

CRANHAM VILLAGE MAGAZINE

With Cranham Parish and Benefice News and Information

November '25



Inside this Month:

Christingle Service – page 6

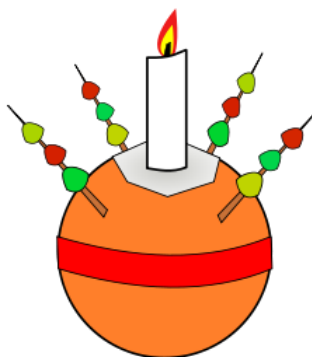
All Souls Service – page 11

Foodbank – page 15

Supper Social – page 17

Arts and Crafts Fayre – page 26

Jumble and Table Top Sale – page 31



**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



November – Time to Remember

Time passes quickly in the church calendar. With the celebrations of God's provision and the bounty of harvest marked and shared in our churches during October, November is typically known as a month of 'remembering'.

We begin the month by remembering the example of Christian 'All Saints' in a service of united worship – a benefice communion at Edge Church on Sunday 2nd November at 11am – and then at 3pm later that day, together we remember the lives of 'All Souls': more ordinary, every-day folk who though now dead, continue to touch our lives and remain deeply loved.

This year, Remembrance Sunday falls on 9th November – with services starting at 10.45am and held at Pitchcombe, Edge with Harescombe, Painswick and Cranham in our family of churches locally. Then, on Tuesday 11th November, commemorating armistice, we shall stop to honour and remember those killed in armed conflict at war memorials at Painswick and at Sheepscombe. I am delighted that both Croft and Sheepscombe school pupils will be taking part in our Remembrance Day acts again this year.

So, is this where the remembering ends? No! On Friday 28th November we remember those people less blessed than ourselves and give generously to the Foodbank at Painswick's Goodwill evening before, on Advent Sunday (Sunday 30th November), we begin preparing for and remembering Jesus: the one who was born so that *we too* might all be able to pass from death to life, just as he did.

This year we have a special Advent Carol Service at 6pm at Painswick and at 6.30pm at Cranham church. If you have never been before, you will note the service itself mirrors the journey of darkness into light that each follower of Jesus seeks to reflect. Do join us for this poignant and moving start to the Christmas period.

Rev'd Sarah

Worship in Cranham - November 2025

Sunday 2nd	6.30pm	All Souls Sidesman Julie Berry	Revd David
Sunday 9th	10.45am	Remembrance Sidesman Chris Collier Readers Chris Collier Linda de Cossart	Revd Sarah
Sunday 16th	6.30am	Evensong (BCP) Sidesman Keith Ardron Readers Keith Ardron Sylvia Ardron	Mike C
Sunday 23rd	11.00am	Morning Worship Sidesman Phil Stick Readers John Bentley Joy Bentley	Mike C
Sunday 30th	11.00am	Family Benefice Service <i>Christingle & the Posada family start their journey round the village</i> Sidesman Sarah Taylor Readers TBA	Vics
	6.30pm	Advent Carol Service Sidesman Ian Wotherspoon Readers TBA	Revd Helen

www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Church Flowers

2nd Nov	Liz Cattle
9th & 16th Nov	Janet Whitton & helpers for Remembrance
23rd Nov	Nicole W & Janet W



No Flowers during Advent

Church Cleaning

1st Nov	Kate Ryan
8th Nov	Joan Charman
15th Nov	Gill Firth
22nd Nov	Di Blandford
29th Nov	Linda Faulkner
6th Dec	Lindsay Burtenshaw



Refreshments will be served after the following Sunday services:

2nd Nov	6.30pm	All Souls Service
9th Nov	10.45am	Remembrance
23rd Nov	11.00am	Morning Worship
30th Nov	11.00am	Christingle
30th Nov	6.30pm	Advent Carol Service



Fix my Street

website to report potholes and fly tipping etc

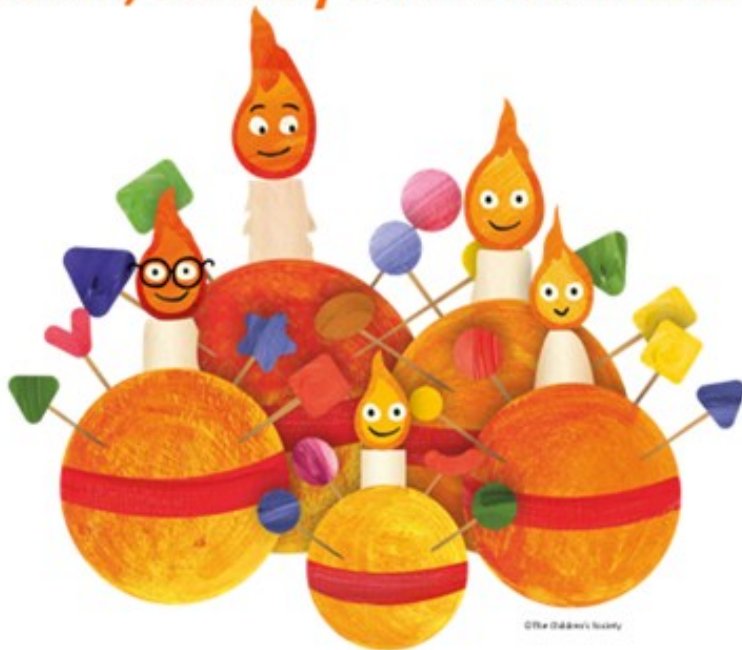
<https://www.fixmystreet.com>



Join us for our
FAMILY CHRISTINGLE SERVICE!

