

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

August '25



Inside this Month:

Feast Quiz Night – page 9

Painswick Library Challenge – page 10

Village Cinema is Coming! – page 14

Summer Tennis Coaching – page 15

Garden Society – page 16

August Facts – page 17



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

Advertisements in this magazine do not imply recommendation.

Church & Benefice

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

Cranham Church of England Primary School

Headteacher:	Sarah Scott admin@cranham.gloucs.sch.uk	01452 812660
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Magazine & General

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

Worship in Cranham - August 2025

Sunday 3rd 11.00am Pitchcombe Benefice Revd's Sarah & Helen
Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship

Sidesman Julie Berry
Reader Julie Berry
Nicky Overs

Sunday 10th 11.00am Holy Communion Revd Andrew

Sidesman Tom Daltry
Readers Helen Daltry
Tom Daltry

Sunday 17th 6.30am Evensong (BCP) Mike C

Sidesman Lindsey B
Readers John Bentley
Joy B

Sunday 24th 11.00am Morning Worship Sue H

Sidesman Roger Moore
Readers Roger Moore
Janet Gazzard

Sunday 31st 11.00am Family Worship Vics & Mike C

Sidesman Nicole W
Readers TBA

Fix my Street

website to report potholes and fly tipping etc

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

Church Flowers

3rd Aug	Helen Sammon
10th & 17th Aug	Sarah Taylor
24th & 31st Aug	Angela Harris
7th & 14th Sept	Feast Flowers Hannah Daniels



Church Cleaning

2nd Aug	Gill Firth
9th Aug	Di Blandford
16th Aug	Linda Faulkner
23rd Aug	Lindsay B
30th Aug	Sue Williams
6th Sept	Beryl Berry



Refreshments will be served after the following services:

10th Aug	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th Aug	11.00am	Morning Worship
31st Aug	11.00am	Family Worship



Cranham Parish Council website

lots of info including the minutes of meetings

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

www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Notes from the Chair

At our July meeting we met Cllr Gary Luff, who is both our County and District Councillor.

We were pleased to hear that:

- ◆ The tennis courts at Active Lifestyles Stroud, in Stratford Park, have been named Park Venue of the Year at the LTA - Tennis For Britain county awards!
- ◆ Stroud District Council has won a national award in recognition of its outstanding work to protect the safety of its tenants.
- ◆ SDC's Apprenticeship programme has reopened, with five apprenticeships now open for applications, to start in September 2025.

Work on local government reorganisation has restarted in earnest following the county elections. The details for both the proposed single and two-unitary models are being worked on. The final proposals need to be submitted by 28 November.

Road Safety

The AutoSpeedWatch camera has been fully functional for 12 months. We only have 11 months of data but to avoid delay in reporting this is what has happened since 1 July 2024:

- ◆ Average speed into the village from the Knoll has dropped from 30.3 mph to 27.6 mph
- ◆ Maximum speed reduction: highest recorded in 2024: 69 mph and in 2025 58 mph
- ◆ 116 police letters have been sent and further action taken in 11 cases

Continued on page 6

- ◆ The are over 90 AutoSpeedWatch cameras in towns and villages across Gloucestershire and investigation of speeding vehicles have enabled the police to take action about other offences.

We were interested to hear from County/District Cllr Gary Luff that Gloucestershire County Council is undertaking to enhance the safety and quality of life in our communities. Over the next three years, they are seeking to implement lower speed limits, across rural and urban areas of Gloucestershire where there is public support and where they are appropriate for the location. This will include 'Community 20s', 20 mph limits where communities live and work. The Parish Council will be discussing this at our September meeting.

Playing Field

The Playing Field Committee has had its first meeting. Various repair jobs need to be undertaken, some of which can be done by volunteers (such as painting). Plans are afoot to have a working party of volunteers.

Some equipment needs to be removed for safety reasons. The first things to be actioned are to restore the zip wire, replace the double swing and replace the bin.

Biodiversity

The PC is working on a local biodiversity policy which should be finalised in September.

Next PC meeting:
Tuesday 2nd September at 7.00pm

Cranham Common News

Hopefully, you've all had a chance to see the cows back grazing on the common. They are Belted Galloways which are known for their placid nature but there is still a need to give them a respectable distance and make sure dogs are kept under close control. They have been congregating around the roads at times so please take care when driving across the common.



This year has seen the driest start to the year since 1976, which is a summer many of us older folk remember well. This dry weather has led to reduced groundwater levels, lower than normal grass growth and a reduced number of spring flowers. Long range forecasts are notoriously unreliable but currently the forecast for August shows increased levels of rain, but further dry spells are also possible. One consequence of the dry conditions is the increased fire risk and therefore care is needed not to discard cigarettes, glass or any rubbish on the common. Long grass growing up against house walls should be avoided in this dry weather and a narrow strip of grass can be trimmed by the homeowner to minimize this fire risk.

