures dotted around Gloucester and Cheltenham.

Stop off at Gloucester Cathedral along the way to find the hidden cubs, each created by local schools and community groups. You might spot a lion outside the Cathedral too.

The trail is in support of the Big Space Cancer Appeal, which is raising money for new cancer care facilities in Cheltenham.

It is free and no booking is required. After the trail ends, the lions will reunite for a weekend at the Cheltenham Racecourse, before being auctioned off to bidders.

For more information, visit <https://lionsatlarge.co.uk>

Bishop Rachel's youth survey

Bishop Rachel has launched a short, anonymous online survey for young people in Gloucestershire aged 13-18 about their views of the criminal justice system.

She wants to hear what young people think about what prison is for and what would make society a better place.

If you have someone between 13 and 18 years-old at home or are involved in youth groups, please ask them to your young people in the survey: <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2025/voices-of-youth>

Events and training

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

Library tour and tea package, Gloucester Cathedral, 8th July, 2pm,

A rare opportunity to go on a library tour, followed by a choice of savoury or cream tea in the Monk's Kitchen with fellow library visitors and the tour guide. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/library-tour-and-tea-package-3>

The People's Show Choir Summer Extravaganza, St Philip and St James Leckhampton, Grafton Road, Cheltenham, GL50 2DD, 17th July,

Join The People's Show Choir for an evening of exciting music from the world of pop, stage and screen.

<https://pipandjims.churchsuite.com/events/7xaeiz43>

Archaeologist for a day – Gloucester Festival of Archaeology 2025, Gloucester Cathedral, 26th July,

A miniature archaeological 'dig' for families, outside the Cathedral. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/archaeologist-for-a-day-family-activities-gloucester-festival-of-archaeology-2025>

Cathedral Stone Carving Festival, Gloucester Cathedral, 23rd to 25th August,

Celebrate craftsmanship and heritage at Gloucester Cathedral's Stone Carving Festival this August bank holiday, with live demonstrations, hands-on activities, and a poignant theme of "peace and remembrance" marking 80 years since VE Day.

<https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/cathedral-stonecarving-festival>

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.

NOTES FROM THE CRANHAM COMMON TRUST



AGM The CCT held its AGM recently. Over 25 members attended and the highlight was a presentation by Aidan Fallon, Natural England's senior reserves manager, responsible for our Common, amongst others. He explained how NE manages and maintains the Common, and why it does what it does, and why it does not do what others might suggest it should do. As villagers are passionate about the Common, readers will not be surprised to learn that a lively debate followed.

Tracks across the Common. While the CCT owns these tracks it has no legal responsibility to maintain them. That said, it now has a new specification for repair/maintenance of these tracks. Households who adjoin the tracks and who want "their" track sorted should contact me on: cranhamcommontrust@gmail.com to discuss their proposals and funding.

The Memorial Stone. Villagers will be aware that the lettering naming the original donors has become very worn recently. Thanks to Peter Raine, Tim Osborne and CCT funds there is now a smart new top plate on the stone.

The Village pond. Somewhat to our surprise, we have learnt that the CCT actually owns the pond. Autumn work parties will be organised to cut back vegetation and smarten up this wonderful village asset.

Any queries or concerns about the Trust and its ownership (but not management) of the Common should be directed to me.

RICHARD TYSON

Secretary

Cranham Village Hall



AGM

Wednesday 9th July 2025 from 6pm

Before the AGM commences at 6.30pm the Village Hall committee would like to invite you along to share information with the village on the being work undertaken to future proof our Village Hall for the community today and the generations to come.

- The much-needed maintenance and improvements to the building
- Becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

PLEASE DO JOIN US!

We will be offered some cheese, pate and wine to enjoy!
Children are welcome to sit in the committee room

There is opportunity to join the CVH committee:

- We meet bi-monthly for a one-to-two-hour meeting
- Help us plan social events for the community, young and old
- Share your views and offer your expertise on how we can improve the environment of the Village Hall

For further information contact

Rachel Monro (CVH chairperson) on 07737 545159



Foodbank Update



Five years ago, during the restrictions of the Covid pandemic, we recognised a need to support those in food poverty and those who wished to donate to help them. We set up the monthly collection points in Stamages Lane car park and by the Stocks.

