

Vol. 31 No.2

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# Cressing Community Magazine



March 2022



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**EDITORIAL March:**



Well. I was going to say that March often comes in like a lion and goes out like lamb, but the lion was bit early and came on February 18<sup>th</sup> when we were all advised to stay indoors with gales that apparently were the worst for thirty years with trees and fences blown down.

What a storm it was, I think most people suffered some damage and quite a few people had a power cut as well.

However, quite a few brave souls attended the Events Committee Pasty and Chips lunch at St. Barnabas. The next Events Committee event will be a Soup Lunch on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at the Cressing Community Church in The Street at 12 noon, please book of you wish to come.

Talking of events, the usual Cressing Connections coffee morning organised by Sandra Spalding on 8<sup>th</sup> February was a MacMillan Coffee Morning in aid of the MacMillan Charity. It was a great success and raised over £700 (see report inside)

Betty



**MARCH DIARY**

Tues 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Art Group meet at St. Barnabas  
10.00am-1.00pm

Mon.7<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library calls in Jeffreys Road 10.20am

Tues.8<sup>th</sup> Cressing Connections Coffee Morning in St. Barnabas  
11.00am-1.00pm.

Sat.12<sup>th</sup> Beetle Drive at Cressing Community Church 7.00pm  
£5. Including refreshments.

Sun.13<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion at All Saints Church 9.00am

Tues.22<sup>nd</sup> Events Committee Soup Lunch at Cressing Community  
Church 12noon-2.00pm Cost £2.

Thurs.24<sup>th</sup> Knit and Natter Group in St/ Barnabas 2.00-4.00pm.



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## Gardening Corner- March 2022

At last, the days are becoming longer and the bulbs mentioned last month are flowering, giving a hint of spring.

I came across an article recently regarding Peonies. A colourful perennial that can be propagated by cutting away a section of the crown using a sharp spade. Take a wedge with 2 or 3 buds protruding and some root growth at the base. Plant in a well-drained location incorporating some compost in the planting hole. Do not plant too deeply but water well to start with and cover the buds with fleece or a little soil if a severe frost is forecast.

Now is the time to nip the tops out of sweet pea seedlings, this will encourage the young plants to bush out and make a studier specimen.

This month's recommended plant is Bergenia {sometimes known as Elephant's Ears}. It makes an ideal plant for a shady location and will flower from early spring onwards. There are numerous colour variants from white, pinks through to purple and the leaf also looks quite attractive. A good companion plant with Myosotis {Forget-me-not} in the early part of the year. Bergenia grow on a rhizome, it can be divided periodically. Just cut a 3" section and pot on until the young plant is showing leaf growth, then plant out in a flower border ready for the following year.

Snowdrops can be lifted and divided now, while they are 'in the green', thin out the bulbs and replant in groups of three, five or seven.

Another job for this time of year is putting up training wires on walls and fences. As climbers grow, they benefit from support and tying in.

The Victorians were great lovers of the herbaceous border and they often placed paving stones at the back of a border to make it easier for weeding and to stop soil compaction. I randomly place a paving stone or slab in a border or bed; these can become a feature and provide something to stand on when you cannot work from the path or lawn.

Lawns can be edged with an iron or a spade, try and keep to the existing shape of the flower bed otherwise the lawn becomes smaller and the bed larger.

Lastly, there are a good range of seeds available from numerous outlets, the varieties for sale provide plenty of choice.

Happy gardening.....The Arborist



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## MacMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



On the second Tuesday of every month it is the Connections Coffee Morning at St. Barnabas organised by Sandra Spading but in February on the 8<sup>th</sup> she organised a MacMillan Coffee Morning. She had cooked many cakes and some friends had cooked a few more. Cakes were on sale either whole or by the slice and tea and coffee was available. There was also a Tombola, a Guessing game for a toy dog and books and jigsaws were on sale.

The display of cakes and goodies on entering the hall was mouth-watering and enticing and if you arrived a bit late it was difficult to find a seat as it was so well attended.