At Cranham Church

11am, Sunday 30th November



With blessing of our Posada
family as it starts its journey
around the village, too!

Cash donations in aid of The Children's Society

Walk for Peace: Sunday 2nd November at 10am, St Mary's Painswick

Join us! Having reached our seventies and having had long careers in the Armed Forces, we are walking for peace. War brings death, destruction, suffering, refugees, disease, crime, harm to nature, and sows the seeds of hatred, which in turn creates future wars. Peace, and reconciliation, brings peace.

The walk will begin at **St Mary's, Painswick** at **10am on Sunday 2nd November** and follows roads, paths and country lanes that connect the three road signs that say, 'Welcome to Painswick, Friends of Slavutych'.

The route will remind us of the Friendship and Co-operation Agreement between Painswick and Slavutych, a town that continues to suffer due to the ongoing conflict with the Russian Federation.

The walk is about 5 miles and will finish at St Mary's – hopefully in good time to light a candle at the All Souls Service in honour of those who have died.

Those who would like to join Peter and myself are asked to be outside the church's main doors just before 10am. If you would like to talk to me in advance, please phone or text me (Phil) on 07525 855253.



Pictured above: friends and servicemen Phil Taylor and Peter O'Brien.

Awe, light and cheer at Festival of Wonder 2025

Anticipation is building for Stroud's annual Festival of Wonder, held in St Laurence Church: a celebration designed to help recapture a sense of awe and wonder of God's creation, bringing light, cheer and wonder to the darkness of winter.



Now in its fourth year, the festival will run from 21 to 23 November, bringing together both professional and amateur performances of music, drama, comedy, and circus. There will also be workshops, children's activities, a creche, a reflective space, the famous Wall of Wonder, food, warmth, and community.

Almost all the events are free and suitable for all ages.

Bryan Court, chair of the Festival of Wonder operations team, said:

"The festival is a gift to our community and the ethos behind it is to encourage a reimagining of what Church could be like, and certainly how the church building might be used to the benefit the whole community. Unfortunately, a lot of people consider church buildings as dark and unfriendly spaces – somewhere you go for funerals or weddings, and often where fundraising is a predominant feature. Our hope is the festival will challenge some of these misconceptions and may just spark in some people the beginning of a journey of faith."

One of the highlights is a trapeze performance inside the church. "It really does encourage people to view the church in a fresh way," Bryan said.

This year's storyline is based on the parable of the Pearl of Great Price, symbolising the pricelessness of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Inclusivity is a key aspect of the festival, with two free Relaxed Performances for people with additional needs.

"For these two shows, the circus performance is adjusted in a way that makes it accessible to those whose needs are special, whether it be a physical disability or a neurodiverse factor where sometimes just the sheer excitement of being in a crowded place can be overwhelming," Bryan said.

Throughout the weekend there will be chaplains and a quiet space for reflection so that people can make sense of all that they have seen and experienced.

The festival partners with the **Diocese of Gloucester**, receiving support through the LIFE Together Fund and other donors.

Kathryn Warner, Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Officer, said: "Festival of Wonder is very grateful for the funding they've received from the Diocesan LIFE Together Fund to both invest in delivering this year's event, and in developing opportunities to grow and develop over the coming years, in partnership with colleagues across the diocese. They have also received funding from Sylvanus Lysons towards this year's event."

Visit the Festival of Wonder website at: <https://festivalofwonder.org>.

Historic chapel revived as 'The Shepherd's Hut' in Little Sodbury

An abandoned chapel in Little Sodbury has been restored and reopened as 'The Shepherd's Hut', offering traditional Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion services and new outreach initiatives.

The once-derelict chapel has been transformed with comfortable seating, a kitchenette, and donated furnishings, including a locally painted image of *The Shepherd* symbolising its renewed purpose.

During restoration, the **Revd Thomas Powe** discovered 19th-century chapel minutes which expressed hope that the building would be used in future to "forward the Gospel of Christ." He said, "It's extraordinary that it became a church, ceased to be one, and has now returned to Christian ministry."

Led by father and son team, **David** and **Thomas Powe**, the project aims to help people explore faith through traditional worship. Regular **BCP services** will take place at 10am on Friday **14th November and 12th December**.

If you are interested in attending, email: revthomaspowe@gmail.com.

The Missing Peace book launch

Bishop Rachel will join author Chris Whittington at Pip and Jim's, Cheltenham, on Thursday 20th November to celebrate his new book *The Missing Peace*. The evening (6.45pm to 9.15pm) features discussion, reflection, and a signing exploring how silent prayer can reveal inner peace and divine love. Admission is free for donors or £10-£20 suggested. Find out more: <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2025/bishop-rachel-to-join-the-missing-peace-book-launch/>

Continued on page 10

Events and training

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

**Autumn fair, Quedgeley Community Centre, School Lane, Quedgeley,
GL2 4PN, Saturday 8th November, 2pm to 4pm**

A fair organised by St James' Quedgeley and Kingsway for the autumn season, with stalls, Christmas gifts, refreshments, raffle and a tombola.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?>

fbid=1220499783451917&set=a.550903577078211

Civic remembrance service, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, Sunday 9th November, 3pm

