The Creeting St. Mary Newsletter



HALL CENTENARY QUIZ (Part 2)

Photo courtesy Juliet Davis

Volume 45/4 August and September 2026

VILLAGE DATES AND EVENTS

(All events at Village Hall unless indicated otherwise)



Social Club Events:

15th August	4.00 – 10.30	Saturday BBQ
26th August	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning
28th August	7.00 – 10.30	Friday Bar
19th September	11.30 – 2.30	Saturday Brunch
24th September	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning
25th September	7.00 – 10.30	Friday Bar

Parish Council meeting: ***10th September***

EDITORIAL

So we got a new prime minister and we got a good-as-new bench in Blacksmiths Field. We didn't get the World Cup and we didn't get any rain. Swings and roundabouts, right?

Meanwhile village life bustles along. Excitement over the Village Hall centenary celebrations is reaching fever pitch – look out for more announcements of events later in the year. Furthermore this edition contains the second part of our Village Hall quiz. We have not exactly been overwhelmed by entries so far – no doubt you are saving them up to do all hundred questions after the third edition. I and my trusty research team (ChatGPT) have slaved over this new batch of questions for literally minutes on end, so I am sure your entries will soon be flooding in. That thirty quid isn't going to win itself!

The refurbished bench in Blacksmiths Field looks amazing – huge thanks to Charlie Mills (see p.8). Personally as someone entirely useless with anything practical (I shudder to remember school woodwork classes being a mix of ritual humiliation at my incompetence and quite frightening injuries) I can only marvel at the skills required to do that – Charlie's expertise is matched by his generosity in volunteering. I'm happy that Christine's appeal in these pages led directly to the work being done – I figure this is exactly what the newsletter should be for. What else can we do?

So, the village bench is good as new for years ahead, the Village Hall proudly moves into its second century – I reckon they will both last for a few more prime ministers.

- Steve Matthews

CREETING ST MARY SOCIAL CLUB

Diamond Jubilee Hall

www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/social-club/social-club-news/

open to residents of the village and surrounding area.

The licence only allows alcohol sales to members!

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE - Forms available from William Barnes CSM_SocialClub@outlook.com or tel.: 07771 814651

The Social club's first event of the summer was a very well attended evening at the local village hall for a highly successful wine and cheese tasting evening. The community-focused event treated guests to a curated selection of artisan dairy and carefully paired wines in a vibrant, social atmosphere. Many thanks go to Graham from ahead4wine for sharing his extensive knowledge of wine and giving us a fun and educational evening.

Next was our biggest event of the year so far The Suffolk Day & Big Lunch. An action packed fun filled 12 hours to celebrate the village halls centenary "Proudly Celebrating 100 years at the heart of our community" Please see separate article for more details.

June wound up with our monthly coffee & cake morning and a well attended Friday bar that saw local residents chatting and enjoying the last of the sun on the terrace whilst sipping a chilled glass of Pimms.

A new event for us and a chance to use the Village Halls newly installed 4m screen, projector and audio system was the live showing of the FIFA World Cup final. Crave'N'Pizza were in attendance and the bar was open so a very enjoyable evening and a great turnout from our residents. Just a shame it wasn't England playing.



Thank all for supporting these events and of course a big thank you to all the volunteers that make them happen.

- ***Andy Pallant***

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS SPACE FOR £100 PER YEAR.
Creeting St. Mary village newsletter is delivered six times a year to over 470 households - with many new families moving in.
See page 35 for details.
It includes an introductory editorial insertion (discretionary)

CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Looking for New Councillors

Please note – The Parish Council still has a vacancy should anyone wish to join. You would be more than welcome! For more information on what is involved please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@creetingstmarypc.gov.uk

Dunches Lane

Flooding issues at the top of Dunches Lane continue to be investigated, so plans for the lane to be part of an accessible circuit with The Lords Highway and Low Lane are currently on hold.

Speed Limit – Creeting Bottoms

The reduction in speed limit from 60mph to 40mph at Creeting Bottoms continues to progress with the application now at consultation stage.

Projects

Development in the village has slowed down which means that no further CiL money is expected to be received. Therefore, the Parish Council's CiL money has been somewhat depleted.
CiL money has been spent on the following projects:

Project(s) that the Parish Council have completed:

Repair of drainage grate at the front car park of the Village Hall
Provision of bollards at entrance to Blacksmiths Field to deter unauthorised encampments
Village Sign Refurbishment
Provision and installation of 'Children Walking to School' flashing signage
Works to Dunches Lane to improve accessibility and usage (stage 1)
Provision of Zip Wire – Blacksmiths Field
New Gate to Blacksmiths Field
Provision of extra benches - Blacksmiths Field, including concrete bases
Provision of benches - Lilley's Wood, including concrete bases
Provision of Basket Ball area - Blacksmiths Field
Hay cut and removal – Blacksmiths Field

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(CiL) money earmarked:
Repair works to The Old School Room (Vestry) roof
40mph Speed limit from Creeting Bottoms to All Saints Road

(CiL) money donated:
Repair works to the church wall
Contribution to the lounge refurbishment at the Village Hall
Donations to The River Gipping Trust – for maintenance work on the footpath in the parish of Creeting St Mary
Re-surfacing of school playgrounds

Public Footpaths
Whilst out walking, if anyone sees any issues with Footpaths please report them to Councillor Jo Mitchell on 07733 0297019 or email: jobird23@aol.com Or report them at https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/report-a-public-right-of-way-issue Thank you.

Next meetings – 10th September and 22nd October 2026. All welcome!

Details of forthcoming meetings and copies of Parish Council Meeting minutes can be found on the village web-site. If you have any concerns or queries to address to the Parish Council, please contact Jennie Blackburn, Parish Clerk by e-mail @ clerk@creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk or phone 01449 721369 (answer phone) or come along in person to the next meeting.