Any cakes left over were donated to the Salvation Army Hostel in Braintree.

Sandra really did a wonderful job and the amazing total raised (to date) was £723 for the MacMillan Charity - a brilliant effort.



## CRESSING EVENTS VOLUNTEERS

Of all the days to hold our February Lunch the 18<sup>th</sup> was not the best with Gale winds raging, so our thanks to those that braved the weather. For this month's event, Pasty and Chips we were at St. Barnabas Church hall, our thanks for the use of your hall and equipment. As always "Cyprus Fish Bar" did not let us down, our pasty and chips arrived nice and hot, and were enjoyed by all, we had to have a quick race round to get meals to those who could not make it due to the weather.

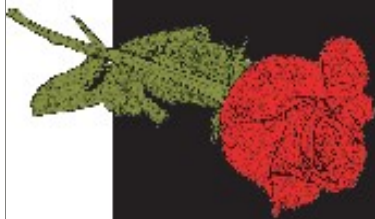
After the meal, with tea and coffee served, we played a game of Hoy, that had been requested, then on to our quiz results, followed by our raffle to see who would again be lucky.

Talking of luck, we are so lucky to have so many guests and team members, and now, friends who donate gifts to add to our raffle, thank you so much.

Our next event is a **Soup Lunch on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Cressing Community Church Hall, The Street, from 12.00 till 2.00pm**, the cost is just £2.00 so why not give it a try, what can you lose, it would be nice to have some new faces, and I promise we will do our best to make you welcome, but we need you to book, by **contacting Pam or Jackie on 584170 or 327064.**

Arthur - On behalf of the CEV Team

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## VICAR'S MESSAGE

Albert Einstein is quoted as saying 'If people only talked about what they understood, earth would be a quiet place. He may be right, but I am sure we would soon get bored of the quiet too. It's good to talk, about important and unimportant things, because language is what we use to communicate, it's how we express our appreciation, gratitude and love for each other.

Yes, talking and listening to one another is a blessing. It gets a bit trickier when we stray from talking to each other to talking about each other. Sometimes motivated by care and concern we easily stray into hearsay, gossip or worse, slander. And we all know how destructive and unfair this is – the other person is not around and cannot defend themselves or set the record straight.

And every now and then we all become aware or hear about what someone else has said about us. And that hurts. It leaves us disempowered and frustrated, because shadow boxing is pointless. But over the years I have learnt that others will talk about me – both good and bad, and not just because I am the vicar, it's just a fact of life.

Then I call the wise words of Ecclesiastes 7.21-22 to mind: "Do not give heed to everything that people say, or you may hear your servant cursing you; your heart knows that many times you have yourself cursed others."

Rather than 'cursing' let's say 'speaking badly', and not giving heed literally translated means not to take what we've heard said to our hearts, because if we do, then that's where the damage happens. Instead let it pass through: in one ear and out through the other. Through traffic rather than end of the line.

And there is a simple remedy. We can choose to talk kindly and well too each other and about each other – and while gossip tears down, speaking well about the other builds everyone up. I wonder if as people, as a church, as a community of people we could imagine and commit to finding good to talk about each other – every day, every time?

It's infectious and praising others is good for own soul. I think we are all too aware of our own shortcomings and those of others, no need to rehearse those, instead let's focus on all that is good and noble and believe in the best in others.

Because that's how God sees us – at least that's the impression you get from reading the bible. People with blatant flaws and shortcomings are praised for their faith and trust in God, and He thinks well of them – and if we allow ourselves to believe it – he also thinks well of us. And ultimately what He says matters most! Isn't that good?

With love and blessings,

*Heiko*



## MY 'AUNTIE PAT'

When I was a child, unlike my other friends, I had no aunts or uncles, my parents both were 'only children'. There were times when my friends went off to stay with, or were taken to see cousins when I cried, not understanding at such an early age why these were missing from my life.