A service to honour those who gave their lives at this special county service in the Cathedral. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/county-service-of-remembrance-25>

Gloucester lantern parade, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, Saturday 15th November, 4pm

Gloucester's annual lantern parade begins at Gloucester Cathedral with a 4pm carol service, then winds through the city centre showcasing 'community in nature' lanterns created by local schools and community groups. <https://www.visitgloucester.co.uk/whats-on/gloucester-lantern-parade-p3818703>

Gloucester City Mission's Christmas carol concert, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, Friday 28th November, 7pm

Goucester City Mission is performing Christmas carols at the Cathedral, featuring local choirs and a chance to learn about the charity's work with the homeless and vulnerable. <https://goucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/goucester-city-mission-s-christmas-concert-25>

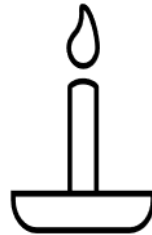
Have your say

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

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

All Souls Service

**Sunday 2nd November at 6.30pm
at St James the Great, Cranham**



Led by Rev'd David Reynish

This is an important and personal service to remember those whom we love that have recently and not so recently departed

A time to invite all who have been bereaved at any time in a quiet reflective service. The names of those departed will be read out and an opportunity to light a candle of remembrance in memory of our loved ones.

If you would like the name of a loved one read out during the service, please contact

Linda De Cossart, Sue Williams or Phil Stick
if you have any queries.

Cranham Parish Council website

lots of info including the minutes of meetings

<https://cranhamparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

A time to Remember



I was recently fortunate to visit the Airforce Memorial building, perched high above the fields of Runnymede. With its panoramic views stretching from Windsor to London, it seems a fitting spot to remember all the 20,000 airmen who died to keep us safe during WW2. On panel 41, (above) is the memorial inscription to one of Cranham's own, John Causon b1920. Both his sisters Gladys and Joan, recalled that learning to fly was their brother's number one ambition, and he spent all he earned on flying lessons. He gained a scholarship to the Flying College at RAF Cranwell, and when war was declared he was one of the first to join up.

He eventually became part of 139 Squadron. By 1939 he was assigned to bomb the heavily defended German shipping, trying to leave the Channel ports. He told his family, that the British Blenheim Mk IV were no match for the German Messerschmitt, but at the time they were all that was available.

It was soon after he returned to RAF Horsham following a spell of leave in Cranham and 3 weeks before his 21st birthday that his group came under attack and he was seen to crash into the sea, near Zandfort, Holland. His name is recorded on the plaque inside Cranham Church.

Much more can be found about this courageous young man in Susan Ann Green's book *'Where the Larks still Sing'* p204

Brimpsfield & Mid-Cotswold Garden Society



The Garden Society's November coffee morning talk, on Saturday 1st November, will be by Philip Aubury, on House and Conservatory Plants. Indoor plants have become even more popular since lockdown, and there are a lot to choose from – so come along and learn which to go for. As usual, we meet in Brimpsfield Village Hall for coffee and home-make cake from 10.30am, with the talk starting at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome!

If you have a quantity of fallen leaves in your garden this autumn, don't waste them as they are a useful resource; sweep them off the lawn so that they don't damage the grass, and either leave them lying among shrubs or on bare ground for worms to pull them into the soil, or bag them up to make leaf mould. They don't provide many nutrients, but they are a great soil conditioner, which will benefit the health of the soil and help it to hold on to moisture in dry spells. For leaf mould, prick a few holes in the bags, wet the leaves if necessary and loosely close the bags; the contents will make a useful mulch if left for one year, or can be used in a potting compost mix after two. Leaves from deciduous plants are best, especially if shredded (run a lawnmower over them) and mixed with grass clippings; waxy leaves such as holly or laurel, and conifer clippings, are better shredded and composted separately.

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

Black Bag

At Bisley Village Hall

7.30pm

Tuesday 11th November 2025

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



Cranham Common News

There has been a bumper crop of acorns this year, which unfortunately means that in a couple of year's time there will be even more scrub oaks for us to deal with! So, we need to get on top of the current ones, and that is the main task for winter scrub clearance this year.

We begin the winter with the event you have all been waiting for!!!!

WORKPARTY SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

9.30am – 12.30pm

Yes, its scrub oak and small scrub removal.

Meet at Millenium Post.

Bring loppers if you have them (we have some to lend as well),
gloves and a hand saw if you have it.

Refreshments provided

WE NEED YOUR HELP There are jobs for everyone, so bring your friends, children, or parents. If you are new to the village or haven't joined in a workparty before, you will be made very welcome and it's a great way to meet new friends and catch up with old ones.

Future Work party dates

SATURDAY 22nd November 9.30am - 12.30pm

SUNDAY 11th January 2026 9.30am - 12.30pm

SATURDAY 21st February 9.30am - 12.30pm

I look forward to seeing you there.

Liz Hayden

CCMC chair

chair.ccmc@gmail.com



Christmas Appeal

**Help support your local
food bank this Christmas**

Together, we can share the season with
all. Your support means so much.

**Wednesday 12th November
10am-12 noon
Stamages Lane Car Park**

Prefer to Help Financially?

Financial donations help cover the
costs of buying, storing and
distributing food, and supports
sustainable projects for those facing
hardship.

