

VOL. 30 No. 6

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# Cressing Community Magazine



July 2021



# JANET C DAVIES

Lady Funeral Director



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- \* Washing your hands
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- \* Keeping 2m social distance

### Hands, Face and Space is still important

HM Government NHS

**We must  
keep on protecting  
each other.**


**HANDS**

**FACE**

**SPACE**

STAY ALERT · CONTROL THE VIRUS · SAVE LIVES

**JULY EDITORIAL:**

Hello everyone. We are now halfway through the year and so much for Freedom Day!! We now have to wait another few weeks. I wonder whether our local groups and activities will ever start again, it seems it will have to be September now. Someone asked me the other day about the Flower Show, well that will have to wait another year now. It is a shame because a lot of people have been gardening lately.

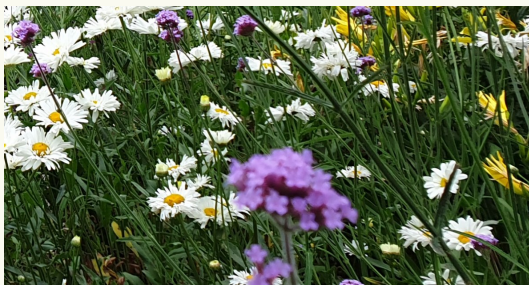
One thing we have been able to keep doing is eat, as many of us can tell by our waistlines. We certainly have plenty of TV programmes about cooking and what we should or should not eat. I watched Kate Humble on her farm a while ago and there's even recipes on there, at least hers are reasonably simple with few ingredients and not about 25. One I tried called Crab Linguine. It is Crabmeat (fresh or tinned) and heated with chopped garlic, chopped chilli, black pepper, lemon juice and olive oil mixed with freshly cooked pasta with chopped salad leaves on top. It was very quick and tasty.

We like to include something a bit homey in the magazine so this month we have a recipe for a trifle. I call it Nancy's trifle as it was given to me by my friend Nancy. Hope you like it, it can be made the day before you want it.

Well, if you have managed to cope with all the roadworks perhaps by next month we really shall be getting back to normal.

But don't throw away your masks yet!

*Betty*



## Aliens in our midst

Have you ever noticed, whilst walking in the countryside, a plant or animal that looks a little out of place?

There are over 3,000 non-native species in Britain. Some species have been introduced intentionally for use in agriculture, forestry etc, but many others accidentally arrive via lorries, cargo ships, and even in the luggage of unsuspecting travellers to our shores.



Many non native species are no problem but introduced species can out-compete native wildlife for resources like food, breeding sites, space etc.

Just looking around my own little patch which is rich in wildlife, I see some of the more common invaders each day.

The muntjac, this small deer from China and Taiwan was brought to Great Britain in 1831 to be kept in collections, but is now common across most of England and Wales. Its grazing can have serious impacts in woodlands where than can clear shrubs and prevent tree generation, affecting other wildlife including birds and butterflies.

The grey squirrel, originally a native of North America were deliberately released into the wild in Great Britain in 1878 and carry a pox virus to which our native red squirrel is very susceptible. Red squirrels have now been wiped out across most of Great Britain. Fortunately they have a stronghold in Scotland and dedicated programmes are helping to ensure their conservation there and elsewhere.

New Zealand pigmyweed—an invasive pond plant which has become especially problematic in the UK. Its established, dense, floating or submerged populations displace native aquatic plants, alter water conditions and rapidly spread—and it does not die back in winter.

The muntjac and grey squirrels I can manage, although it is a constant fight to keep the muntjac from decimating my one

patch of native bluebells in our woodland each year, but I am winning that one. The grey squirrels try their hardest to destroy the bird feeders around the garden, but when they fail just sit underneath waiting for the pieces that the birds drop down.

The New Zealand pigmy weed is the biggest battle, brought in, we think, on the feet of waterfowl. It quickly established itself in the farm pond in the meadow some years ago, and very quickly clogged up most of it. However, for two years the pond has dried up in the hot summer when the water table dropped, and the weed has become more manageable—so fingers crossed with the increased number of ducks using it, together with our geese it will improve.