You came and you came, and huge amounts were collected and taken to the Stroud District Foodbank (SDFB) for weighing, sorting, packing and hand delivery to many struggling families. You also donated nearly 100 laptops and tablets for children in Archway School who could not study at home without them. You gave socks and hats for the poor in winter and sleeping bags for the homeless. Christmas collections yielded crates and crates of festive fare to those who might otherwise have nothing.

Your generosity has been overwhelming, and we have consistently been the highest church donor in the SDFB area.

But times have gradually changed, and our collections have dwindled. Don't worry, we know you are still giving! Just in different ways; into the baskets in supermarkets, through financial donations and in your thoughts and prayers. It therefore seems time to stop the monthly collections and, after discussion with SDFB, we have decided to focus just on Easter and Christmas collections.

Our collection in July will therefore be our last until November. We will be in the Stamages Lane car park from 10am - 12noon as usual. For the Wednesday 9th July collection, please may we ask for tinned ham and corned beef, fruit squash, UHT milk, shampoo and conditioner and laundry liquid. Other in-date, non-perishable items are also very gratefully received. We thank you all for your generous and cheerful giving and the friendships we have formed in our car park meetings.

A special thank you to David Allott who has been the most steadfast and hardworking of our little band of volunteers, always there and always delivering the crates of food to the warehouse.

**With love and thanks
David, Jude, Pippa, Philippa, Joan**

Cranham Common News

After the exceptionally dry spring the rain has arrived at last and the common has burst back into life. The grass has grown strongly over the first half of June and is now looking as we'd expect for the time of year. I'm sure you'll all be pleased to hear that the cows are coming back in early July. They will initially be grazing the main part of the common, using the no fence system as in previous years. So please refrain from cutting back the grass on the common. If the long grass is causing you problems in specific areas, such as being close to walls where the cows are unable to access, then the gentle use of a strimmer is recommended.

The goats are continuing their great work on Knowle Bank and have made a significant impact on the brambles by Rushbrooke. They are now being allowed to graze over a wider area so please look out for them when you're walking on that part of the common.

One consequence of the dry spring has been a reduced display of wildflowers compared to previous years. Many flowers have shorter stems and are appearing later than normal. However, there are still plenty of flowers to enjoy including common spotted orchids, pyramidal orchids and lesser knapweed.

This is the best time of year to see glowworms with peak activity being between 10:00 p.m. and midnight. Sadly, I've not seen any this year but if you are lucky enough to see any please be sure to share on Facebook.

Now that summer is upon us it's worth a reminder about the risk of fire on the common. Open fires and barbeques are clearly not allowed but please also take care with cigarettes and discarded glass which can start fires in dry conditions.

Malcolm Chapman

Member, CCMC

Painswick Library Challenge:

Ready Steady Read!

Calling all 3-6 and 7-12 year olds!

This year, the Painswick Library is thrilled to announce our very own challenge: Ready Steady Read! It's time to dive into the world of books and earn exciting rewards along the way. Here's how you can participate:



How It Works

- ◆ Visit the library three times between July 14th and September 12th 2025
- ◆ Read three books of your choice.
- ◆ Receive a book token to purchase a book of your very own!

Bonus Challenge: Show Off Your Creativity!

If you're feeling extra creative, here's your chance to win even more:

- ◆ For 3-6 year olds: Draw a picture inspired by one of the books you've read.
- ◆ For 7-12 year olds: Write a *500-word story about A Summer You'll Never Forget.

Winners from both categories will not only earn an additional voucher but will also have their work published in The Painswick Beacon!

Get Started Today!

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate reading, creativity, and community. Visit the Painswick Library to join the challenge and let the adventure begin. We look forward to seeing your brilliant drawings and reading your amazing stories!

Let's get ready, steady, and read!

**500 words is 1 page single line spaced or 2 pages double line spaced.*

GLOUCESTER LAB

LEGO INVENTORS - PAINSWICK LIBRARY

FRIDAY 15th & 22nd AUGUST

11.30am - 12.30pm OR 2.30 - 3.30pm

FREE EVENT coming to Painswick Library a very exciting opportunity for 7-17yr olds to learn how to make their very own lego robots Hosted by Gloucestershire Libraries Lego Inventors and Painswick Library Volunteers.