CREETING SAINT MARY WELFARE CHARITIES - CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

The Welfare Charities seek to assist those who are furthering their education and so, financial support is available to those in Higher Education from September onwards.
If you wish to be considered, please apply using the application form on the village website: https://creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk/creeting-welfare-charities

Applications should be submitted by Saturday, 31st October, 2026.

Note: Whilst the trustees will consider each application on its individual merits, it has adopted a residency qualification for eligibility for financial assistance, that requires an applicant to have lived in the area administered by the charity (principally Creeting St Mary), for a minimum of two years prior to making an application.

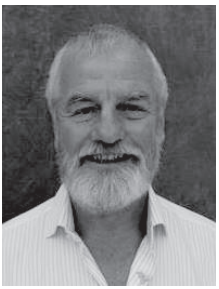
Mid Suffolk District Councillors

for Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Darmsden, and Needham Market Town



This post on MSDC is shared between

Ross Piper (left) - Green Party
ross.piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk
07928512581 and
Terry Lawrence - Liberal Democrats
terry.lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk
07928 512599



Mid Suffolk District Councillors' Report for July 2026

Waste collections

We have now completed 4 weeks of the new bin collection schedule. It has been challenging for the new crews to get all the bins collected during the heat wave, but last week they collected 180 tonnes of food waste across both districts which was a 6% increase on the previous week. The Waste team are now continuing to improve on:

- Delivering the final new bins and food waste caddies.
- Rolling out new bins to communal bins stores and properties, completed by close of play today.
- New food collection drivers and loaders productivity and quality
- Pushing up the food waste daily completion rates (avoiding the need to mop up any roads the following morning)
- Further reducing the causes which are driving the high volumes of calls and e-mails (mainly missing or missed bins)

Scoping Consultations for the Joint Local Plan

Residents, businesses, community groups and stakeholders are being invited to help shape the future of Babergh and Mid Suffolk as the councils launch the first stage of consultation on their new Joint Local Plan. The Consultation opened on 5th June and will run until 31st July Details of the consultation can be found here https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/joint-local-plan-scoping-consultation

Armed Forces Day held in Stowmarket

27th June 2026. Hundreds of people gathered in Stowmarket to celebrate Suffolk Armed Forces Day. The free event was put on by Mid Suffolk Disttict Council in partnership with Stowmarket Town Council. The day began with a parade, and this was followed by musical performances as well as the opportunity to take part in a variety of family friendly activities. It was a great event and enabled people to celebrate and support all members of our Armed Forces – current ones as well as veterans.

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Gateway 14 news

A £45M manufacturing facility opens at Gateway 14. Assan Panels opened their first manufacturing facilty in the UK. The new facility has the capacity to produce up to 4.5 million square metres of insulated wall and roof panels each year, enough to supply around 450 large warehouses, factories and distribution centres annually. The official opening was attended by about 250 local businesses and community representatives.

Pride in your place grants

Applications for Mid Suffolk District Council's Pride In Your Place grant have reopened, offering funding to projects that bolster community pride and celebrate the heritage of towns and villages across the district.

Locality budget

The 2026-27 Locality budgets have now been launched so we would love to receive applications for funding from any community group in the ward. Details can be found on the website https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards. It is usually a good idea to contact one of us to discuss your application before submitting an application.

Mid Suffolk District Council information is available via www.midsuffolk.gov.uk or by phone 0300 123 4000

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THANK YOU CHARLIE !!!

A huge thank you from the whole village to Charlie Mills (and his mum Kelly!) for generously volunteering his time and considerable expertise to renovate the bench in Blacksmiths Field. It looks amazing, just like new!



You can find Charlie at CJ Mills Carpentry, his number is 07904 904169 or you can find him at:

https://www.facebook.com/people/C-J-Mills-Carpentry/61578932125002/

County Councillors' Report for the Thredling Division

I was humbled and honoured to be re-elected as your County Councillor in the May 2026 elections. I look forward to continuing to represent this wonderful part of Suffolk, as best I can. Once again, a huge thank you and as always please do get in touch if I can help in any way.

Residents deserve answers over A140/A1120 link road proposal
I have raised concerns over plans to progress the proposed A140 Major Road Network (MRN) scheme, questioning whether the construction of a new link road represents a long-term solution to traffic and road safety issues in the area. While acknowledging the need to address congestion at the A140/A1120 junction, I am seeking clarity on the evidence supporting the scheme, its impact on local residents and businesses, and whether alternative options have been properly considered. This junction has been a problem for many years and has been on Suffolk County Council's radar for a long time. Local residents deserve clarity on the proposed timetable, the options that were considered, and what compensation and support will be available to those directly affected. Most importantly, people should not be left facing years of uncertainty about the future of their homes and communities. Many questions remain unanswered and I believe local people deserve clearer answers before the scheme progresses any further.

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Alarm raised over solar project wiping out Suffolk farmland

I have raised significant concerns over the proposed EcoPower Suffolk solar farm and battery energy storage project in Mid Suffolk, warning that residents are being asked to comment on a scheme without having access to the full facts. As the consultation launched, Conservative councillors have immediately identified 11 grounds for objection, comprising 60 individually evidenced concerns, across five major themes:

- The developer's own experts contradict its claims about environmental impact.
- Almost 1,000 hectares of Suffolk's best farmland could be lost for up to 40 years.
- Serious questions remain over the safety of the proposed battery storage facility.
- The project is proposed in an area already facing severe water pressures.
- Residents are being asked to judge the scheme before full information about its risks is available.

At first glance, this statutory consultation from EcoPower leaves more questions than answers. Important surveys on wildlife, archaeology and landscape are still missing. In places, we can see the value of early engagement, and I applaud local town and parish councils for engaging so fully to this point and securing some concessions. However, a lot more needs to be done, and we still have huge concerns over the transport impacts, the damage to the Mellis conservation area, listed buildings, tourism, rights of way and our natural environment and landscapes. Moreover, the battery storage proposals — in the area of a public drinking water source — seem wholly unsuitable.