If you have a problem with non-native species and need to deal with them the website [nbn.org.uk](http://nbn.org.uk) is a good place to start

*Lin Wenlock*

## NANCY'S TRIFLE

### Ingredients:

About 1lb soft fruit (fresh or frozen)

1/2pt. Double Cream

1 Carton Greek Yogurt

Packet Ratafia Biscuits or Macaroons

3oz Demerara Sugar.

Put the fruit in the bottom of a trifle dish and then arrange the biscuits on top. Whip the double cream until stiff and then mix in the yoghurt making sure they are thoroughly mixed. Pour this on top of the biscuits in the dish. Lastly sprinkle the sugar on the top.

Leave overnight in the fridge, when the sugar will caramelise.

\*\*\*\*\*

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**GARDENING NOTES FOR JULY**

The warmer weather has certainly made the weeds grow, parsnip seed for instance can take weeks to germinate, annual weeds a matter of hours!

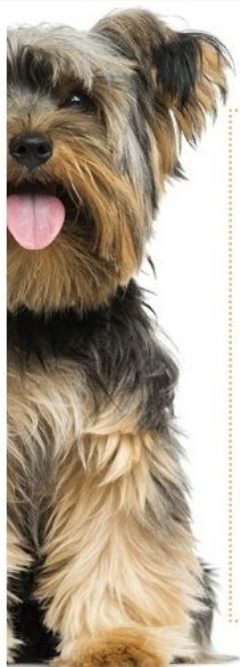
A pest to look out for at the moment are Lily Beetle [Lilloceris family], this scarlet beetle can be found on many species of lily and they will happily chomp their way through the leaves and blooms. The best way to remove them is to put one hand under the leaf or stem and pick off the offending pest, if you do not have a hand under these offenders, they will drop off the host plant and land on their back presenting a dark underside which is almost impossible to see on the ground! If left alone your lilies will become infested with larva which protects itself with its own poo, not good to remove.

In the vegetable garden keep a look out for blight, a fungal disease which attacks potatoes and tomatoes [the same family], if you see brown patches on the leaves or stems of the plant, pick of the leaves or cut down the stems with potatoes spray with a blight control. With tomatoes do not over water and keep the greenhouse well ventilated. Shading applied to the outside of a greenhouse will also keep the inside temperature down. Try and not grow potatoes and tomatoes next to each other outside.

For plant of the month, I have chosen Actinidia kolomikata a climber with a most unusual variegated leaf. It is grown for the foliage and looks stunning with its white leaf showing a pink tip. Plant south facing and in full sun if possible. Prune in late winter. Some of this species have a fruit too. If you do not have a large garden, vegetables can be grown in containers. I find runner beans, carrots, french beans and spring onions do well in a container large enough to sustain full root growth. Feeding is the key; I find tomato food is more than adequate a weekly feed.

Climbing plants will need a tie to keep growth neat and under control, I use good old fashioned green string, there is nothing worse than a climbing plant flopping on the ground or taking over a path or walk way. If your cold frame, plastic roll up frame or greenhouse is empty now is a good time to give it good clean before we start taking cuttings and filling up the space again.  
Enjoy your garden

.....The Arborist.



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**Why not pop in and see.**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

“You can’t come through here!” That was the message I received on two trips to Cressing recently. Once on the morning of taking my very first service at All Saints Church: a telegraph pole had come down and the police had cordoned off the area. Having told them it was my first service at my new church just round the corner they were very helpful and showed me a simple diversion, and we got there in plenty of time.

The second time was a couple of weeks later, and workmen were carrying out repairs by the road side: this time my clerical collar worked a treat. As I rolled down the window to find out what was happening a man asked “Vicar of Dibley?” and then said, “I think we can make an exception” - and lo and behold, the barriers parted before my car - not quite like the Red Sea before Moses, but one can dream!

It made me think that all of us encounter obstacles in life - and at the moment there are simply too many, no need to repeat all the difficulties the pandemic has thrown in our paths.

But, and this is a big but, there almost always is another way, maybe not now, maybe not the way we hoped, but maybe even better.