Then a cousin of my mother came to the rescue, she decreed that as she was my 'godmother' she would become my aunt. I was so excited suddenly I had an 'Auntie Pat'. All my life I have been very close to her as she never married and had no children of her own. She was an exciting person, lived life to the full, worked in many various countries, when she was back home would always be there to take me to visit interesting things and places.

After my mother died she moved to Cornwall to be close to some of her old army friends, by this time I was married and it was exciting to be able to spend holidays with her, and to know that she had friends around her in times of need, as now I am her closest family member left.

During the war she served in the army in the same regiment as the Queen, and it was with great excitement last year she told us that she had been interviewed and filmed by the BBC for a programme to be shown later this year for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We laughed it had taken her to get to the age of 95 to become a TV celebrity and make a name for herself.

It is with a heavy heart that I am hoping that she will live to see the programme. On Christmas Eve she was bitten by her cat, which in turn led to sepsis necessitating a short spell in hospital. My daughter went down to stay so that there would be someone to look after her when she got home—she had been Auntie to her as well, as I too had no brothers or sisters.

Unfortunately during her first night home she suffered a stroke, and was taken back into hospital. The stroke left her unable to communicate and affected her swallowing, at first she could still walk but that is no longer the case. Sadly there was no visiting allowed at the first hospital she was in because of the Covid pandemic. When she was moved to a specialist hospital they allowed one visitor a day in the six bed ward, rotating it so each patient had a visitor every third day. My daughter stayed on in Cornwall until the rules reverted back to no visitors.

There is a little light at the end of the tunnel, although Auntie Pat is still very weak, she is now in a wonderful nursing home for palliative care where the staff are very caring and dedicated. She communicates a little now by smiles and a few words, not many that make sense, and also by waves. It has been explained to me that the stroke has made her brain work backwards. If she says no, it usually means yes. If she says yes it might mean no. So by smiles and waves the staff can understand her.

Her friends have devised a rota so that someone will visit every day, they don't stay too long as it tires her quite quickly. I have been able to see her on a number of occasions, encountering the beginning of the great storm in Cornwall which then followed me back to Cressing !

Auntie Pat has been a legend in my life and also my family. Her bungalow is filled with memories, photographs and drawings of my children and grandchildren, but without her presence it feels like an empty shell.



*Lin Wenlock*



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cooking for easter -

HOT CROSS BUNS



After years of trying, this recipe for Hot Cross Buns seems to work!

Ingredients: 6oz wholemeal flour  
 10oz strong white flour  
 1 tsp salt  
 3 tsp mixed spice  
 2oz light muscovado sugar  
 1oz fresh yeast  
 1 tsp honey  
 8 fl oz warm water  
 2 tbsp sour dough starter (optional)  
 2oz butter, melted  
 1 large egg  
 3oz each sultanas and mixed candied peel  
 zest of a lemon.

To finish:  
 1 beaten egg  
 4oz pastry for crosses  
 2 tbsp caster sugar  
 2 tbsp boiling water

Mix the flour, salt, spice and sugar in large bowl. In a small bowl cream the yeast with the honey until it becomes liquid. Pour in warm water and add about a tbsp of the flour mix. Stir well and then leave in a warm place for about 10 min. or until frothy.

Once the yeast is bubbling, add it, plus the egg and melted butter, to the flour. The sour dough starter should be added now if used. Mix the ingredients well, beating with a wooden spoon. Beat in the fruit and zest, then cover the bowl and put in a warm place.

Leave the dough until it has at least doubled in size. This may take about 2 hours so do not rush the rising. The end result depends on enough time being allowed for the dough to prove properly.