We will be offering to work with local parishes, to help them shape their response, and ensuring the County Council's response is suitably robust. Councillors are encouraging residents and businesses to take part in the consultation and ensure their views are heard. I've had my serious doubts about this proposal from the very outset. From a rural perspective, seeing that 87 percent of the scheme, nearly 2,500 acres, is our best and most versatile farmland fills me with dread, and on those grounds alone it should be refused. As a nation, we need to ensure that farming pays — we cannot blame the landowners who are struggling to make ends meet.

Welcome news on CQC "Good" rating for Adult Social Care.

Suffolk Conservatives have welcomed the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) latest assessment of Suffolk County Council's Adult Social Care services, which has once again awarded the service an overall rating of "Good." The assessment reflects the significant work undertaken by my previous administration to transform Adult Social Care, strengthen services, and ensure they remained sustainable for the future. Councillor Beccy Hopfensperger, former Cabinet Member for Adult Care at Suffolk County Council and current Deputy Group Leader, said: "I'm really pleased to see Suffolk receive this recognition from the CQC. I know just how much hard work goes into delivering Adult Social Care, and this report reflects the dedication and professionalism of our staff and partners, who make such a difference to people's lives every day. The report also highlights areas where we know there's more to do, particularly around waiting times and support for unpaid carers, and it's important that the council continues to build on this strong foundation." We congratulate the Adult Social Care staff and partner organisations on this positive assessment and thank them for their continued dedication to supporting Suffolk residents.

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New office suite for Leader at Endeavour House

The Conservative Group at Suffolk County Council has raised serious concerns following the release of Freedom of Information documents detailing changes to office accommodation for the Reform UK administration at Endeavour House, including more than £15,000 in costs itemised against the creation of a new office for the Leader of the Council, Cllr Michael Hadwen. The documents show that senior officers were discussing the Leader's requirements within days of the new administration taking office, with one noting that the Leader had "already chased" the office moves and "will be expecting some solutions sooner rather than later". The overall project is estimated at £18,484.31 excluding VAT, a figure which does not include video-conferencing equipment that was still being priced separately. The Conservative Group believes residents deserve a clear explanation as to why this level of expenditure is justified at a time when council finances remain under pressure and Suffolk County Council is due to be abolished under Local Government Reorganisation. Reform came in promising to save money but one of their first acts looks to be splashing out around £15,000 on a new office for their leader. .
Cllr Matthew Hicks, the previous Leader of Suffolk County Council, said: "The previous office served me perfectly well for eight years, and a similar room has been perfectly adequate for leaders over the last twenty years. Why does Cllr Hadwen think he needs a £15,000-plus leader's suite? The fact that public money is being spent so he doesn't have to get up and open his own door, like everyone else in that building does, beggars belief." I am calling on the Reform administration to publish the final cost of the project including all IT and video-conferencing equipment, to identify the budget from which it is being funded, to explain under what authority the expenditure was approved without any member-level decision, and to demonstrate how it represents value for money for Suffolk taxpayers.

Work on a new Suffolk Minerals and Waste Plan now under way.

The existing Suffolk and Minerals Waste Plan was published in 2020 and is now in the process of being updated. The plan plays a vital role in supporting economic growth, protecting the environment and ensuring communities continue to benefit from well-planned development. The first stage of work on a new plan is a ‘call for sites’ survey which is now open and closes on 27 July 2026. It invites landowners, operators and others to suggest possible sites. This helps the county council understand what land is available and where development could take place, before any decisions are made. Once adopted, the new plan will set out how Suffolk will provide for a steady and adequate supply of minerals - such as sand and gravel - alongside identifying the infrastructure needed to manage waste.

However, there are a number of stages to go through, including further public consultations and Examination, before the new plan is formally adopted likely in late 2029. More information can be found ion the SCC website.

Matthew Hicks - County Councillor for the Thredling Division
Tel : 01728 628176 Mob : 07824 474741 E-mail : matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk

CHURCH SERVICES
The Benefice of North Bosmere

The Churches in this Benefice are: Coddenham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, Crowfield, Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva, Gosbeck, Hemingstone, Stonham Aspal with Mickfield. For all service details see the *Ten Village News*.
For general information contact Liz: northbosmerebenefice@gmail.com
for Creeting St. Mary - Glynis Clint - 01449 720740

Church services at Creeting St Mary and Creeting St Peter

Sunday 2 August 9.30am	Morning Worship Creeting St Peter
Sunday 9 August 11.00am	Morning Prayer BCP Creeting St Mary
Sunday 16 August 11.00am	Morning Worship Creeting St Peter
Sunday 23 August 11.00am	Morning Worship and Baptism Creeting St Mary
Sunday 23 August 6.30pm	Benefice Evensong Stonham Parva
Sunday 26 April 11.00am	Holy Communion Creeting St Mary
Sunday 30 August 10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion Stonham Aspal
Sunday 36 September 9.30am	Morning Worship Creeting St Peter
Sunday 13 September 11.00am	Morning Prayer BCP Creeting St Mary
Sunday 20 September 11.00am	Holy Communion BCP Creeting St Peter
Sunday 27 September 11.00am	Morning Worship and Baptism Creeting St Mary

There may be some changes to this, so please check on the weekly Notice sheet.

St Mary's Church News

Treasurer

We will be looking for a new church Treasurer in the Autumn. We thank Shane (Finbow) for the considerable work he has put in to manage new systems and software and helping the PCC through the busy time of raising money for the new vestry/old school room's roof repair. Can you help? Everything is in place we just need to have someone who likes figures and accounting.
The church cannot continue without a treasurer. Please contact me if you are able to help in any way. Thank you.

Safeguarding

On Monday 29th June church safeguarding officers were invited to meet Bishop Joanne at her home in Ipswich for afternoon tea. It was a glorious afternoon, very interesting to meet lots of people from other churches and enjoy tea together in the garden.