Faith operates like that: it does not give up on hope or the God who has promised to make a way for us. Faith dares to imagine the impossible, and then finds a way to achieve it.

Driving around Cressing I have noticed a number of works related traffic lights and queues forming either side of them. I’ve also noticed incredible kindness: drivers going out of their way to let those who are trying to join those queues in. There is always a way, either through or around obstacles, and best of all if we tackle them together.

Revd Heike Prentice



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## **News from All Saints Church & St Barnabas**

We held our Annual General Meeting (APCM) on 13<sup>th</sup> June and we thank all members of the PCC, who are happy to continue for another year.

We are so pleased and lucky to have Heike Prentice as our new Priest and we welcome her to our Parish of Cressing.

So now we will be holding regular services starting with the **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 9.00 am, at All Saints and are hoping to increase them at a later date.**

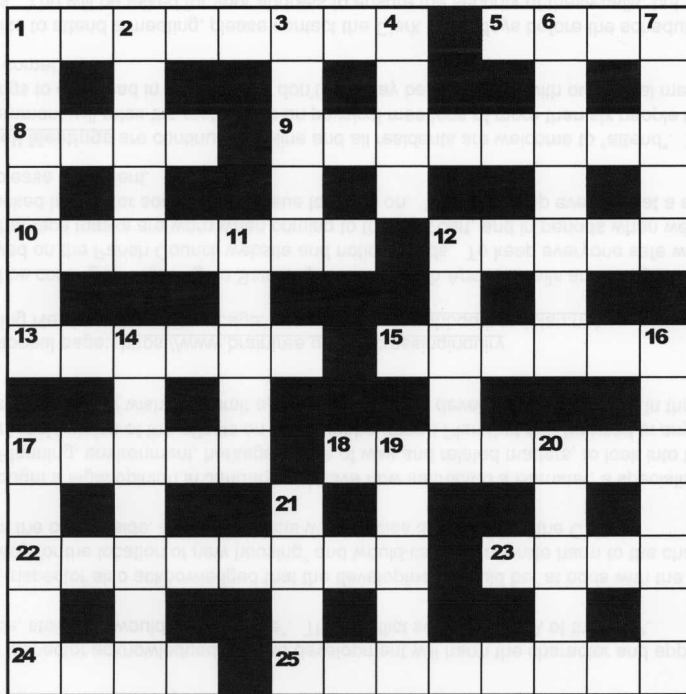
Our new storage shed has been erected, along with a new fence, and we would like to thank Gipping Construction and Eastlight Community Homes for building it for us. It will be a very welcome storage facility for ourselves and the Cressing Events Group.

With all that has happened in the last period, it is now a new and exciting chapter and something very positive to look forward to.

Stay safe, and we hope to see you at Church in the near future,

Peter and Sue Church Wardens

# JULY 2021 CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

1. Start of hockey match (5,3)
5. Lie Down (4)
8. Against (4)
9. Film of current events (8)
10. Someone privy to information not available to others (7)
12. Of doubtful honesty (5)
13. To be acquitted (3,3)
15. Poll (6)
17. Author of 'Iliad'. (5)
18. Team Skipper. (7)
22. Check of attendance register (4,4)
23. Big furry animal (4)
24. Add one's name (4)
25. Desert fruit tree (4-4)

**DOWN**

1. Carrying (7)
2. Eastern Flower (5)
3. Unit of weight approximately equivalent to 28 grams (5)
4. Young deer (4)
6. Protective working garment (7)
7. An assault from an offensive position (5)
11. Postpone (4)
12. Pointed (5)
14. Delay (4-3)
16. Fit of temper (7)
17. One of the Home Counties (5)
18. Share Out (5)
19. An Amphitheatre (5)
20. Cards dealt to a player (4)

ANSWERS TO JUNE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 SCRIMP (6)
- 4 ORCHID (6)
- 7 ERROR (5)
- 8 BRIE (4)
- 9 PAIN (4)
- 10 SHREW (5)
- 12 TEEN (4)
- 15 CEAS (4)
- 17 ABSENCE (7)
- 20 OMEN (4)
- 22 VIOLENT (7)
- 25 WHEEN (5)
- 27 LIME (4)
- 28 RAGE (4)
- 29 CABLE (5)
- 30 GREASE (6)
- 31 SPHERE (6)