Start building and learning with LEGO Spike Education kits and Scratch. This is a fun and creative way to develop practical and digital skills. We'll provide everything you need to get started and our friendly Lab Technician will be on hand to help. Once you're comfortable working with the tools you'll be able to build and code your own creations! Gloucestershire Libraries are committed to creating an inclusive community and are working towards a place where everyone feels welcome, safe and valued for who they are. Our events are for everyone: We welcome you whatever your socio-economic background, ability, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.

More information to follow, to book your place go to gloslibraries.uk and follow link to Painswick Library

Or please contact : painswicklibrary@btconnect.com

Gill Hopkins Painswick Library Volunteer (Copied from Gloucestershire Libraries web site)

WELCOME!

No new people in this village this month. If we have missed anybody please let the editor know!



Welcome
Glad you're here!

Craham School

~~Mon~~ Monday 2 June
First I went to ~~water temp~~
~~test~~ then by in wales.
we put the orning, ~~up~~ but then
we dsided to taick it
down, because it was too windy.
The Next day, we went into
town. We had a look at the shops.
After tea I went ~~to~~ the ~~beach~~
beach. I went in the sea.
I went : supper deep. ~~was~~
When a wave hit it nocked
me over. on Tuesday Night, I went
cinema, we watched teenage
krackon.
✓ Sounds like fun. I love
camping.

Toby Year 1

Monday 2 June 2025

my half term holiday week.
On x Saturday we did a 2 hour drive
to the Jurassic ~~park~~ in Devon.

Before we went to spinning wheel
cottage the cottage that we stayed
in) we went to Ginnmouth and
played ~~at~~ at a beach. Later on
we looked around ~~some~~ shops, ~~then~~
we started walking back to the
car to go to Otterton before
we went to the cottage we ~~drove~~
to the mill. Next we went
to the cottage, ~~at~~ the cottage
we realised we milk bottle to
drink we also had a look around
me and George slept in the bird
based room. Theo and James slept
in ~~the~~ the ^{hare} based room and ~~the~~
Mummy and Sam slept in a tree
based room. ~~with~~ 2 The tree room
had 2 beds the other room had
only 1 bed. Th

✓
Sounds like an exciting holiday.
What a treat to go on holiday
with a friend.

Jack Year 2

Cranham Tennis Club welcome you to
Crambledon 2025

Saturday July 19th.

10.30 - 3.30pm

Come and join in a fun adults mixed doubles tennis tournament played on private courts in the village,

All proceeds to Maggie's Cancer Charity.

Round robin matches will be played in the morning, with a simple handicap system to ensure even games. Lunch back at Cranham Court followed by semi-finals and a grand final in the afternoon.

£20 per player to include lunch and tea. .

Entries please as mixed couples.

Only 16 couples so book early to ensure a place.

To book email names and phone numbers to
Lizzie Pelly : lizziepelly@gmail.com

Summer Tennis Coaching

Fun tennis coaching sessions for children.

Subsidised by Cranham Tennis club. Fun
and fresh air.



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.

Please contact Jemma on 07500 800626 to reserve a place for your child.

Tennis membership is great value.

Please email: cranhamtennisclub@gmail.com
for more information.

Cranham Parish Council website

lots of info including the minutes of meetings

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

Cranham School

2025 Year 6 Leavers



We say goodbye to

Bea, Bella, Billie, Georgie, James, Louis, Sylvie, Thea, Theo

and wish them all the best of luck in new secondary schools
- they all have very bright futures ahead of them.

Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society



The Society's main summer event this year is an Open Gardens afternoon in Brimpsfield, on Saturday 12th July. From 2pm until 4pm a number of gardens will be open to visitors in aid of the Society's funds; the charge, £5 per person, cash only (children free), entitles you to garden entrance and a cream tea at the Village Hall. Start at either The Old Post Office or Yew Tree Barn to pay and pick up a map listing the gardens; if coming from outside the village, park at the Village Hall (first building on the left as you arrive from Birdlip) and, on leaving the car park, turn right and Yew Tree Barn is the first entrance on your left. We expect to have seven or eight gardens open, of various styles – from the immaculate to the wild! - but all with some take-home ideas for your own plot. Come and enjoy a garden afternoon out.