School end of term service

By the time you read this the School will have broken up for their summer holidays, they visited church for a leavers service just before the end of term. We hope all the teaching team and all the children have a relaxing break before the new term starts in September.

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Dates for your diary

- Christmas Carol evening. Sunday 6th December at 4pm.

We are very pleased to welcome Anthony, from the Colchester Arts Centre who will recite Charles Dickens, Christmas Carol with musical accompaniments. It's a wonderful candle lit performance full of atmosphere. Please keep this date free if you interested in coming along.

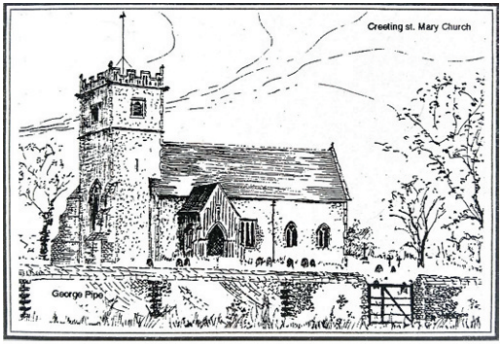
- Village coffee mornings:

10–11.30am - Wednesday August 26th and September 24th.

A donation each coffee morning is given to the Vestry/Old School Room roof fund raising.

Glynis Clint - 01449 720740





Scan here, to make a regular or one-off donation via the *Parish Giving Scheme*, a simple and secure way that you can give to our church today.

VESTRY UPDATE

Thanks to the support of so many of you, and as a result of our success in applying for grants, we now have in excess of £40,000 of committed funds against our target of £75,000. We still have one significant grant application awaiting result with Garfield Weston and another application under way. We are very keen to commence the repairs to the roof this autumn before the winter causes more deterioration. Accordingly, we are aiming for a further push on fundraising over the late summer and will be in touch with local businesses while thinking about other options to close the gap. Many thanks again for your commitment to helping us get to our objective.

Litter Bugs

With the recent addition of new bins and waste separation that we are still coming to terms with since June, perhaps it's a good time for us all to consider The 4 R's in waste management and what they stand for.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Recover.

Together, they form a strategy for managing waste sustainably - by minimizing waste generation in the first instance, then reusing materials, recycling what cannot be reused, and finally recovering energy or resources from what remains.

The main litter sources in our Village remains fly tipping, dog poo (especially on Blacksmith's field) and litter being thrown out of car windows. If you are interested in helping us keep our village neat and tidy, please feel free to join us at the next Litter Pick on Sunday 4th October at 10.30am. All volunteers are most welcome! Marié

NOT SUCH A FUN FACT – Can you guess what item is the most littered worldwide?

Roughly 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are littered every year, making them the most littered item on the planet, this is according to World Health Organization (Apr 2024).

CHIMNEY SWEEP

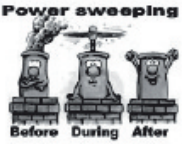
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School Head Mrs. Christine Friar
school telephone 01449 720312
office@creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk
www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk



Autumn Term 2026
1 Sep - 18 Dec
Autumn Half Term
26 Oct -30 Oct

We have had a wonderful year here at Creeting st Mary Primary.

As always the final few weeks of term have been crammed full of trips and events and exciting things. Our Year 6's were able to celebrate their SATS and hard work with a trip to Laser Tag, Soft play and then Mcdonalds! We will miss these ten amazing children when they leave, but know they will succeed in all they do.

Our youngest, in Ash and Oak class had a day trip to Felixstowe Beach in July. They left early on the coach, spent some time on the beach making sandcastles and eating their picnics before getting an ice cream and getting the bus back to school. They returned sleepy, but happy! We had two teams taking part in the Suffolk Finals Orienteering competition and a team in the finals of a Rounders competition this term. We didn't win this time, but the children all did so well.

KS2, Birch and Chestnut Class, put on four performances of 'Going For Gold' having spent many hours learning lines and lyrics. Everyone put in 100% and thoroughly entertained the audiences! We have also had our talent show this term, with nearly twenty individuals and groups taking part, singing and dancing. Such a fun event!

The Summer Fair & Colour Run was the most successful in a long time. Despite not being it's usual format, everyone rallied round and contributed especially on the day which was incredibly hot. The colour run was a massive success and the BBQ and Ice cream from Alder Carr kept everyone happy! We raised over £2000. Incredible.

We are back to school, September 3rd and are all very much looking forward to the break. Have a lovely Summer!

VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATED IN STYLE!

Event organisers often like to say that at their celebration there will be "something for everyone". Well, in the case of the Centenary Day event at our Village Hall on 20 June, it was true. During the day-long festivities, everyone from toddlers to seniors were catered for!

The event kicked off with coffee and cake in the Village Hall, offering a mouth-watering selection of scones, biscuits and traybakes created and donated entirely by locals. Many of those enjoying the cakes also took the opportunity to peruse the exhibition of photographs and newspaper cuttings which had been painstakingly collated and displayed by Glynis Clint, Christine Bingley and helpers. Fascinating key moments from the Hall's history, and village residents and activities over the past century, were brought to life.

At lunch-time Suffolk Mermaid Fish & Chips joined the party, serving delicious portions of fresh fish and chips, burgers and chicken from their mobile van. The afternoon saw Tommy's Entertainment bring their Punch and Judy show to the children of Creeting on Blacksmith's Field, behind the Village Hall. Older adults confessed to being slightly squeamish about the robust nature of the performance, but guess who lapped it up in fearless fashion? Yes, the little ones!

Also bringing great fun to the Field was village resident Frank Parry. Together with friends and members of his family he had the youngsters throwing themselves into a variety of games and challenges in the sunshine. Throughout the afternoon and evening the bar was open, serving our famous low-priced alcoholic and soft drinks, and everyone's dinner needs were catered for by the arrival of Crave'N'Pizza from Ipswich. Offering a good selection of meat and vegetarian pizzas cooked fresh to order, the team did great business among the Creeting locals at the Hall.