DOWN

- 1 SORBET (6)
- 2 REWIRE (6)
- 3 PERCH (5)
- 4 OZONE (5)
- 5 HUMANE (6)
- 6 DRONES (6)
- 11 REEVE (5)
- 13 ELM (3)
- 14 NAN (3)
- 15 CEL (3)
- 16 AIN (3)
- 18 NIELLOS (7)
- 19 CON (3)
- 20 OBLONG (6)
- 21 ERMINE (6)
- 23 ELAPSE (6)
- 24 TEEPEE (6)
- 26 HEAVE (5)



http://www.cartoonists.com

**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the virtual meeting of Cressing Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing**

**Present:** Cllr John Lawton – Chairman; Cllr Colin Haines; Cllr Ali Lapper; Cllr Harvey Porrett and Cllr Toria Rowe

**In attendance:** Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO); County Councillor Paul Thorogood; District Councillor Bob Wright; District Councillor James Abbott and seven members of the public

**21/084 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME AND REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and asked all present to abide by the Covid restrictions as advertised. He then reported as follows:

- i. Introduced County Cllr Paul Thorogood who was elected to his post following the May election.
- ii. Attendance at the “Getting Back into Communities” event held in May was disappointing. As this was an initiative by Essex Police and Braintree District Council to assist residents following the Covid lockdowns, it had to be held during the day which limited those who could attend. District Cllrs Wright and Abbott, along with Parish Cllrs Porrett and Haines were thanked for their attendance and engagement with those residents who did attend.
- iii. An update on the planning situation for The Willows (Il Salice) had been received and reported. The Clerk will maintain contact with BDC Planning in an effort to get this resolved as quickly as possible. **Ongoing action: Clerk**

**21/085 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllr Simpson, but no reason had been provided, and Cllr Watts. Cllrs agreed to accept these apologies. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Haines.**

**21/086 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct Order 2007 (SI 2007/1159) (The Revised Code) with the additional, non-mandatory, section 12(2). There were no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to items on the agenda to be recorded.

**21/087 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

The Clerk confirmed that two requests to speak had been received.

- i. Bulford Mill Lane – a resident provided a statement to the meeting of the traffic issues experienced by residents, particularly at the blind ‘L’ bend by the Mill. Traffic has increased considerably and on average 140 vehicles per hour use this road. Occurrences of driver arguments/ confrontations, vehicles leaving the road into gardens, loss of natural wildlife, disturbance caused by the beeping of horns and damage to property due to unsuitable vehicles ignoring the weight restrictions. It was also noted that as well as vehicles being stranded when the ford is flooded, the River Brain now floods across the road. Following discussions, **it was agreed** that applications should be submitted to Braintree Local Highways Panel for schemes to alleviate or complete resolve the issues, including permanent traffic lights to provide directional traffic, access only status, or “no through road” restrictions. Both District and County Cllrs agreed they

would support these applications. **Action: Clerk**

- ii. Apparently, Essex Police have confirmed they will be starting an anti-speeding campaign quite soon, targeting known speeding areas (e.g. Mill Lane). It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to the Chief Constable and MP highlighting the serious concerns in Cressing about speeding and the volume of traffic using unsuitable roads and asking for urgent attention. **Action: Clerk**
- iii. The Parish Council was requested to contact the Williams Group asking them to commence the road layout (roundabout and re-routing) associated with the development 18/00549/OUT on land between Long Green and Braintree Road as this would alleviate some of the problems with the footpath and vegetation along the section of the B1018 at the sharp bend. **It was agreed** to submit a Rangers Request for the vegetation to be cleared. **Action: Clerk**
- iv. Overgrown vegetation elsewhere in the parish – the Parish Council will be attending to this.
- v. A member of the public raised some other points that have been discussed at length at previous meetings and also by email correspondence. The Chairman advised that these repetitive requests would not be permitted to take up time at future meetings. All Cllrs agreed this approach.