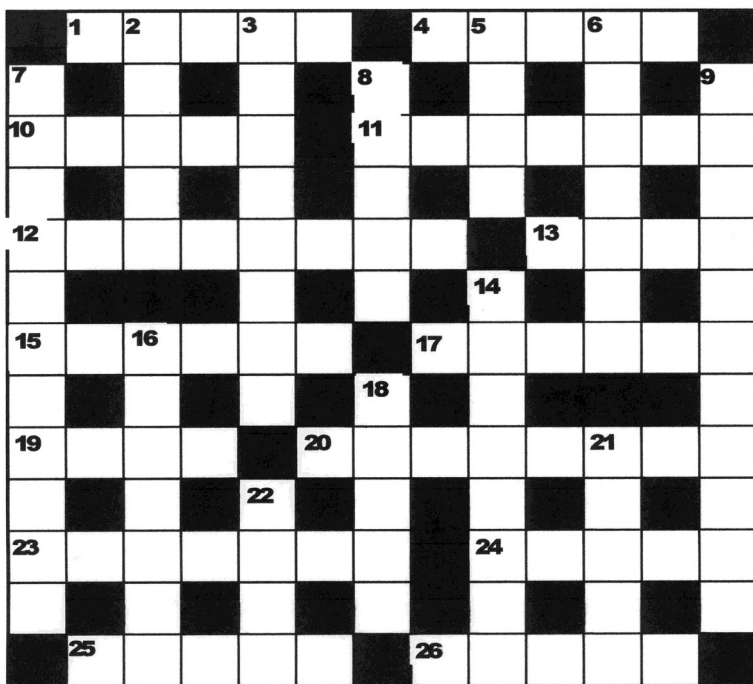
Tip or scrape the dough on to a floured board and cut into 18 pieces. Knead each one into a bun and place on greased baking sheets.

Cover with a damp cloth and again put to rise in a warm place; the dough should double in size but this time the rising will be shorter, about 20-30 minutes. At the same time switch the oven on to 220oC/425oF/Mk.7. and allow to heat.

Roll out the pastry and cut into fine strips. Using the beaten egg brush the top of each bun, then lay two strips of pastry over to form a cross.

Bake the buns in the hot oven for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown.  
 Mix the caster sugar with the water to make a sugar glaze; stir until dissolved.  
 Remove the buns from the oven and immediately brush with the glaze. Allow to cool on a rack.

# MARCH CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. Broken or destroyed (5)
4. Active bread ingredient (5)
10. A style of abstract art (2,3)
11. A favourable omen (7)
12. State of depression (3,5)
13. Decision made by umpire or referee (4)
15. Metal that has corroded (6)
17. Small pavilion structure affording shade (6)
19. Round Dutch cheese (4)
20. Surname of famous film director (8)
23. Shore of ocean regarded as a resort (7)
24. Egyptian peninsular (5)
25. Not at all (5)
26. Military trainee (5)

## DOWN

2. Proverb or short statement (5)
3. Land not prepared for a crop (8)
5. Achieved without great effort (4)
6. Obsolete spelling of fomon cultivated herb or the goosefoot family (7)
7. Mischievous ghost (11)
8. Tree of the birch family producing edible nuts (5)
9. Politics based on practical factors (11)
14. South East Asian Country (8)
16. An act of scaling a wall (7)
18. Celestial object (5)
21. To scorch or bur slightly (5)
22. To place things on top of each other (4)

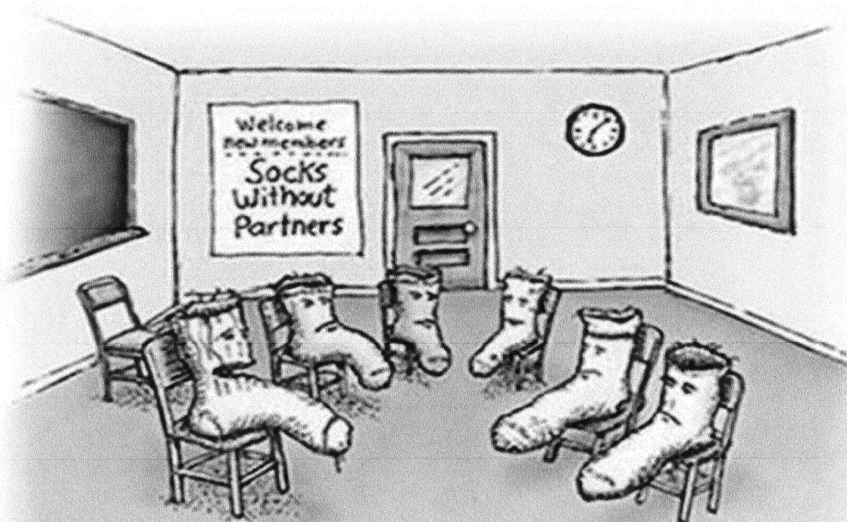
**ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