I mentioned in the July article that the summer months are the best time to see glowworms on the common. Glowworms are actually beetles which live as larvae typically for 2 years and feed on slugs and snails. The larvae pupate and emerge as adults which only live a small number of days with the female emitting light at night to attract a mate. There have been a small number of sightings this year, but my view is that this is reduced compared to previous years. One major issue is light pollution which overwhelms the light from the glowworms and leads to females not being able to attract a mate. So please try and keep light levels down around the common to help ensure the continued presence of this species, as well as benefiting all other nocturnal life.

Malcolm Chapman
Member, CCMC



Cranham Village Lunch

Reminder that there will be NO Village Lunch in August, whilst the team have a well-deserved rest over the summer, they look forward to seeing you again in September.



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

THE FEAST QUIZ NIGHT

at the
BLACK HORSE



SATURDAY 16th AUGUST 7.00pm

(Suggest arrival by 6.30pm to get your drinks in!)

The second big event of the Cranham feast calendar will have all the fun and challenges of previous Feast quizzes, but will be shorter than before... maybe!

It is being held in the downstairs of the pub and outside if weather permits.

Quiz entry is £12 per head and this includes a great ploughman's supper, which we all really enjoyed last year.

All of the profits from the event will be going to Feast funds, so please don't just 'tag along'. This is a popular event, so we encourage you to form teams **(max. 6 people)** and **pre-book** to guarantee a place, although there may be some availability on the night.

There will be prizes and a raffle (contributions to which, gratefully received)

The event has sold out quickly on the previous two years so please book your places by e-mail ASAP to avoid disappointment.

To book your place, please email Gary John:

gd-john@hotmail.co.uk

Painswick Library Challenge:



Ready Steady Read!



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

- Visit the library three times between July 16th and September 15th 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!



- 3-6 year olds: Draw a picture inspired by one of the books you've read.
- 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!

Come and join in the fun.



library opening times

Monday 2.30 – 4.30

Wednesday 10.30 – 12.30 & 2.30 – 6.30

Friday 10.30 – 12.30 & 2.30 -4.30

Saturday 10.30 – 12.30



Gill Hopkins Trustee & library volunteer

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FREE EVENT**

**at Painswick Library:
Kids ages 7-17**

**FRIDAY 15th AUGUST 11.30-12.30 OR 2.30-3.30
FRIDAY 22nd AUGUST 11.30-12.30 OR 2.30-3.30**

Learn how to build and program your own LEGO robots with LEGO Spike Education kits and Scratch. All materials are provided, and support is available from their Lab Technician.

Book your spot at gloslibraries.uk (Painswick Library link) or email: painswicklibrary@btconnect.com. Only 6 children per session and must be accompanied by an adult.

Painswick Community Library

Town Hall

Victoria Street

Painswick

Stroud

Glos GL6 6QA

Tel: 01452 814744

A walk around Chepstow

Cranham Local History Society, 22nd June 2025

Our walk began and ended by the river Wye. On the further shore lies Gloucestershire. It's hardly an enticing prospect, muddy banks at low tide and, beyond, a limestone cliff. Viewed from the castle looking upstream the river flows through a greener, more gentle landscape. That's the direction from which the Normans feared the Welsh might come, out of the Marches. They never did.

Chepstow was one of the earliest castles (1067) built to defend the borders. Marcher lords could levy their own dues (no taxes to the king) and the town prospered on trade in wine from Bordeaux and beyond. Cellars were used for storage. Cromwell was responsible for the castle's one and only siege, almost 600 years later. A regicide, Henry Marten, was later holed up in a castle tower, where he was allowed his mistress and servants.

No rats or dungeons for him. Indeed, we had a sense on our walk that Chepstow had for centuries avoided any great drama. It was only in the 18th century that the town really came alive, as a port. But there wasn't too much left for us to see. But there's still a story to tell. The navy required timber for ships and Chepstow exported it in volume. Wharves and timber yards once extended along the quay. We passed the sites of three dockyards. Flat-bottomed trows, built for traffic on the Wye and Severn, were much in demand.

Nelson came to Chepstow to sign an agreement ensuring supply of timber. The Lord Nelson pub, now shuttered, survives as a rather rundown-looking reminder. The elegant town bridge from 1816 replaced a curious mismatch: the Gloucestershire side with solid stone piers, the Chepstow side relying on rickety wood.