### 21/088 REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

After introducing himself to the meeting County Cllr Thorogood confirmed he is a member of the non-aligned group at ECC that includes Councillors from different areas in Essex as well as some residents, forming the official opposition to the Conservative party at ECC. Cllr Thorogood has been appointed to the Development and Regulation Committee that considers applications in respect of minerals and waste. He will also sit on the Braintree Local Highways Panel. He then reported that:

- i. A resident of The Street reported an incident involving a speeding vehicle.
- ii. A meeting with the Local Highways Panel Officer is to be held w/c 14<sup>th</sup> June, to look at all outstanding applications for Cressing and to discuss potential solutions to the traffic issues in the parish.
- iii. Applications for the LHP will be supported by Cllr Thorogood.

Cllr Abbott reported:

1. He and Cllr Wright were pleased to attend the Community Event and will support other initiatives depending on their availability.
2. There are potential schemes for development of a further 2,000 dwellings in the Ward of Silver End and Cressing over the next five years.
3. Consultation of Part 2 of the Braintree Local Plan is scheduled in July and it is vital for this to be passed to call a partial halt to further development. Braintree District now has sufficient development plan passed to fulfil the housing supply for 5.3 years, as well as sites within the plan to meet the housing need to 2033.
4. Two consultations at BDC are in progress: Climate Change and Cycleways.
5. New planning delegation rules will be implemented soon that will reduce the number of applications referred to the Planning Committee for determination. The categories of applications for officer decision will be wider.
6. Essex Highways continue to be chased to repair potholes in Crossing roads.

7. Essex Highways have reviewed verge cutting and the number of cuts will be reduced with the objective of rewilding these areas to create a more sustainable environment without compromising road/public safety. This will include those verges within village envelopes.
8. An enquiry has been made for the amount of S.106 fuds available for extending the Silver End Doctors' Surgery which provides services to many Cressing residents. It is understood that BDC now owns the building. Cllr Abbott agreed that some hedges are in need of trimming, particularly the one at Ashes Corner that obstructs the view for motorists turning out of Lanham Green Road. The Clerk will look into getting this cutback. **Action: Clerk**

**21/089 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the general business Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Porrett, all in favour.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**21/090 FINANCE**

- i. **Progress against budget:** The Clerk/RFO referred to the reports issued with the Agenda. There were no queries, and the reports were accepted. **Proposed: Cllr Lapper, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**
- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021: It was resolved** that the bank reconciliation statement at 31<sup>st</sup> March be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Lapper, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve May 2021 Payments/Cheques:** The list of payments made and cheques to be signed against May expenditure was presented. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Lapper, seconded Cllr Rowe, all in favour.** Cllrs Lawton and Haines signed the cheques.

**21/091 PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY IN CRESSING**

The Clerk advised that as Cllrs were unable to take part in a video call to discuss options for Cressing, a telephone conversation was held with North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) who undertake these issues for Braintree, Colchester and Uttlesford councils. They recognized the particular issues in the parish and felt there was no “easy” solution that would satisfy the needs of residents and the school. There are several options available, including: residents only parking (permits cost £50 for first car, £85 for further cars) and restricted parking during certain periods. It was explained that for any scheme to be introduced there needs to be 75% support from residents.

In view of the many issues, it was agreed that a date should be found when Cllrs can discuss the options fully with NEPP. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported on a conversation with resident, Mr Michael Gammans, who has been successful, after two years, in establishing a Community Speedwatch Group. He has engaged the requisite number of volunteers but will be seeking more so that Tye Green area can be included. Residents Messrs Fitch and Perkins confirmed they have joined the group and Mr Fitch will be seeking further volunteers.

The Clerk asked Cllrs if they could agree to the purchase of the necessary equipment: Unipar SL700 laser speed meter as recommended by CSW at a cost of £2.225. Full training will be provided to the volunteers by CSW. **This was agreed. Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Lawton, all in favour. Action: Clerk**



The suggestion was also put forward that a mobile interactive speed sign could be obtained. After discussion it was agreed that a decision should be delayed but in the meantime the Clerk will obtain information and prices for suitable equipment as this could complement the efforts of the Speedwatch Group. **Action: Clerk**

### 21/092 PLANNING

To note Appeals determined by the Planning Inspectorate: None advised

To discuss Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate: None advised.