Into the evening we had live music in the lounge from delightful singer Alan Mann. He is a local performer and his voice is lovely. He gave us renditions of a wide range of hits for a relaxed end to the festivities.

It was a wonderful day of celebration and one we hope that residents of all ages will remember. As ever, it was all organised by the terrific band of volunteers from the village who constantly work to make Creeting St Mary a great place to live.

- Penny Cottee

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 18

To book the Hall just visit the Village website at www.creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk for more information, or email csmbookhall@gmail.com

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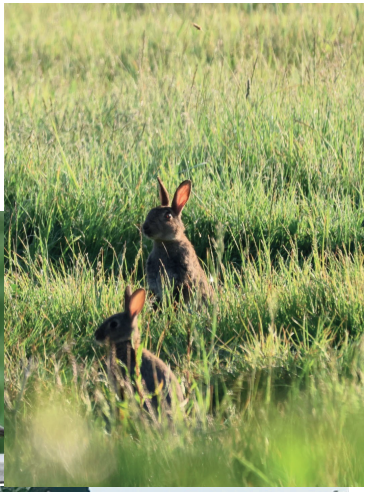
Photos courtesy Juliet Davis and Andy Pallant

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NEW KIDS IN THE VILLAGE !!!

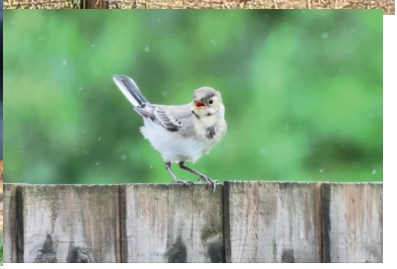












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"Neil's Newbies" photos courtesy Neil Harvey



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Opening Hours

Monday	CLOSED	**Tuesday**	10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00
Wednesday	14.00 – 19.00	**Thursday**	10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00
Friday	14.00 – 17.00	**Saturday**	10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00
Sunday	11.00 – 16.00		

suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk

Suffolk Community Libraries - Mobile Library

Route 13 at Creeting St. Mary Village Hall at 11.30-11.50

On Friday every four weeks: Fri 3 Jul 2026, Fri 31 Jul 2026, Fri 28 August

You can renew titles on line.**suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk**

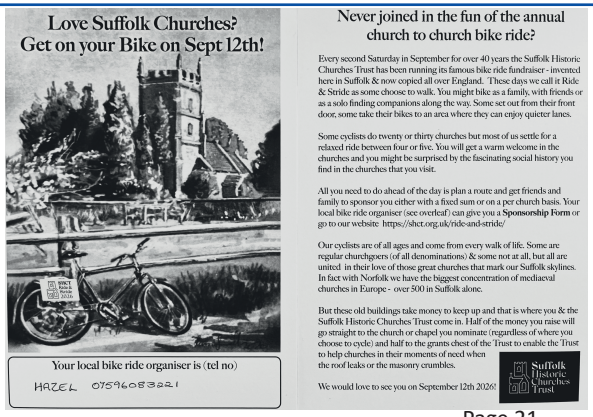
CURIOUS CREATURES

The library service is running a Summer Reading Quest for children of all ages, from 18th July to 31st August.

This year's theme is Curious Creatures. Children are encouraged to visit the library each week, chose a book, explore the library and engage in the activities on offer. There are six brilliant characters for kids to meet this summer.



They are curious, love books and exploring their library. They are also cheeky and prone to a bit of adventure. Lots of stickers to collect each week!





THE VILLAGE HALL - CENTENARY QUIZ - Part Two

Welcome to Part 2 of our special quiz of 100 questions to celebrate the centenary of the village hall! In this edition we have qs 31-60.
All you have to do is send your answers to Csmvhquiz@gmail.com, or to me. There will be a draw for all the successful participants later in the year, and the winner will receive a voucher for £30.
Good luck!

CREETING ST MARY CHURCH

31. St Mary's is the only surviving church of how many medieval parish churches that once served Creeting?
32. What nickname was once given to the village because two churches stood side by side on the same hill?
33. Which neighbouring church was demolished in 1801, with much of its stone reused to build the north aisle of St Mary's?
34. The oldest parts of St Mary's Church date from which architectural period?
35. What Grade listing has St Mary's Church been awarded by Historic England?
36. Before the Reformation, Creeting was home to Suffolk's only church dedicated to which Scandinavian saint?
37. What modern archaeological technique helped researchers rediscover the sites of Creeting's lost medieval churches before excavation?
38. Which local organisation carried out a complete survey of the churchyard and its gravestones in 1981?
39. The memorial in St Mary's churchyard commemorates villagers who died in which two conflicts?
40. Approximately how many years has St Mary's Church stood at the heart of Creeting St Mary?

FAMOUS CREETING PEOPLE (three of these are HARD!)

41. Which EastEnders actress, famous for playing Dot Cotton, was born in Jacks Green Road in 1927?
42. Which internationally influential legal philosopher, regarded as the founder of legal positivism, was born in Creeting St Mary in 1790?
43. Which first-class cricketer and later schoolmaster was born in Creeting St Mary in 1967?
44. Which scientist who discovered oxygen and invented carbonated water served as minister at Needham Market's Congregational Church between 1755 and 1761?

contd on p.23

*contd from p.*22

SUFFOLK FOODS

45. Which famous Suffolk cheese, first produced in the village of Bungay, is known for its distinctive orange rind?

46. What is the name of the traditional Suffolk cured ham that has protected geographical status in the UK?

47. Which freshwater fish, once abundant in the rivers of Suffolk, has traditionally been smoked and is closely associated with East Anglia?