Continued on page 13

Brunel built a remarkable 'tubular suspension' bridge which carried the railway: it couldn't impede river traffic, so the track was suspended from chains. A union flag is painted on the limestone cliff opposite the town: a cave nearby stored gunpowder. A plaque remembers the transportation to Australia of leaders of a Chartist rising in 1839.

Our walk then took us away from the river, past the parish church. Hop gardens once covered the nearby fields. Two rather fine almshouses survive. Beaufort Square has been remodelled and it's hard to sense the vibrant place it must once have been. Ahead lies the town wall (which circles the whole town) and the Town Gate, a fine 13th century survival, which American troops had apparently wanted to widen to let tanks through.

A walk below the castle walls took us back the museum, to lunch, and a post-prandial stroll through the castle. A big thank you to organisers Marian and Liza, and to our two guides.

Chris Collier

Neighbouring Policing

I attended Cranham village on Tuesday 15th July at 5.00pm, on the communication bus. Unfortunately, I was not aware that the school play was to be held in the hall at 6.00pm, so I had to leave early.

My apologies if anyone came to talk with me.

Nicky

PCSO WOOD 249231

Neighbourhood Policing Team

Stroud Police Station

The Cross, Parliament Street, Stroud, GL15 1QQ

Contact number 07484 507624



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.

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.



Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society



Our Open Gardens event was a little hot but well-attended by visitors to our rather dry gardens! Thank you to everyone who came. If you're off on holiday this summer, and if the weather continues to be warm and dry, give your garden the best chance of surviving without you by watering it well before you go, and then applying a thick layer of mulch on top (keeping it clear of the stems of plants); if you have nothing else on hand to mulch with, grass clippings or old leaves will be fine. And have a lovely holiday!

Our Annual Show is on Saturday 30th August in Birdlip Village Hall and is open to the public from 2.30pm, with prizegiving and a charity auction (in aid of Brockworth Hedgehog Rescue) of some of the produce at 4.00pm. Come and admire the exhibits and enjoy tea and cake! Members should have received copies of the classes and entry forms, but the Children's classes are open to any local youngster; 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.

Full details are available from: brimpsfieldgardensociety@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!

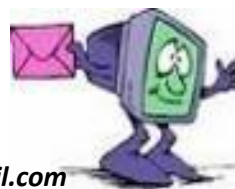
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

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

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

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



Did you know, August facts ...

August is upon us, starting with an old harvest holiday, Lammas Day. August was named after a major figure of the ancient Roman World, Augustus Caesar (63 B.C.–A.D. 14). He was the first Roman emperor (though he never claimed the title) and the grandnephew of the previous ruler, Julius Caesar (who named July after himself).

August is the 8th month of the year in today's Gregorian calendar, but it was the sixth month (Sextilis) of the year in Roman times. Augustus had the month of Sextilius renamed after himself in 8 B.C. This was the month of some of his greatest military victories.

August is a relaxing month in England. A time for holidays, barbeques, seaside trips and sleepy, lazy days. The days are at their warmest as we approach the end of summer, and the deep green of nature is punctuated with the colours of ripe berries. The wheat is ripe in the fields and the harvest is almost done.

The birthstone for those born in August is the peridot. This sparkling lime green gemstone has been used in jewellery since the time of the Ancient Egyptians, and has long been associated with power and influence. It is believed to ward off feelings of negativity and anger, and help the wearer to attract love.

August's birth flowers are the gladiolus and the poppy. The gladiolus, sometimes known as the "sword lily", is a tall plant known for its spikes of flowers in an array of bright colours. It is a particular favourite in summer bouquets, and symbolises calm, integrity and remembrance.

On August 1st, Lammas day is celebrated as the first day of harvest. Traditionally it was the day in which harvested wheat would be baked into bread and given to the church. The bread was used as the Communion bread for a special mass to celebrate the beginning of the harvest. This tradition ended when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church.

Among many other events, August saw the first night of the Blitz as German planes bombed the city of London.