Shopping list

Christmas Pudding

Christmas Cake

Tinned Ham

Gravy Granules

Stuffing

Jar of Chutney/Pickles

Christmas Biscuits

Box of Chocolates

Tin of Sweets

Savoury Crackers

Please click the QR code to donate

<https://strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk>



Ebworth

The seasons have now definitely changed, and it is feeling very Autumnal. The last of the swallows and chiffchaffs have departed and the resident birds and winter visitors are forming their winter flocks. There has been a large flock of mistle thrush feeding in the fields along the main drive to Ebworth this autumn. I have counted a up to 21 individuals which will all be feeding on the invertebrates in the organic soils. 21 is a very large mistle thrush flock but they have now been joined by the redwings and fieldfare which can flock in much greater numbers but usually peaking at the end of the winter.

You may have noticed some excavation works along the course of the stream running into the ponds in Workmans Wood. This is natural flood management work done in partnership with Stroud District Council.

Natural flood management can involve many different interventions all with the aim of slowing down the flow of water in times of heavy rainfall. This reduces peak flows and flooding down stream in Stroud.

The recent works have focused on areas where the stream channel was deep and narrow, where water flows quickly. The narrow channel was filled in with adjacent earth to create a much wider, flatter stream bed. The water will now slowly meander down these wide areas but in times of high rainfall the wide channel can fill with water. Holding a larger volume of water back and reducing those peak flows. It will also create some excellent wetland habitat in the process.

The forestry works have been coming along nicely in Lord's and Lady's Wood. The woodland structure is now much more open with larger gaps in the canopy and more light reaching the woodland floor. It is very exciting to see what interesting woodland flora might appear next spring. It is also great to continue the work which John Workman started. Thank you for your patience whilst the works are ongoing.



Photo is of a magpie inkcap mushroom

Tom Griffin

Area Ranger, Ebworth and Crickley Hill

National Trust

Supper Social

Thursday 13th November

enjoy a two course meal for £10
at Cranham Village Hall

Main meal on offer is a homemade beef or vegetable
lasagne, salad and garlic bread

(GF option will be available)



The doors will open at 6pm and food served (serve yourself, buffet style) from 6.30ish until 8pm. After you have eaten, there is the opportunity to stay in the VH and socialise until 9.30 pm.

You are welcome to BYO drinks and entertainment – playing cards, boards games etc. There will also be a selection of bar drinks available to buy on the night

To assist with catering, it is essential to book in with Rachel Monro, either in person at the pop up café or on 07737545159 please.

Payment will be taken on the night!



www.cotsnatsfield.club

Newport Medieval ship and History of Minchinhampton Church

On **Tuesday 18th November** the Field Club will be treated to a talk in Box Village Hall (2.30pm) about the 'Newport Ship'. Built in 1457, this merchant vessel sailed until 1468 when, during repairs, it tipped over, not to be recovered until it was found by accident in 2002. The ship is earlier than the Mary Rose, had three masts and measured over 30 meters. Come and hear the amazing story of the painstaking excavation and conservation of the ship, told by Trustee and volunteer guide Jeff Gosvenor.

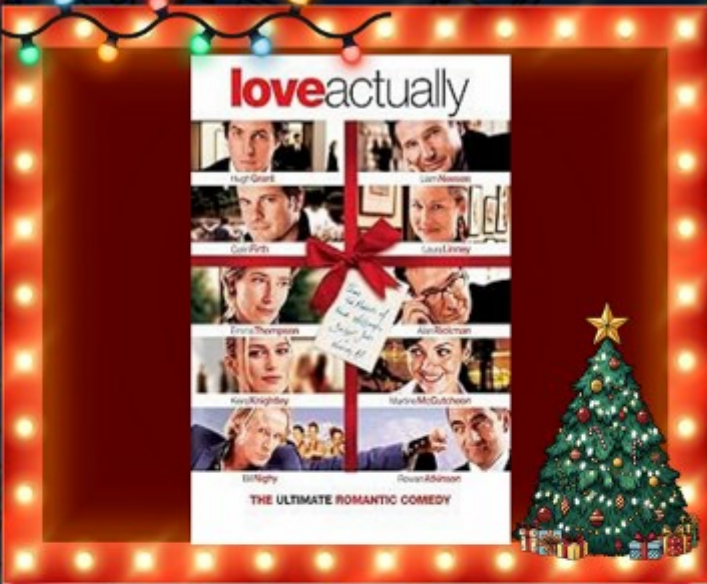
This will be followed on **Wednesday 3rd of December** at 2.30pm in the Painswick Centre by local Archaeologist Chiz Hayward of Urban Archaeology. Chiz is a specialist in ecclesiastical archaeology and he will be talking to us about the recent reordering of Holy Trinity Church in Minchinhampton. Drawing on the standing remains, archaeological excavations and documentary sources including church warden accounts, eyewitness records, illustrations and plans, to tell us the story of the church itself, and also how the building reflects the history, beliefs and ambitions of the local people.