48. Suffolk is one of England's leading producers of which root vegetable, often harvested in autumn and winter?

49. Which famous English mustard company was founded in nearby Norwich and has long been popular across Suffolk?

50. What is the name of the traditional Suffolk fruit spirit made from fermented apples?

51. Which Suffolk town is famous for its smokehouses, producing smoked fish that has been enjoyed for generations?

52. What is the name of the traditional Suffolk dessert made with breadcrumbs, apples and dried fruit?

53. Which breed of black pig, commonly reared in Suffolk, is renowned for producing high-quality pork and bacon?

54. Adnams, one of Suffolk's best-known breweries, is based in which coastal town?

JULET'S PICTURE ROUND Part 2 - "Where have I seen that?"
Where can you find these local landmarks? (qs 56-60).

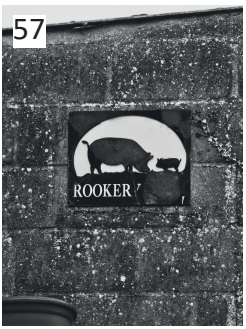
55



56



57



58



59



60



Needham Market Garden Club

(Needham Market and District Horticultural Society)

Burton Room, Needham Market Community Centre, IP6 8BB

After weeks without rain and scorching temperatures it seems strange to report that our June meeting to Helmingham Hall was cancelled due to torrential rain! We were more fortunate for our plant stalls at the Raft Race and Open Gardens, when it was warm but not baking. It was good to meet so many enthusiastic gardeners and we hope to welcome new members as a result.

Early in July, Catherine McMillan gave a talk on gardening for beginners and the perennially perplexed. As expected many of the questions and discussion were focused on how to keep our gardens looking good during a heat wave and how to future proof our plots. I anticipate that it is a topic that we will return to in the future.

There is no meeting in August. Our next meeting is on Thursday 3 September, when Ian Woolnough will give an illustrated talk about Cacti in Flower.

All meetings take place in the Burton Room, Needham Market Community Centre IP6 8BB at 7:30pm.

Hazel Mackintosh 07596 083221 or email: sec.hortsoc@gmail.com



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Suffolk Tree Warden Network

Tree wardens champion trees and hedgerows - to tackle climate change, loss of biodiversity and providing 'corridors' for wildlife. Suffolk has only 8% tree cover (London - 20%). STWN offers free locally-sourced tree and hedgerow plants. 30,000 trees have been planted in the last 4 years. It helps Community Tree Nurseries and works with the Woodland Trust, The Tree Council, County, District & Parish Councils.

www.suffolktreewardens.org.uk.
secretary@suffolktreewardens.org.uk

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SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

We are volunteers who care about wildlife, its beauty, diversity and importance to everyone. We support the Trust's aims and vision for a Living Landscape - with all Wildlife Sites forming networks of linked-up habitat.

We look after local wildlife reserves: Work parties maintain Combs Wood at Stowmarket and Bonny Woods at Barking.` **Local SWT reserves** Bonny Wood, Combs Wood, Bradfield Woods, Bulls Wood. Mickfield Meadow, Black Bourn Valley,

SWT Magazine is delivered to local members, saving postage.

We run talks and events at the Village Hall, Stowupland, IP14 4BQ 7.30 pm Admission £3.00. Check event updates see www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events

LILLEY'S WOOD

The summer period when the wood is left to its own devices will soon be coming to an end. The clearings that we maintain have been able to produce their displays of orchids and other rare wild flowers but are not parched with the heat with the ground cracked as the clay shrinks back. The footpaths, so carefully opened up for good access, are now somewhat narrowed as the shrubs and brambles grow out to maximise their harvest of summer sun. This means visitors to the site are more likely to get scratched and pricked by the thorns that are so effective.

All of this means that there will be plenty of work to do this autumn to manage growth to maintain good access and to protect the wildflowers from being shaded out. I will be in touch with listed volunteers soon to arrange some working parties. If you would like to join our group please do email me on wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk – all welcome.

- William Barnes

College Farm open garden

This year we opened on Sunday 14 June to raise funds for St Elizabeth Hospice. Very fortunately, in the fortnight before the open day, we had had cooler weather and a number of showers and this had helped plants that had struggled in the heat and dryness of May. Accordingly, the garden was very much at its best for visitors to enjoy. We had over 130 visitors on the day who were able to stroll round and enjoy the varied planting and then have tea and cakes, participate in the raffle and buy plants from our stall. As a result of this tremendous support we raised nearly £1,700 for the Hospice on the day – a great result. Many thanks to all who came and to our great teams of volunteers who enabled the day to work so well.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

For a list of the 38 rights of way in the village see:
https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/footpaths-and-bridleways/
Feedback is needed to ensure they remain usable; please report issues to Cllr Jo Mitchell (see contacts pages)
Walking with your dog Please help wildlife by keeping them close to avoid disturbance. Keep them out of water if they have flea treatment and dispose of waste in a bin as this may contain medications harmful to many wild creatures.
https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/news/pet-owners-help-wildlife

NATURE NOTES

By the time you read this harvest will be largely done. The timing of harvest has been gradually creeping forward over the 20 years we have been at College Farm but this year is at least two or three weeks earlier than expected directly as a result of the weather.

Harvest is the culmination of the farming year and an exciting time for all concerned as long as it does not rain too much. The combines come out and gangs of individuals who work elsewhere are suddenly available to drive tractors, grain wagons and teleporters as a much larger crew is required to get the grain from the field into the store. Some farmers change crew in late afternoon when it is dry enough and the humidity low enough to keep going late into the evening – every available moment has to be used just in case it may rain soon. In the grain store, cool air has to be drawn through the crop in the later hours of the night to bring its temperature down from well over 20 centigrade to below 17 to stop bacterial reactions in the grain which could spoil it.

Harvest is also an opportunity for predators. Buzzards and kites will come and circle round in the daylight, looking for any hares, rabbits, rats or mice suddenly lacking cover in the field. Sometimes during the day, but mostly after dark, foxes come out taking the same advantage of loss of cover to be able to hunt successfully. Rats that have dug their tunnels on the fields in the spring when the ground was soft and lived there under the cover of the crop with grain for food, start to think about returning to the farm buildings to nest in the warm and steal any grain or chicken food they can access.