To note Applications determined by Braintree District Council:

21/00900/HH | First floor side extension and front porch. | Thyme Cottage The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DG

21/00909/HH | Proposed single storey rear extension. | Atitlan The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DG

21/01102/TPOCON | carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 Blue Spruce tree | The Old Post Office The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DQ

To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council: None advised

To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council and consider if comments should be made (Householder Application, General Permitted Development Order)

21/01564/VAR | Variation of Conditions 2 (Approved Drawings) and 3 (Materials) of permission 19/01646/HH granted 02/01/2020 for Proposed extensions and alterations. Variation to allow: - Change of external material. - Single-storey extensions. - Remodelling dormer windows. - Alterations to roof light. | Spring Cottage The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DG

21/01657/HHPA | Application for prior approval of a proposed enlargement of a dwellinghouse by construction of additional storey with a maximum height of 8.7 metres | 23 Mill Lane Cressing Essex CM77 8HN

21/01408/HH | Single-storey rear extension and partial conversion of garage into habitable accommodation | 38 Crozier Drive Cressing Braintree Essex CM77 8GE

There were no comments to be submitted.

To note applications bordering parish for information and to consider if comments should be made – Longfield Solar Farm, north-east of Chelmsford. *Noted, no comments to be submitted.*

### 21/093 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**Playing field** - the Clerk reported that the manhole in the car park at the playing field had partially collapsed and needed repairing. **It was agreed to delegate this to the Chairman and Clerk to obtain best price for repair and instruct the work to be undertaken. Action: Clerk**

Items for inclusion on the June Agenda:

*Parking and road safety*

*Playing field report and improvements*

*Rainbow Field*

*Open Day for Cressing residents*

### 21/094 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

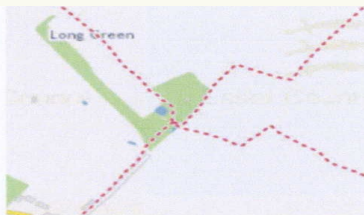
The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at **7.00pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG**. Social distancing will be implemented and face masks must be worn as applicable under Covid regulations.

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Dates of 2021 meetings

July	14	7.00pm
August	9	
September	8	
October	13	
November	10	
December	8	



**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL**

**ALERT for walkers, hikers and dog walkers**

The Parish Council is seeking volunteers to take on the inspection of footpaths in the Parish. This would suit anyone who is a regular dog walker, or someone who just likes walking in the fresh air. All that is required of you is to make a note of any footpaths (Public Rights of Way) that are difficult to use through overgrown vegetation, brambles and nettles or blocked by obstacles; footbridges that are in need of repair and anything else that might prevent or endanger anyone using the path.

These incidents can be reported on-line directly to Essex Highways who are responsible for ensuring footpaths and bridle ways are passable and the report number advised to the Clerk.

If you would like to get involved or would like further information, please contact the Parish Clerk, Christine, by email to [clerk@cressing-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cressing-pc.gov.uk) or call 01376 329288 (Weds or Thurs 9.00am til 3.00pm or 07933 306927).



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### Your Heritage and Culture needs you

We have spoken of metal theft before, seeing it in many forms i.e. the theft of catalytic convertors from the exhaust system on cars and vans, lead from roofs old and modern rural and urban, cabling for utilities such as telecommunications and many other examples from around us where there are valuable metals. This time we are focusing on our heritage and culture under threat, and again seeking those extra pairs of eyes to report anything that you believe is suspicious.

The country and our county are full of a wealth of heritage and culture each telling a story of our past, some listed others not, some attractive and others perhaps not so attractive but each with a story. Our heritage and culture have been there for past and present generations to discover, enquire, learn from and enjoy and we need to protect it for future generations; it's like a piece of a jigsaw if a piece is missing the picture is not complete. A heritage asset cannot be replaced, when it's gone it's gone, when its damaged it may not be possible to repair that damage satisfactorily and future generations are deprived of it.