If you're keeping young family members entertained during the school holidays, remember that the Children's classes at our Annual Show are open to any local youngster. The Show takes place in Birdlip on Saturday 30th August, and classes include a finger-painting of flowers for the under-fives, and for older children there are classes for a photograph, decorated biscuits and a friendship bracelet. For full details please contact: brimpsfieldgardensociety@gmail.com.

Some plants tend to run out of steam in the summer, but you can keep them going for longer by remembering to deadhead and feed them. Save water by watering in the evening and by directing the flow at the roots, not over the foliage; and remember that a good dousing every few days is more effective than a daily sprinkle! Apply a good layer of mulch after watering to keep plants moist.

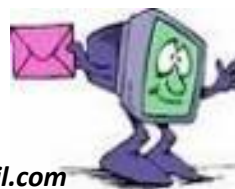
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

All general articles: cranhammagazine@gmail.com

All church articles: cranhammagazine@gmail.com

Advertising enquiries: advertisingcranhammag@gmail.com

Distribution enquiries : distributioncranmag@gmail.com



I got a text asking me to click on a link to reschedule a parcel delivery I'd missed. I was waiting for a parcel from Royal Mail at the time, so I clicked on the link and was asked to make a payment. Luckily, my daughter told me the text is a scam and to ignore it, but I almost gave away my personal details. How can I spot the signs of this type of scam myself in the future?



Parcel delivery scams are becoming increasingly common. Ones involving texts and emails are known as phishing scams and aim to trick you into giving away your personal information and financial details, so your bank account and money can be accessed.

One-way scammers do this by enticing people to click on links, which can lead to fake websites, in the hope that this information will be entered.

While scammers can pretend to be from any parcel delivery company, many of them choose Royal Mail because it's the largest delivery company in the UK. This means the chances of scammers contacting someone who receives parcels from Royal Mail, is higher.

These scams can be in the form of a text, like yours was, or an email or phone call. There are also reports of fake 'Something for You' cards, which Royal Mail leave when a delivery is attempted, but no-one is home.

Here are some tips on how you can stay vigilant and spot the signs of a parcel delivery scam, and other scam messages:

- ◆ If you're waiting for a parcel and get a message that asks you to pay to get it, or reschedule the delivery, it's usually a scam.
- ◆ Don't click any links or attachments in the text or email. Delivery companies won't ask you to pay them through a link in an email or text.

Parcel delivery scammers often pretend to be from an organisation like Royal Mail and can try to make you click on a fake version of the company's genuine website, which asks for personal information or login details - these can appear real.

Continued on page 25



- ◆ To check if a link is genuine, hover your mouse over the link without clicking on it, or press and hold on the link on a mobile device. You should be able to see the address the link goes to and check it's the same as the company's official website address.
- ◆ Make sure you check the address carefully - fake link addresses can look similar to the genuine address.
- ◆ Other signs of a message that is a scam include bad spelling and grammar, and when it starts with a general greeting instead of your name. But, scam messages can sometimes be sophisticated - so don't rely on obvious mistakes only.
- ◆ If you get an email, check if the email address matches the sender's name or organisation - you might have to click on their name to see the email address.
- ◆ If there's something you're unsure about, don't feel pressured to act. You can find the official details for the company the person who has contacted you says they're from and ask the company if they've contacted you.

Royal Mail has a helpful page on its website of examples of delivery scams,
Including text messages and emails people have received.

You can check if you think something you've seen online, or in a text or email you've received, might be a scam, using an online tool on the Citizens Advice website. If you have been scammed, you can report it on the Citizens Advice website, and check what else you need to do - including protecting yourself from further risks.

Being targeted by a scammer or falling victim to a scam can make people feel anxious or embarrassed, but it's important to remember scammers are clever and scams can happen to anyone. Reporting them helps track down and stop scammers and prevent other people from ending up in the same situation.