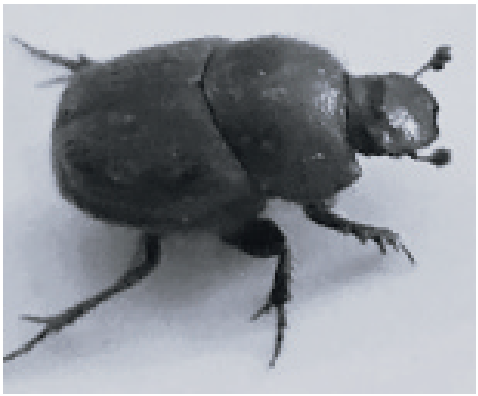
For the second year, this year's harvest is likely to be disappointing as the lack of rain since March and the succession of many very hot days had deprived crops of moisture and dessicated them, meaning that the grain does not fill out and mature as it should. Once harvest is done, there is little time to dwell on success or disappointment, as the start of the next year is already upon us. Weeds have to be sprayed off, grain seeds orders delivered and cultivation of fields got under way to be ready to drill as soon as there is enough moisture for the seeds to germinate and start rooting. Farmers start to scan the grain price and cashflow projections to decide when to sell, hoping that grain prices allow a profit on the relatively meagre volumes of grain awaiting sale this year.

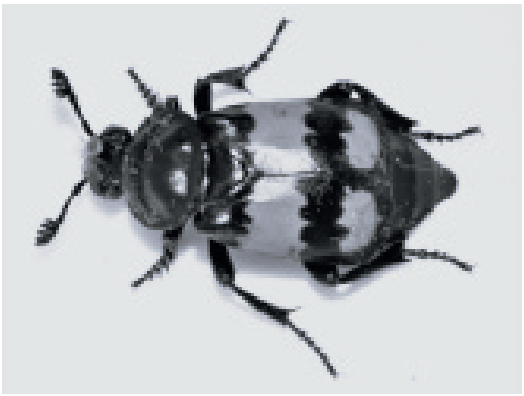
- William Barnes

Nature's Binmen

Bins are a hot topic at the moment (incidently, last week, in Babergh/Mid-Suffolk, 180 tons of food waste was collected!) but nature too has a refuse collection service.

The UK has 60 kinds of dung beetle specialising in using this precious commodity to raise their larvae. Eggs are laid in the pat or by moving it into in tunnels underneath. Speed is of the essence while the dung is soft and the beetles soon appear, smelling it from over 100m away using their sensitive branched antennae. They are dark, tough, mini bulldozers with have strong spiny front legs and broad shovel-shaped heads. The dung of wild animals like deer and badgers is used as well as horses, cows and pigs. The UK cattle industry saves an estimated £367 million per year due to dung beetles cleaning pastures, parasite control and improving soil fertility – and we are not knee-deep in dung pats. The use of worming medicines has severely impacted dung beetles and the advice is to only worm if necessary - if worm eggs are found and using the least harmful chemicals. Adult beetles overwinter, protected by producing an antifreeze in their bodies. Leaving rough, undisturbed areas for shelter helps maintain the populations of this very useful creature.





The UK has six species of colourful burying beetle, and how useful are they! The commonest is the bright orange and black-striped, aptly-named Sexton Beetle. Again they have an excellent sense of smell, swiftly homing in on dead animals up to the size of a small rabbit which they can bury in soft ground in a few hours. It is a family affair: both parents help to bury the body by excavating underneath and lowering it into the soil, and driving off flies. The eggs hatch in a few days and the parents feed and protect the larva till it pupates after 2 weeks. The benefits to us are obvious and we can help them by providing over-wintering shelter. They are easy to see - take one dead mouse and cover it with a heavy plant pot with a hole to let them in, and they will come!

This is not to forget the hundreds of other cleaner-uppers that beaver away to keep things tidy, recycling leaves and other debris – earthworms, woodlice, flies, ants, millepedes, wasps, fungi, magpies, (and rats, I am afraid).... the list goes on of nature's recycling army.

- Joan Hardingham

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citizens advice Mid Suffolk

I've recently had to give up work due to a back injury and I'm worried about how I'm going to cope with the drop in income. I'm not sure what benefits I can get - where should I start?

Lots of people miss out on benefits they're entitled to, so it's worth checking what you can get. Claiming benefits also means you can get access to other financial help like cost-of-living payments and discounts on energy and transport.

To get started, you can use an online benefits calculator. For the most accurate answer, you'll need information about your savings, income, pension, childcare payments and any existing benefits for you and your partner, if you have one. You can use the Entitledto benefits calculator (https://www.entitledto.co.uk/) or Policy in Practice version (https://www.betteroffcalculator.co.uk/login) for a detailed overview. The Turn2us online tool (https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/) can provide an idea of what benefits and other financial help you might be eligible for.

The main benefit available for most people of working age is Universal Credit. You should check if you can get Universal Credit if you're over 18 and under State Pension age you can check your State Pension age on the government website (https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age), and if you have less than £16,000 in savings or other investments. You can check if you're eligible on the Citizens Advice website.

If you're finding it difficult to work because of your injury, you might get more Universal Credit or not have to look for work. You'll need to inform the Department for Work and Pensions that you have a health condition when you claim Universal Credit and, if possible, submit a fit note. You can find out more on our website.

You might be entitled to other benefits depending on your situation, like your age, if you're disabled or if you have a child. If your medical condition makes it difficult to work, you may also be entitled to the new-style Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Check if you can claim ESA on our website. If you pay council tax, you might be able to get a reduction in your bill. You can check if you can pay less council tax on the Citizens Advice website.