Heritage crime comes in many forms, these are but a few:

- ◆ The theft of lead from a roof and its resultant water damage causing catastrophic damage to a church or other heritage building potentially also causing the cancellation of a wedding or other function.
- ◆ Our heritage buildings, grounds and structures also suffer from the theft of paving stones, bricks, and other architectural masonry.
- ◆ Monuments and memorials suffer from damage, and theft, often of metal plaques bearing the names of events of those recognised.
- ◆ Royal mail post boxes many unique and recognised from a specific period in time are stolen.
- ◆ Burglaries from historic venues and museums like that recently from Arundel Castle that stolen including the Gold Rosary Beads carried by Mary Queen of Scots at her execution in 1587, many visitors would have looked in awe of it and its history within its showcase.
- ◆ 'Nighthawking' the theft of archaeological material by unlawful metal detecting on scheduled monuments.
- ◆ Graffiti to heritage structures.

All these crimes will not only have a detrimental impact on their custodians but also on the local community, families, and those from further afield. Some locations will be isolated and others may not, some may have neighbours, visitors, passer-by's, dog walkers, horse riders, hikers and more; see something suspicious report it to staff where appropriate, or the police using 999 if you believe a crime is in progress or 101, online or chat if not an emergency. **Don't know where you are use the "What Three Words" App <https://what3words.com/products/what3words-app/>** police and other emergency services use it.

So, what can be done? We can make it more difficult to steal and we can make it more difficult to dispose of.

Report any suspicious activity: i.e. the car or other vehicle parked up in a suspicious manner or seemingly out of place going down that lonely lane to an isolated church, unusual activity around a church, heritage or other building when it's not normal especially on a roof, unmarked vehicle with people removing a mailbox, unusual activity on a known scheduled monument or late evening/night metal detecting. **NB** – If you have planned building work let your neighbours, parishioners, employees know including who they are, what hours they will be there and provide an emergency contact number.

Make it harder to steal: i.e. reduce access make them walk further and into public view especially when protecting buildings and their roofs, remove aids to the thief i.e. tools to do the job and climbing aids or something to carry their ill-gotten gains away, consider an alarm, with lead from roofs especially try and make access difficult subject to certain conditions you could use a spiky topping around downpipes fencing and roofs. Consider electronic security and CCTV.

Making it harder to dispose of: to start off with if its less attractive its less likely to be stolen so appropriate property marking and signage may deter. Property marking makes it harder to dispose of, and there is something for almost everything from historic artefacts on the seabed to catalytic convertor to roofing material to your day to day property. **NB seek advice and the relevant authorities before marking heritage items.** An unmarked piece of property can be anonymous when stolen, in most cases we don't know where it came from and therefore any prosecution is that much more difficult. A thief will know this and therefore anything that ties it back to the owner presents a risk not only to the thief but also to the handler, if the handler will not take it or it causes difficult questions at a boot fair or other then it's not worth stealing it in the first place.

If you are buying a piece of history, heritage stone, architectural masonry etc. question its provenance, where it came from, legitimacy of the seller, if in doubt report it to Trading Standards or the Police.

Essex is one of a growing number of counties in the network of Heritage Watches, talking to each other, with members helping to protect our heritage for this and future generations. Protect your neighbourhood by setting up a Neighbourhood Watch, Heritage Watch or Business Watch if you have not got one, the signage deters, and many eyes are better than one pair.

For further advice on heritage crime and crime prevention see:

[www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/](http://www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/) or <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/heritage-crime/>

For further information on Heritage Watch email:

[essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk](mailto:essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk)

Stephen Armson-Smith

Essex Police Heritage Crime Prevention Lead SAS020621

**CRESSING COMMUNITY CHURCH****A new brand name but still under the same management.**

It has now been over twenty years since I was called to be the new Minister of **Cressing Evangelical Church** and so much has changed. At that time, the congregation still met in the original 1909 building that cost round £500 to build. By 2000 the building was 'not fit for purpose' because the traditional style of worship was changing and reflected a more relevant act of worship. What did not change was that Jesus Christ was always at the centre of our Church life. During this time, the Church building was being used more in the daytime, a morning pre-school and afternoon events such as 'Tea for one' and 'afternoon tea with Jeff Lucas' and various evening events. This meant that both the Worship area and the Church Hall were much in demand.