Lectures are free to Members but open to the public (£5 at the door). No need to book, just drop in. Please get in touch if you need further information. Membership costs £25 individual or £40 couple and currently runs to January 2027. For further information please contact Membership Secretary John Elbert: CNFCMembershipSec@outlook.com

Further information about the Club and its activities (including the full list of lectures confirmed so far) can be found on the CNFC website www.cotsnatsfield.club

Sylvia May

cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com



loveactually

Hugh Grant Liam Neeson
Alan Rickman Gwyneth Paltrow
Kate Winslet Bill Smith
Keira Knightley Martin McCutcheon
Ewan McGregor Peter Dinklage

THE ULTIMATE ROMANTIC COMEDY

Cranham Village Hall
Christmas Themed Night
Mulled Wine *Mince Pies*
Christmas Jumper Optional
Friday 28th November
Doors & Bar open at 7pm
Pay Card or Cash £10 Includes drink & popcorn

'Remembering...' Art Exhibition to be Held in Memory of Two Local Artists



Art from three local artists will be brought together in an exhibition in Stroud for a week between November 30th – December 6th, 2025, in the Yard Gallery in Stroud and with over 25% of proceeds going to Longfield Community Hospice.

Held in memory of both Rachel Stevens (a local artist and Alexander Technique practitioner), and Chris Binding (a Bristol based contemporary fine artist), this exhibition will combine a mixture of fine art prints, original artworks, and practical and decorative ceramic pieces. The work of ceramicist, Chris White, (Hookshouse Pottery, Tetbury) will also be on show.



John Brough the organiser was originally moved to organise this exhibition to celebrate the life and works of his late wife, Rachel, who had been busy creating when she became ill with cancer a few years ago.

"Two Years ago, Longfield provided wonderful care for my wife Rachel Stevens in the last months of her life here at home. Prior to her illness, Rachel had been building up to an exhibition of her paintings, but this was never possible. I would now like to make the exhibition happen but combining it with fundraising for Longfield." – John Brough

Sadly, whilst organising this exhibition, John's closest friend Chris Binding (who was already signed up to be part of this exhibition), also suffered a short illness and passed away. 'Remembering'... refers to both the viewing friends and family of the artists remembering the artists and the memories evoked in the artwork shown and passed on through the works.

**Remembering...
The Yard Gallery, Stroud
November 30th – December 6th 2025
10.00am – 4.00pm**

More About Rachel Stevens

Rachel committed her life to healing both herself and others. Training initially as an Alexander Technique Teacher she continued to study and develop new ways to help clients with pain and their life journeys. She ran a full-time clinic and worked around the Stroud Valleys for nearly 30 years. Many people in the valleys were touched by her hands, care and kindness and she helped relieve hundreds of local people of pain through her techniques.



With a degree in art history and long-time interest in painting she came back to art, following an Access to Art course at Stroud College, exploring many artistic avenues. In recent years she was able to give more time to creativity, expressing her love of nature and its part in healing. Using feathers, leaves, flowers and found objects, she made beautiful and intriguing paintings and mono prints. Her exquisite use of colour reflected her emotional connection to her subject matter.

A very special artist, Rachel found comfort and healing in making and was always generous with sharing the techniques she was exploring.

To find out more, please visit longfield.org.uk
or call friendly fundraising team on 01453 886868.

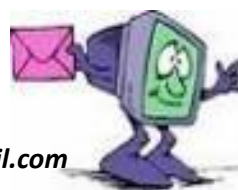
*All articles or enquiries with regards to the **Cranham Magazine** only should be emailed to:*

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

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

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

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



The Radical History of Stroud and the Five Valleys
a talk given to the Cranham Local History Society
on 18th September 2025 by Stuart Butler

We were privileged to have local Stroud historian and author of the Radical Stroud blog, Stuart Butler, as our speaker. The decades either side of 1800 were hard times for men and women working the fields and looms and we could have had no better guide.

He began with the striking image of Colonel, later General, Wolfe, back in 1756, with his detachment of men attired in red cloth at the time of a handloom weavers' strike. Their red cloth was Stroud scarlet, woven in Stroud. Britain's armies were involved in multiple wars over the 18th and 19th centuries and Stroud scarlet travelled with them. The local connects, as Stuart argues, with the global. And not just the army. Mills in Chalford and Avening produced cloth for the East India Company. West of the Mississippi red cloth was known as 'strouds'. Slave owners in the West Indies wore red. And the dye itself: it came for the cochineal beetle and that brought prickly pears in Mexico and Texas into play.

There was a persistent pattern of boom and bust. In the years immediately after the French Revolution there were fears of insurrection. Tom Paine's 'Rights of Man' had been published in 1792. A petition from 1795, in Uley, talked of 'no king, no constitution'. And what might happen if there were too many of the lower orders under arms? 1798 was a time when the country feared a French invasion.

In 1795 'the most dangerous man in England', one John Thelwell, had been accused of treason, and acquitted, after riots in London. But the title stayed with him. A poet and friend of Coleridge and Wordsworth he found himself in Stroud in 1797 and despite his reputation as a radical stayed with the owners of the mills at Chalford, Nailsworth and Bowbridge. Another traveller, some thirty years later, in 1826, was William Cobbett, author of 'Rural Rides'. Writing about the Stroud area he records that over 100 acres of ground covered in rails (tenterhooks) on which the drying cloth should have been hanging had hardly a single one in use. That told its own story.

Continued on page 23

Four years later the Captain Swing riots broke out. Haystacks were burnt and machinery smashed. The riots extended across the country, and as far as Tetbury, to the Trouble Inn, where a burning hay wagon damaged the pub roof. It was assumed that working men couldn't organise riots on such a scale. Whenever they gathered a gentleman on a white horse would appear: he was characterised as Captain Swing.