What happened in the month of August

- 1 August 1740 'Rule Britannia' sung for the first time in public, in Thomas Arne's 'Masque Alfred'.
- 2 August 1100 King William II (Rufus) killed by a crossbow bolt in mysterious circumstances while hunting in the New Forest, his ghost is still said to haunt the woods.
- 3 August 1926 Britain's first set of electric traffic lights appear on the streets of London.
- 4 August 1914 Britain declared war on Germany in support of Belgium and France, and on Turkey because of her alliance with Germany.
- 5 August 1962 Nelson Mandela imprisoned for attempting to overthrow South Africa's apartheid rule.
- 6 August 1881 Birth of Sir Alexander Fleming, Scottish discoverer of penicillin.
- 7 August 1840 Britain bans the employment of climbing boys as chimney sweeps.
- 8 August 1963 Britain's Great Train Robbery – £2.6 M stolen from Royal Mail.
- 9 August 1757 Birth of Thomas Telford, Scottish civil engineer credited with opening up northern Scotland by building roads, bridges and waterways.
- 10 August 1675 King Charles II lays the foundation stone of the Royal Observatory in Greenwich.
- 11 August 1897 Birth of best-selling children's writer Enid Blyton, whose books have been among the world's best-sellers since the 1930s, with more than 600 million sold.
- 12 August 1822 Lord Castlereagh, British Foreign Secretary, commits suicide. In his role as Foreign Secretary he managed the coalition that defeated Napoleon.
- 13 August 1964 Peter Allen and John Walby become the last people to be hanged in Britain.
- 14 August 1040 Duncan I of Scotland is killed in battle by his own men, led by Macbeth.
- 15 August 1945 Japan surrenders to the Allies, ending the Second World War.
- 16 August 1819 The Peterloo Massacre took place in Manchester at St. Peter's Fields.

17 August 1896 Mrs. Bridget Driscoll of Croydon, Surrey, became the first pedestrian in Britain to die after being hit by a car.

18 August 1587 Birth of Virginia Dare, the first child of English parents to be born in the Roanoke Colony in what is now North Carolina, USA. What became of Virginia and the other early colonists remains a mystery to this day.

19 August 1646 Birth of John Flamsteed, Britain's first Astronomer Royal. He would go on to publish a catalogue that identified 2,935 stars.

20 August 1940 Winston Churchill referring to the RAF pilots, says "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few".

21 August 1765 King William IV born. William would go on to serve in the Royal Navy, earning him the nickname the "Sailor King".

22 August 1485 Richard III becomes the last English king to die in battle, killed at Bosworth Field in Leicestershire.

23 August 1940 The first night of the Blitz as German planes bomb the city of London.

24 August 1875 Matthew Webb (Captain Webb) started his attempt from Dover in Kent, to become the first person to swim the English Channel. He reached Calais, France at 10.40 am the following morning, having been in the water for 22 hours.

25 August 1919 World's first international daily air service begins between London and Paris.

26 August 1346 With the help of the longbow the English army of Edward III defeats the French at the Battle of Crecy.

27 August 1900 Britain's first long distance bus service begins between London and Leeds. The journey time being 2 days!

28 August 1207 Liverpool is created a Borough by King John.

29 August 1842 Great Britain and China sign the Treaty of Nanking, ending the First Opium War. As part of the treaty China gave the territory of Hong Kong to the British.

30 August 1860 Britain's first tramway opens in Birkenhead, near Liverpool.

31 August 1900 Coca Cola is sold for the first time in Britain.

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Three Gables Centre,
Cheltenham Rd

Tuesdays 9.30am - 7pm

Wednesdays 10am - 2.30pm

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New Location

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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) - Not in August, see you in September
Orchestra	Mondays 8.00pm - V Hall (Beryl Berry 813200)
Rachel's Pop Up Café	Tuesdays 10.00am - 1.30pm - V Hall
Post Office	Tuesdays 10.30am - 12noon - 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 - 1.30pm - V Hall
Parent and Toddler	Fridays 10.30am - 12noon - 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

WELCOME!



Welcome
Glad you're here!

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



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 20th AUGUST 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

on Sunday 31st August or thereabouts.

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email.

814839

cranhammagazine@gmail.com

CRANHAM DIARY



AUGUST 2025

3	Sun	Benefice Communion	Pitchcombe	11.00am
		Evening Worship	Church	6.30pm
5	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
7	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
10	Sun	Holy Communion	Church	11.00am
12	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
15	Fri	Lego Event	Painswick Library	See pg11 for details
16	Sat	Feast Quiz Night	Black Horse	6.30 for 7.00pm
17	Sun	Evensong	Church	6.30pm
19	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
20	Wed	** Magazine Articles Due **		
22	Fri	Lego Event	Painswick Library	See pg11 for details
24	Sun	Morning Worship	Church	11.00am
26	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
26 - 29		Tennis Coaching	Tennis Courts	9.30am - 12.30pm
30	Sat	Garden Society Show	Birdlip V.Hall	2.30pm
31	Sun	Family Worship	Church	11.00am

SEPTEMBER 2025

2	Tues	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
4	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
9	Tues	Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V Hall	7.30pm for 8.00pm
26	Fri	Cranham Cinema Adults	Village Hall	7.00pm
27	Sat	Cranham Cinema Family	Village Hall	9.30am