There is also help available if you don't have enough money to live on. You might be able to get extra money from the government, your local council or a charity. Find out more about the support you can get with the cost of living on the Citizens Advice website. if you're still not sure, remember you don't have to face this alone. Our advisers can help to check what benefits and financial support you might be entitled to and help you find a way forward.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Stowmarket Eco-futures Group

https://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk
Email: stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com

The next market stall collections are Thursday 23rd July.(NB this is not the last Thursday) and 27th August. We also collect items at the *Repair Café - 2nd Sunday of the month (12th July and 9th August) at Red Gables 2-4 pm plus REPAIR CAFÉ stowrepaircafe@gmail.com

UPDATE ON ITEMS COLLECTED: Blister packs, Coffee pods – plastic and metallic (not mixed), Pet food pouches (empty, clean & dry), Fruit nets, Bicycle Inner Tubes, Spectacles and cases, empty make-up containers, Laptops and tablets with their charger (for parts), Batteries. We have stopped collecting Tetra packs, Plastic bags, film and wrapping because they now go in your Blue lidded bin.

Eco Cafe: We had trouble finding dates to meet but are happy to join the Green Party Evening Socials held monthly at Fred's Bar on the third Tuesday of the month.

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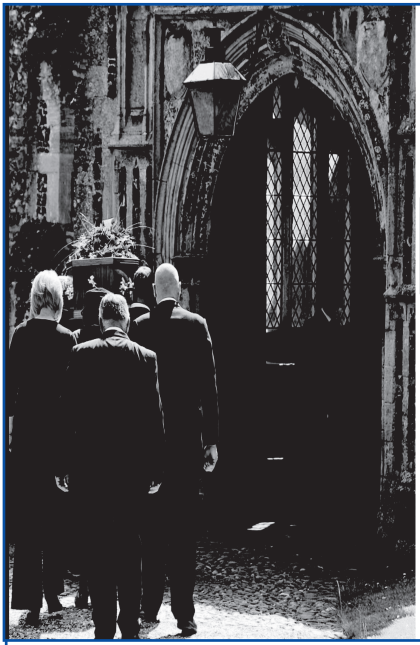


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Mid-Suffolk District Council (MSDC)	0300 1234000
Election information - above option 7	
Gas	0800 111 999
Electricity (Power Cuts)	105
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Anglian Water	03457 145 145
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GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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(Advertising rates and deadlines see the next page)
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Creeting St Mary Parish Councillors
Jan Palmer (PC. Chair) - 01449 723997
Hugo Craggs (Vice-Chair) - 07815137228 (Community Infrastructure Levy CiL)
Roger Coton - 01449 721526 (Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC))
Lesley Plummer - 01449 720359
Marié Broodryk (Village Hall Management Committee) - 07949 510898
Jo Mitchell - (Footpaths) 07733 297019 or email: jobird23@aol.com
Ariane Droogmans - 07588 138838
Karen Buckle – 07587 179423

Parish Council Clerk : Jennie Blackburn - 01449 721369
or email: clerk@creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk. Meeting agendas and dates are on the village noticeboards during the week prior to the meetings, and also on the website: https://www.creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk

Creeting St Mary Website
www.creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk
Contact the Parish Clerk Jennie Blackburn at clerk@creetingstmary-pc.gov.uk

The 4 village notice boards are located at:
the Village Hall, St Mary's Gardens and Jack's Green and at the top of the pedestrian steps at Alder Meadow, Flordon Road
The old phone box at Jack's Green contains maps, information and a defibrillator and the notice board at the entrance to Alder Carr Farm has a foot path map.

Diamond Jubilee Village Hall
Janet Mayell (Village Hall Management Committee Chair) .
To hire all or part of the hall: contact 07849 817488 csmbookhall@gmail.com

Creeting St Mary Social Club: csm_socialclub@outlook.com.
William Barnes, (Secretary) 07771814651

Lilley's Wood Work Parties monthly meetings
contact William Barnes 07771 814651. wbarnes@barnesgroup.co.uk

Creeting St Mary Footpaths - Details of village footpaths - Jo Mitchell
https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/footpaths-and-bridleways/

Report footpath issues to the County Council: https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/report-a-public-right-of-way-

Highway Issues - for potholes or road dangers.
https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue/

Creeting St Mary Welfare Charities
David Blackburn ,1 All Saints Road, CSM, IP6 8NF 01449 721369

Suffolk County Councillor for the Thredling Division: Matthew Hicks
Tel: (01728) 628176 ; matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk ; Twitter: @HicksCllr

Mid-Suffolk District Councillors:
Ross Piper -ross.piper@midsuffolk.gov.uk 07752 504093 Green Party
Terry Lawrence - terry.lawrence@midsuffolk.gov.uk 07928 512599 - Lib Dems.

Mid-Suffolk District Council - all services 0300 1234000

Creeting St. Mary Primary School - Head Mrs. Christine Friar
school telephone 01449 720312, office@creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk
www.creetingstmary.suffolk.sch.uk

Priest-in-Charge North Bosmere Benefice which includes CSM
Liz Ince: northbosmerebenefice@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church
https://www.creeting-st-mary.suffolk.gov.uk/parish-church/
Church Warden: Glynis Clint 01449 720740

Parochial Church Council
PCC Secretary: Ron Clint 07775421009
Treasurer: Shane Finbow 07708920243

Suffolk Libraries mobile library tel: 07955193623

Defibrilators:
Jacks Green Road – IP6 8NA – ///slack.curry.hostels (What3words)
Village Hall – IP6 8NF – ///gear.putts.hope (What3words)

The Newsletter is delivered bi-monthly to 470+ houses in Creeting St.Mary
Newsletter deadlines: the 15th of the month of:
January - February/March edition i.e. Easter
March - April-May edition - i.e. Easter if its late
May - June-July edition i.e. all those early summer events
July - August-September edition - summer holiday events
September - October/November edition - fireworks and Christmas events
November - December/January edition

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Full page - £30	1/4 page - £70
1/2 page - £20	colour adverts by arrangement (plus
1/4 page - £15	a piece on your business 100 words)



Printed by Gipping Press Ltd. Tel: 01449 721599 Web: www.gippingpress.co.uk