In 1825 there had been a series of weavers' riots in Stroud. Vatch Mill in Slad saw a major disturbance. Back in May this year a series of events in Stroud marked the bicentenary. The market for woollen goods had collapsed. Weavers were underpaid or unemployed. Strike breakers were ducked in canals and ponds 'to within an inch of their lives'. And yet with families to support they simply couldn't afford to strike. Stuart read out short texts weavers on both sides might have composed to justify their positions. The sentences given to the men found guilty were relatively light, if two years in jail on a treadmill can be considered light.

Transportation might have been expected. The numbers for Gloucestershire were strikingly high. Stuart quoted figures for the sixty-year period, 1782-1842. Bisley 20, Minchinhampton 28, Stroud 75 are just a few. There are no figures for Cranham. By contrast, in 1838 Bisley was the first parish to offer assisted passages to Australia.

The weavers' situation changed little over the years. A government commission sent to the area in 1839 recorded weavers much distressed, sleeping on straw, covered only by rags. They would rather starve than go to the workhouse. On Selsley Common in May of that year, 5000 people gathered in support of the Peoples' Charter. Later, in November, over in Newport, John Frost led 4000 miners on what became a violent march. Back in Stroud a gathering of 1500 selected him as their candidate for parliament, to stand against Lord John Russell. Frost was sentenced to transportation, so couldn't stand.

A big thank you to Stuart. He brought the stories of ordinary people to life in memorable fashion.

Chris Collier

Ode to Cranham 2025

By Sue Emery-Smith

You held me gently in my grief when I lost the most important person in my life the day after I arrived in this village.

I will never forget that day.

I had bought my furniture from a nearby antique shop and drove home filled with relief and happiness that I could make this work and then next morning I got the call from home.

I spent a whole year running in your magnificent forests to cope with my grief and every run filled me with hope amongst the stunning beech trees and ancient oaks.

Your mornings welcoming me with deer squirrels and pheasants provided solace and hope that life is always present.

Your sunsets that of hope always imagined.

And then the weather rolling in, filling the valley with mist sometimes grey for days if only to remind me that our ever-changing moods are constantly reflected back by nature if we only dare to notice.

My evenings punctuated by the sounds of owls and all those magnificent creatures the forest keeps hidden.

The endless stars on a clear night.

Continued on page 25

The moon ever changing with its cycles of the likes I've never seen anywhere else in my travels.

It illuminates the centuries old villages punctuating the rolling hills filled with sheep cattle and horses.

The locals with their kindness and community of which I've never experienced before.

And of course, the ever-changing seasons summer wildflowers and bumblebees autumn leaves and winter snow.

Cranham I will never forget you indeed you have changed my life forever and given me the tools I need to grow old gracefully in this world of ever-changing fear and chaos.

I've slept every night with my bedroom window open. Such a small privilege I will never take for granted again.

Thank-you my friend 

This moving piece was first published on Cranham fb page written by Susie Smith, (Sue Emery-Smith). She has generously agreed to let us publish it here. Susie lived in Shepherds Piece at the top of the Knoll during which time she posted some wonderful views of Cranham.

Having lived in Cranham on and off since 1956, I think Susie's words express very eloquently what many of us feel about Cranham regardless of the length of time we have lived here. Sue Stick

Cranham Christmas Arts and Crafts Fayre

Sunday 30th November

11am-4pm

Cranham Village Hall

GL4 8HP

Unique gifts, refreshments served all day.

Raffle.



Village Lunch

The next village lunch will be held on

Monday 17th November

12.15 for 12.30pm

In the **Village Hall**



The menu for this day will be as follows:

Leek and Potato Soup

Gala Pie and Quiche

Pickles, Salad and Crusty Bread

Eton Mess

Tea/Coffee.

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

Thank you, Nicky.

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

CRANHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Gloucester and
the Atlantic Slave
Trade

an illustrated talk
by Tony Condor

Cranham Village Hall

on

Thursday 27th November 2025

at 7.45pm

* * *

Members Free/ Visitors £4.00

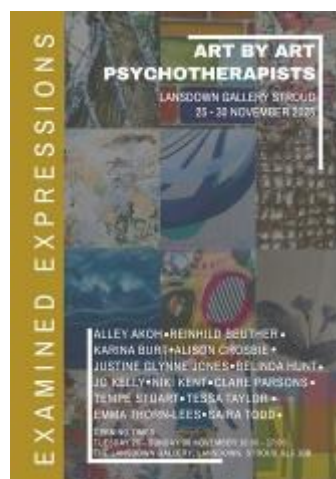
Refreshments are included

All welcome

Examined Expressions 2025 Art by Art Psychotherapists

The seventh in a series of biennial exhibitions of Art-by-Art Psychotherapists, entitled *Examined Expressions 2025* returns to the **Lansdown Gallery in Stroud from Tuesday 25th to Sunday 30th November.**

The Exhibition: showcases the work of thirteen artists with diverse artistic styles working across various media, living and working in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Wiltshire and Buckinghamshire and Northants. The artwork is influenced by the artists' professional background as Art Psychotherapists and inspired variously by the *'lived experiences of the clients and on the ability for art to span bridge between known and unknown...on nature and the environment...on how the creative process can be both spontaneous, and impressionistic as well as considered and evolved over multiple processes and layers; on our relationships with ourselves and others...'* Fundamentally, as artists and art psychotherapists, the work is multi-layered, personal, reflective and mindful; and much is related through choice of materials and techniques.