Newark Park: an unexpected history
a talk given to the Cranham Local History Society
on 22nd May 2025 by Helen Roberts

Newark House, our local National Trust property, just a few short miles from Cranham, was the subject of Helen Roberts' talk. Most country houses have a story. Newark's, as Helen's title suggests, has a few surprises.

It had beginnings as a hunting lodge, back in Tudor times. In the hands of architect James Wyatt at the end of the 18th century it was refashioned as a country house. Under the Clutterback family who owned it from Wyatt's time and later the Poole King family, their tenants from 1898, it flourished as a family home. The National Trust was first involved in 1943 when it agreed in principle to take on the house, with a £7500 endowment.

Taking on country houses and their estates was still very much a novelty for the Trust. That hadn't been the intention of its founders. But it seemed wherever you looked country houses were disappearing. Legislation allowing it to do so was put through in the late 1930s.

Newark's last tenant died in 1949 and that was when the Trust re-engaged. Its national agent, James Lees-Milne, reported back that it had a wonderful site and garden but that the house was more or less a nightmare. That posed a big dilemma. What could the Trust do as a small-scale operation, with a membership in the single thousands compared to the multiple millions of today? Repairing and opening the house to the public were beyond its resources. And the endowment it seems was spent entirely on the estate, with nothing left for the house.

The Trust's local agent was briefed to find a tenant. A couple took over the property on a fourteen-year lease and ran it as a nursing home. Given the absence of any kind of heating or water supply it was singularly ill-suited for habitation of any kind. The new tenants had a repairing tenancy. They were supposed to pay for the upkeep. Not only did they struggle to do so but they found it hard to pay the monthly rent. The husband did basic decoration while the lawns degraded into bramble patches. But he was also working as a lorry driver, and signing on the dole, and 2 ½ years into the lease he walked out on his wife.

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New tenants, another couple, were found. Their children played on the roof. The flashing was damaged. Water leaked. The top floor was abandoned. They also kept dogs which had the free run of the basement which was never cleaned and the smell was appalling. There were many letters of complaint. It was suggested that the tenants be let off the rest of the lease and asked to leave. But they asserted that they loved the house and would not be moving. Only when the husband died did they leave.

Another couple, also a family, took it on, also running it as a nursing home. Their children ran wild. The grounds were abandoned. The summer house disappeared beneath the ivy. Goats roamed free and ate the 18th century plants. The lake ran dry. The Trust made an application to close the home but the county council refused: nursing homes were in very short supply.

Once the new tenants left, in 1968, the Trust had very few options. One proposal was to take out the internal floors and leave it as a ruin, which might have had a wonderful Romantic quality. But there was the small matter of a Grade Two preservation order on the house, and attitudes to conservation were changing. And then, as if from nowhere, came a saviour in the form of an American, Robert Parsons, a one-time GI and retired architect, who took the house over in 1970, immediately installing RSJs in the cellar to stabilise the structure. Over the next thirty years and largely at his own cost he made it step by step more than habitable. His partner, Michael Claydon, took it over on his death in 2000 and on Michael's death the Trust took over full occupation. Today it has 80,000 visitors a year.

A big thank you to Helen. The story which she's so carefully researched was an eye-opener for all of us.

Chris Collier

Reminder:

The next **Parish Council Meeting**
is on **Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 7.00pm**

Cranham Village Lunch

This months' village lunch will be held on

Monday 14th July

12.15 for 12.30pm

in the **VILLAGE HALL**

The menu for this day will be:

Fruit Juice



Selection of Cold Meats, Gala Pie and Cheeses

Pickles, Tomatoes and Olives

Pineapple Mango and Blueberry Meringues with cream

Tea/Coffee

Cost will be £5, we are looking forward to seeing you.

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JULY was named after the famous Roman general Julius Caesar by the Roman senate; as it was the month he was born in. Julius Caesar was a formidable military general and statesman who was largely responsible for changing the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. The month was previously called Quintilis (Latin for fifth) as it was the fifth month of the 10-month-long ancient Roman calendar. As the second month of Summer, July is, on average, the warmest month of the year in the northern hemisphere. Its southern hemisphere equivalent is January. In the southern hemisphere, though, July is, on average, the coldest month of the year, being the second month of winter.