- 1 ACCRA (5)
- 4 TURQUOISE (9)
- 9 BALACLAVA (9)
- 10 THUMB (5)
- 11 SCRIMP (6)
- 13 ANDSAVE (7)
- 15 CHAPERON (8)
- 16 RAGE (4)
- 20 DAME (4)
- 21 PAPALIST (8)
- 24 MEATAXE (7)
- 26 STARES (6)
- 28 CURIA (5)
- 29 SCARIFIED (9)
- 30 LANDREEVE (9)
- 31 SAVER (5)

**DOWN**

- 2 CLAPS (5)
- 3 ARCHIVES (8)
- 4 TeASPOON (8)
- 5 REAGAN (6)
- 6 UNTIDY (6)
- 7 INULA (5)
- 8 EMBLEMENTS (10)
- 12 CLAIM (5)
- 14 ACADEMICAL (10)
- 17 AFIRE (5)
- 18 RATSNAKE (8)
- 19 VAGARIES (8)
- 22 BAZAAR (6)
- 23 LESSEE (6)
- 25 APRON (5)
- 27 SUEDE (5)



**"The last thing I remember is being thrown into the dryer."**

## Cressing Community Church

Sharing God's love and truth where we are

After the last parish magazine was published, I noticed that I had made a mistake in the heading, I missed out the word 'we'. I'm sure many noticed the error. In my defence, if I needed one, I rely on the church administrator to proof read the article, but to be honest that's just shifting the blame! We all make mistakes, some are funny, some are foolish and some are harmful. For example, when I was six years old, my two elder brothers decide to run away from home so I followed them, but after about thirty minutes they realized it was dinner time and turned back towards home. As I was lagging behind them, they forgot to tell me, so I started to make my own way home. I took a short cut through the park which involved me squeezing through the park railings only to get my head stuck! Fortunately for me, it was outside the local Salvation Army Hall. People heard my cries for help and a lovely came to comfort me. Quickly the fire brigade was called, arrived and started to saw through the railings. By then a rather large crowd was gathering so a quick thinking Salvationist provided cups of tea and biscuits. The large crowd attracted the attention of Jack's the local ice-cream man who stopped, sounded his bell and started selling ice cream!

By then, my mum and dad with my two downcast brothers came looking for me. As they rounded the corner and saw the commotion, they were so embarrassed they quickly went back home and waited for my return!

A silly mistake which still brings a smile when I think about 'the day I got my head stuck in the railings'. As I look back at the mistakes I've made, the most harmful was thinking I was a Christian when I was not. I was Christened, went to Sunday school and the Scouts monthly Church Parade. I went to Church at Christmas, Easter, and Harvest time and got married in a Church but none of this made me a Christian. It was only when I realized this massive mistake that I had to find out what I needed to do and know, to become a Christian.

When my wife, Marian and I started our Christian journey, the first thing we both had to do was to acknowledge, that despite many years of thinking we were Christians, we were not. Once that realization sunk home, we started attending the Church where both of our children went to Sunday School, meeting the Reverend Norman Burrows, a Yorkshire man who did not mince his words. Bit by bit, our lives were transformed, on 13th November 1991, I wrote in my new Bible, 'Dennis Ivey who fell in love with Jesus on the 7th January 1991. When Jesus uses the words 'it is written' in any of His discussions, that settled the matter for Him'. That reason alone should be sufficient for all Christians.