The Exhibiting Artists: Alley Akoh, Reinhild Beuther, Karina Burt, Alison Crosbie, Justine Glynne Jones, Belinda Hunt, Jo Kelly, Niki Kent, Clare Parsons, Tempe Stuart, Tessa Taylor, Emma Thorn-Lees, Saira Todd are all professionally qualified, BAAT and HCPC registered art psychotherapists. Whilst working individually in various spaces, institutions, privately and with the NHS, Charities and Schools and focusing their practice across differing modalities and client groups, they come together at regular intervals to share best practice and consider and reflect on present Mental Health difficulties. *'Many of us have come to Art Psychotherapy from other careers where our experience brings with it much understanding of the difficulties faced by our service users...as artists we create both in response to our own interests and to our work...the process of art-making becomes reflective and containing for all...and often we find that the training as art psychotherapists can change formal classical art-making as fine artists into something altogether more visceral, more connected, more curious.'*

Continued on page 30

Art Psychotherapy: is a form of psychotherapy that uses art media as a primary mode of communication. This approach is particularly useful for expressing and exploring complicated experiences, feelings and ideas. Art Psychotherapists work with a wide range of clients with emotional and behavioural problems, learning or physical difficulties, life-limiting conditions, neurological and mental health conditions and physical illnesses. It is a registered health profession, regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council and represented by the British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT). Art Psychotherapists often have arts degrees as well as a postgraduate training in Art Psychotherapy, and personal art-making is an important part of their on-going professional development. More information about Art Psychotherapy can be found at: <https://baat.org/>

The Exhibition is Open: on Tuesday 25th November every day between 10am and 5pm, closing at 5pm on Sunday 30th November. The Lansdown Gallery is in Lansdown, Stroud GL5 1BB:

<http://www.lansdownhall.org/>, tel. 01453 767576

Exhibition Press Contact Details: Alley Akoh, a.akoh.arttherapy

Foodbank

We will be holding our **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION** for Stroud Foodbank on Wednesday 12th November and with your help, will be able to make the festive season just a little happier and brighter for families in the area. Last year, more than 400 hampers were given to those in need in the community and it would be wonderful to think we might be able to help even more this year. Any donation, however small, would be gratefully received and we hope we can show once again how generous Painswick and the surrounding villages are in supporting others!

Please may we ask for some the following items: *Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, tinned ham, gravy granules, stuffing, jars of chutney or pickles, Christmas biscuits, boxes of chocolates, tins of sweets and savoury crackers.*

Our volunteers will be in the Stamages Lane car park from 10am until 12 noon on Wednesday 12th November and we hope to see you then.

As always, if you wish 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 and wishing you a peaceful Christmas! **The Foodbank Team**



Friends of Cranham School

Charity no: 1122855

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IN AID OF CRANHAM C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Email: friendsofcranhamschool@gmail.com to book a table

SUN
9TH
NOV

Cranham Village Hall 1-3.30pm

£2 ENTRY | KIDS ENTER FREE

Refreshments being served

THE CRAMBLERS

The Cramblers are a group of people, mostly from the village and several who join us from elsewhere, who enjoy a chat and a walk through the glorious Gloucestershire countryside that we are privileged to live in.

Jean Garratt was one of the founder members, and Jean Evans was also a regular early Rambler, over 40 years ago, and it is good that we are still rambling on.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month, ready to leave at 9.45am at the car park above Witches Tump and walk within a 15-mile radius of Cranham, sharing lifts when we can, but also often walking locally. We find areas we have never been to before and revisit many old favourites.



The distance is usually between 3 - 5 miles.

The walks are very varied, woods, valleys, open countryside, canals and lakes. We see new fresh green growth and lovely flowers in spring, young animals, wonderful views across the valleys, autumn colours and sparkling frosts in winter. We chat along the way and sometimes have a coffee stop if people have time.

Anyone is welcome to come along and join us , as and when you can, and will be made very welcome.

If you are free on the 1st Thursday morning and have time for a walk and a chat please get in contact.

For more details contact :

Joan Charman on 07717 286848

Rachel's pop up
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Tuesdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

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– a warm welcome for everyone*

Painswick Town Hall Community Library

Thank you so much to all the children and families who attended Painswick Community Library over the summer holidays. Compared to last year we had a footfall increase of 84%!!!! The Lego Inventors days were extremally well supported and enjoyed by all the children who attended the sessions. We will repeat this next year. The Painswick Library Challenge was equally successful with 52 children signing up for the challenge. 27 children completed it with a large proportion of children entering a picture or story.



Gosh it was hard to choose winners for the artwork and stories they were all so fabulous, original and thoughtful. How ever we did choose the winner's. They are sisters from The Croft School Painswick—age 3-6 yr group is Annie Townley-Knibbs for her artwork and the winner of the story is Alena Townley-Knibbs 7-12yr old group. Congratulations to them both they each win a £20 voucher for Little Ducklings Toy Shop in Stroud. We will definitely repeat this next year but probably in a slightly different format.

Library opening times

Monday 2.30 - 4.30pm, **Wednesday** 10.30am - 12.30pm & 2.30 - 6.30pm, Croc n'roll and story time 2.30 - 3.00pm alternate weeks, **Friday** 10.30am - 12.30pm & 2.30 - 4.30pm & **Saturday** 10.30am - 12.30pm

Gill Hopkins Library Volunteer

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.





Baby & Toddler group

Friday morning
9.30am-11.00am
The Painswick Centre

Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers,
everyone welcome!