In early July, a period of time called the “dog days of summer” begins. Historically they were observed within Ancient Roman and Greek astrology and were connected with bad luck, mad dog attacks, unexpected thunderstorms, heat, and drought. They gained their name as “dog days” as they were connected with the star Sirius, which is part of the Canis Major (Greater Dog) star system. Nowadays, “the dog days” refers to when the hottest days of summer begin.

Coincidentally, it was in July that the rabies vaccine was first successfully given to a patient. The French microbiologist Louis Pasteur administered the vaccine to a nine-year-old called Joseph Meister on July 6th, 1885. The child had been bitten by a rabid dog, and Louis Pasteur, unsure whether the vaccine would be successful, decided it was worth testing. Fortunately for the boy, it worked!

On July 5th, 1946, the world’s first bikini was unveiled in the famous Piscine Molitor swimming pool in Paris. Just in time for the heat of summer, the bikini was modelled by showgirl Micheline Bernardini. While two-piece forms of swimwear previously existed, none used as little fabric as the bikini.

Julius Caesar wasn’t the only military genius born in July. Alexander the Great was another important historical figure who changed the shape of the world and was born somewhere around July 20th, 356 BC. Other famous people born in July include Frida Kahlo, Franz Kafka, Marcel Proust, and Nelson Mandela.

The Anglo-Saxons had multiple names for the month of July, including Maed-monath and Hey-monath. Respectively, these translated into “the flowering of meadows” and “hay month.”

On July 4th 1776, the 13 American colonies declared their independence from the British monarchy. The 4th of July, formally known as Independence Day, has been a federal holiday since 1870 in the United States of America.

On July 25th, 1909, Louis Bleriot became the first man to fly an aircraft from one country to another successfully. He took off from the coast of France and landed across the channel near Dover, England

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From page 30 - July facts

There are two star signs which fall in the month of July. If you're born before 22nd July, then your star sign is Cancer. If you're born after this day, from 23rd July onward, then you're a Leo. Those born under the sign of Cancer are said to be loyal friends with great emotional depth, and those born under the sign of Leo are said to be very proud people who display great leadership.

Despite it being the first month in the second half of the year, the 1st of July is not actually the middle of the year. In a regular non-leap year, the midpoint is actually on 2nd July at 1 pm.

July has two birth flowers – the water lily and the larkspur. The water lily is a symbol of a pure heart, while the larkspur (especially its white form) represents the lightness of the heart.

The birthstone of July is the ruby, considered by many to be the king of gems. At one point in time, it was considered to protect warriors on the field of battle if it was embedded in their armor. Nowadays, as a birthstone, it's said to protect against evil.



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

Maria

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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 10.30am - 12noon - V Hall
Rachel's Pop Up Café	Tuesdays 10.00am - 1.30pm - 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 - 1.30pm - V Hall
Parent and Toddler	Fridays 10.30am - 12.00noon - 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 16th JULY 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on Sunday 27th July or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email.

814839

cranhammagazine@gmail.com

CRANHAM DIARY



JULY 2025

1	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
		Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
3	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
6	Sun	Benefice Communion	Sheepscombe	11.00am
		Evening Worship	Church	6.30pm
8	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V Hall	7.30pm for 8.00pm
9	Wed	Foodbank Collection	Painswick	10.00am - 12noon
		Village Hall AGM	Village Hall	6.00 for 6.30pm
11	Sun	Holy Communion	Church	11.00am
12	Sat	Open Gardens Event	Brimpsfield	2.00 - 4.00pm
14	Mon	Village Lunch	Village Hall	12.15 for 12.30pm
15	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
16	Wed	** Magazine Articles Due **		
19	Sat	Crambledon	Tennis Courts	10.30am - 3.30pm
20	Sun	Evensong	Church	6.30pm
21	Mon	Sherlock Supper	St. Mary's	4.30 - 6.00pm
23	Wed	Benefice Rounders	Cricket Club	11.00am
22	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
27	Sun	Songs of Praise & Baptism	Church	11.00am
29	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		

AUGUST 2025

7	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
26 - 29		Tennis Coaching	Tennis Courts	9.30am - 12.30pm
30	Sat	Garden Society Show	Birdlip	tbc