We read in Titus 1 verse 2 'And if all this is the Word of God, then it must be true for God cannot lie'. If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, just give me a call and I would love to share with you how God saved and transformed my life and hope. He can do the same for you!

Every Blessing in His Name

*Dennis*





**What's on at CRESSING COMMUNITY CHURCH  
March 2022**

**Sunday 6th Cafe Church**

Breakfast is served from **09.30 until 10.15** followed at **10.30** by a short, lively, all-age service. Refreshments will be served following the service.

If you don't fancy breakfast, just come for the service.



**Thursday 10th 19.00 Bible Study - Galatians**

**Saturday 12th 09.00 Prayer Meeting**  
**19.00 Beetle Drive £5 including refreshments**

**Sunday 13th 10.30 Morning Worship**  
Children join their parents for the start of the service then attend their own ARK group

**Thursday 17th 19.00 Bible Study - Galatians**

**Saturday 19th 08.30 Men's Breakfast with guest speaker**

<b>Services</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>
<b>Sundays at 10.30</b>	<b>Thursdays at 19.00</b>	<b>Saturdays at 09.00</b>
		except Men's Breakfast event

**February Film Night**

Whilst the hall was not full, we had a good mix of people from outside the church as well as those from the church community, for our Film Night on 11th February. We watched a lovely, feel-good film, The Fisherman's Friend, that had us tapping our toes in time to the music and joining in with the words we knew.

Our next film night will be held in May, so why not join us, Popcorn and ice cream provided.

**Future Events**

**April Saturday 9th 19.00 Family Quiz Night**  
£5 including refreshments

**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of Cressing Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing**

**Present:** Cllrs: John Lawton – Chairman, Colin Haines and Toria Rowe

**In attendance:** Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO), District Councillor James Abbott and one member of the public

**22/019 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed attendees and reported as follows:

- The Chairman announced, with regret, that Cllr Griffiths had decided not to take up the role of Parish Councillor.
- The planning application for the new changing rooms at the playing field was now in its period of consultation until 21<sup>st</sup> February. To date there had been a number of comments supporting the improvements and the Chairman reminded those present that these improvements were for the benefit of the whole community and once complete efforts will be made to encourage other sports' use of the facilities.
- A number of items have been added to BDC's Open Spaces Plan and if Councillors or residents have suggestions for inclusion they should be advised to the Clerk.
- The Community Safety Talk by Essex Fire & Rescue on 27<sup>th</sup> January was well supported and the Parish Council was honoured to welcome the current Chairman of BDC, Cllr Sue Wilson. Unfortunately the second talk arranged for the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> February was not supported by anyone, Councillors or residents.

**22/020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllrs: Lapper, Porrett and Watts. These apologies were accepted. **Proposed: Cllr Rowe, seconded: Cllr Haines.** Apologies had also been received from Cllr Simpson.

**22/021 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.

**22/022 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A member of the public raised the following topics:

- i. Vehicle Activated Signs - the Chairman confirmed that when the results of various speed surveys around the parish are complete the Parish Council will discuss the possibility of purchasing signs for appropriate locations.
- ii. Planning applications 18/00549 and 21/03214 – the Chairman explained that it was not within the powers of the Parish Council to request the highway changes to be undertaken before the full planning process and schedule of work agreed with the planning authority and Essex Highways. The S.106 agreement has been published and will be called upon as required.
- iii. Pavilion – the public consultation held in September 2021 explained the improvements to be undertaken to the changing rooms. The attendance by residents was low, but these had been referred to in other meetings, minuted and published. The future plans for S.106 and other projects around the parish will be available shortly.