Come have a chat, cup of tea
and let the kids play.

£3.50

£1 per extra
small person

Light snack at 10am

Term Time
Facebook group




**Beacon Hall,
The Painswick Centre,
GL6 6QQ**

Double doors at the back left
hand corner of the car park

Cranham Primary School

Dear future pupil and parent of Cranham School,
We wanted to encourage you that your time at Cranham will be an enjoyable and exciting experience. As a year 6, I have loved every single year here at Cranham since the teachers are so supportive and helpful. Forest school is one of the opportunities that we have; we get to spend time immersing ourselves in nature and learning about different tree and flower species with our friends. Our trips are also another exciting experience with lots of fun that we get to do, they include a year 6 six residential trip, Cadbury World, the Waterways museum and many others.

As a tiny school, it may be thought that clubs, in and after school, would be limited. However, many after-school clubs have been chances to make new friends and spend time with old friends whilst enjoying good clubs, chess club, football club and art club. Amongst great clubs, lunchtime provides great food. Our food is sourced by a local company who value nutrition and tastiness.

I love reading, so Cranham has been fully supportive of my reading throughout the years. Recently, a booknook was created to provide a quiet space for us to read at lunch and breaktimes; this is another great thing about Cranham. Hopefully, you or your child will find the great love of reading that I found here as with the same with all the other aspects of the school.

Yours Sincerely,
A year 6 pupil

Year 6 work

Cranham Village Hall News



Once again, Cranham Village Hall has been successful in its application to be a Gigaclear Community hub, which means we have a year of free Wi-Fi for the Village Hall until November 2026. Big thanks to Gigaclear for their continued support.

It would be amazing if we could offer a drop in IT help session, run by volunteer IT savy person, to give a little help to those less knowledgeable! The session could be run in conjunction with the pop-up café on Tuesday or Friday, or early evening for an hour? If anyone would like to volunteer an hour of their time, please contact me (Rachel Monro)



As the dark cold nights are now drawing in, the VH committee have come up with the marvellous idea to hold a series of supper social nights, when villagers are invited to come along to the village hall to socialise with other villagers and enjoy a two course meal for £10.

The doors will open at 6pm and food served (hot buffet style) from 6.30ish until 8pm. After you have eaten, there is the opportunity to stay in the VH and socialise until 9.30 pm. You are welcome to BYO playing cards, boards games and drinks. There will also be a basic bar selection of drinks to buy on the night. The first night supper social is planned for Thursday 13th November, see the advert for more details

Rachel Monro

Cranham VH committee chair person

07737545159



PAINSWICK COMMUNITY HUB

Pay as
you feel

Painswick Community — LUNCHES —

Where: Painswick Town Hall
When: Mondays 12 - 1.15pm

*Variety of vegetable soups, freshly
baked bread, butter and cheese.*

Hosted by local groups

27th October	Monday Walkers
3rd November	Beacon Conservation Group
10th November	Dog Training Club
17th November	Library Book Club
24th November	Painswick Parish Council
1st December	Painswick Community Support
8th December	Catholic Church

Money raised donated to local charities

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Three Gables Centre,
Cheltenham Rd

Tuesdays 9.30am - 7pm

Wednesdays 10am - 2.30pm

Cranham Village Studio

New Location

Thursday 9.30am - 6pm

Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm

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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)
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 07717 286848)
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 Hugh Tarran 814081 or h.tarran@tiscali.co.uk)
Rachel's Pop Up Café	Fridays 10.00 - 1.30pm - V Hall
Parent and Toddler	Fridays 10.30 - 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!



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 19th NOVEMBER 2025

Magazines will be available for distribution:

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

The date will be confirmed to the distributors by email .

814839

cranhammagazine@gmail.com

CRANHAM DIARY



NOVEMBER 2025

1	Sat	Cranham Cinema Family	Village Hall	9.00 for 9.30am
		Garden Society Coffee AM	Brimpsfield V.Hall	10.30 for 11.00am
2	Sun	Working Party	Common	9.30am - 12.30pm
		All Souls Service	Church	6.30pm
4	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
5	Wed	Cots Naturalists Talk	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
6	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am
9	Sun	Remembrance Service	Church	10.45am
		Jumble & Table Top Sale	Village Hall	1.00 - 3.30pm
11	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
		Flicks in the Sticks	Bisley V.Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
12	Wed	Foodbank Collection	Painswick	10.00am - 12noon
13	Thurs	Supper Social	Village Hall	6.00 for 6.30pm
16	Sun	Evensong	Church	6.30pm
17	Mon	Village Lunch	Village Hall	12.15 for 12.30pm
18	Tues	Recycling/Food Waste		
		Cots Naturalists Talk	Box V.Hall	2.30pm
19	Wed	** Magazine Articles Due **		
22	Sat	Working Party	Common	9.30am - 12.30pm
23	Sun	Morning Worship	Church	11.00am
25	Tues	Rubbish/Food Waste		
27	Thurs	CLHS Talk	Village Hall	7.45pm
28	Fri	Cranham Cinema Adults	Village Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
30	Sun	Christingle Service	Church	11.00am
		Christmas Craft Fayre	Village Hall	11.00am - 4.00pm
		Advent Carol Service	Church	6.30pm

DECEMBER 2025

3	Wed	Cots Naturalists Talk	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
4	Thurs	Ramble	Car Park	9.45am