After spending a considerable amount of money trying to update the buildings a bit at a time, it came to a point when the building was 'really not fit for purpose' and the decision was made to rebuild a new Church and Hall. This process took just over three years and cost around £300.000. We now have a Church that is 'fit purpose', a purpose that has also been changing. First, and foremost, it is a place of Christian worship, where Jesus Christ is at its centre. However, it has become more outward looking and being involved more in the local community: For example, the church works closely with Cressing Primary School, Cressing Events Volunteers, running the Local Food bank for local people during this Pandemic. We participated in the development of the Local Neighbourhood Plan; we support local events and arrange local events, such as the Christmas Tree festivals, Scarecrow competitions, dog shows, raising money for local charities, as well as our church.

So, after a lot of thought and prayer, the Church has made the decision to rename the building as **Cressing Community Church**, to reflect that we are a **Bible Centred Local Church** situated within the community with a heart for the community, sharing God's love and truth. You can find out more about us on our website: [www.cressingchurch.org](http://www.cressingchurch.org).

PS. The new name: Cressing Community Church.

The same management team for over 2000 years: is God the Father,  
God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Our Sunday service is held at 10.30 every week.

Sadly, as the Covid restrictions were not lifted in June, our first Cafe Church will not take place until August and Bible Study not until September.

## **CRESSING COMMUNITY CHURCH** **sharing God's love and truth where we are**

Dear friends

There are many stories in the Bible about people's lives that were changed after an encounter with Jesus. Some accepted that change with open arms, other rejected change, for example there was a young rich man who asked Jesus this question "Good teacher what do I have to do to have eternal life" Jesus replied, "Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven." Then follow me". When he had heard this, he was incredibly sad because he was of great wealth." He returned home because he put his own personal wealth and position before his desire of eternal life. Now contrast the reaction by another rich person named Zacchaeus who was a very wealthy tax collector. Tax collectors worked for Roman occupiers and were hated by the Jewish people because they also cheated people by over charging the tax amount due and pocketed the difference. When Zacchaeus had an encounter with Jesus it was life changing. He gave half his possessions to the poor and to those he had cheated, he paid back four times the amount.

Two lives linked by wealth and separated by their encounter with Jesus. Not everyone's encounter with Jesus is so dramatic but any encounter with Jesus demands a reaction, and depending on your reaction, that encounter will shape your future in this life and eternity.

You might think or say 'that happened over 2000 years ago so what relevance is it today?' Well, it happened to me and certainly changed my life completely, and multitudes of people can now understand what the French philosopher Pascal wrote: "there is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every person, and it can never be filled by any created thing. It can only be filled by God, made known through Jesus Christ." (paraphrased)

When you have an encounter with Jesus Christ your life will be changed just as Simon Pinchbeck's was, so we have invited Simon to our Men's Breakfast on 17<sup>th</sup> July\*, to speak about his life as a **Copper**, a **Criminal**, then after an encounter with Jesus, a **Christian**. Why not come and enjoy a Full English Breakfast? You never know if you too may have an encounter with Jesus!

Every blessing in His name

*Dennis*

\*Breakfast starts at 8:30 and will finish about 10:00. Numbers will be restricted at this event to conform with current Covid restrictions so please ring Dennis on 07792895711 to book your place.

# CRESSING COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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### CRESSING EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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Contact after 19.00 any day except Tuesday: 345521

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Deanna: 07734910551

### CRESSING FACEBOOK SITES

Cressing Awareness  
Cressing Community Changes  
A copy of this magazine may also be accessed at  
[cressingmag.co.uk](http://cressingmag.co.uk)

The last date for copy for the following month's edition of the magazine is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month and should be sent to ; Cressing Community Magazine, c/o The Parish Office, St. Barnabas Church, Claude Ince Avenue, Tye Green, Cressing.

On A4 paper please, or by e-mail to; [dandwtilbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dandwtilbury@hotmail.co.uk) ( Note:-copy may be edited)

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