- iv. Grass cutting – the Parish Council was asked to confirm the schedule of grass cutting and contractors responsible. This will be looked at and published as appropriate.
- v. Variable traffic signs outside the school – it had been noted that these are no longer in place. This will be investigated.
- vi. Leaves Jefferys Road / Mill Lane – the member of the public advised of a resident falling on the leaves at this location.
- vii. Magazine – the member of the public had been asked to raise (by another resident who does not attend these meetings) to ask for more information to be included in the Community Magazine. It was confirmed that time appropriate information was included and other items were published. Events are included if publication dates permit, but also published on various Facebook pages and on the website and noticeboards. There is no other method of advertising available.
- viii. Could “Grasscrete” be installed on verges to prevent damage to surfaces? To be referred to Essex Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- ix. Could yellow lines be applied to all bends and corners in the Parish? To be referred to Essex Highways. **Action: Clerk**

### 22/023 REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from County Cllr Thorogood due to Covid but had confirmed that grant funding for a new defibrillator is available under the Councillor Community Funding Scheme. Cllr Thorogood will be attending (by Zoom) the Essex County Council budget meeting when the ECC council tax precept is set to be agreed at a 4.49% increase.

Cllr James Abbott reported:

- i. Litter around Galleys Corner remains an issue that BDC are following up.
- ii. Councillor Community Grant fund has been confirmed for 2022/23.
- iii. BDC budget will show an increase in BDC Council Tax of 2.68%
- iv. BDC have confirmed investment in additional staff for the planning team together with a Compliance Officer who will be responsible for ensuring developers abide by conditions and decisions.
- v. Planning Forum – developers will host meetings prior to planning applications being submitted that will include residents and councillors. No timeline yet confirmed.
- vi. From the coming financial year, local councils will be able to apply for capital funding.
- vii. BDC Local Plan – response from Inspectors awaited.
- viii. Proposals for the development between Silver End and Cressing refused by BDC, has gone to Appeal.
- ix. Integrated Waste Management Facility – still waiting for Condition 66 to be considered by Essex County Council. When date confirmed, Cllr Abbott will be speaking. There is a further proposal to open another access near to Woodhouse Farm (Kelvedon).

### 22/024 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Lawton.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

### 22/025 FINANCE

- i. **Progress against budget:** The Clerk/RFO referred to the reports issued with the Agenda. No queries had been raised by Councillors unable to attend this meeting and there were no queries by those Councillors present. **It was resolved** to accept the reports. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**

- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022: It was resolved that the bank reconciliation statement at 13<sup>th</sup> January be approved. Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve January 2021 Payments/Cheques:** The list of payments and cheques to be signed against January expenditure was presented. There were no queries, and it was resolved to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded Cllr Rowes, all in favour.** Cllrs Lawton and Haines signed the cheques.

**22/026 PARKING** - To be carried forward to the March meeting for discussion. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Abbott left the meeting.

**22/027 PLANNING**

- A. **Appeals determined by the Planning Inspectorate:** None advised.
- B. **Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:** None advised.
- C. **Applications determined by Braintree District Council:** None advised.
- D. **Applications received by Braintree District Council:**
  - i. 22/00098/DAC | Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 14 of approved application 15/01515/FUL | Lanham Manor Farm Lanham Farm Road Cressing Essex CM77 8DX – Cllrs had no comments to make.
  - ii. 22/00143/ADV | Installation of 6m internally illuminated totem pole. | Starbucks Galleys Corner Braintree Road Cressing Essex CM77 8GA – Cllrs had no comments to make.
  - iii. 21/03053/OUT | Outline planning permission with all matters reserved apart from access, for the residential development of up to 35 dwellings (including 40% affordable housing), with vehicular access, areas of landscaping and public open space. | Land East Of Braintree Road Cressing Essex (re-consultation) – The Parish Council will continue to object to this development. **Action: Clerk**
- E. **To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council and consider if comments should be made** (Householder Application, General Permitted Development Order)
  - i. 22/00080/HH | Single-storey rear extension and extension of driveway to detached garage with room over ancillary use to house. | Crix House Braintree Road Cressing Essex CM77 8JB – no comments
  - ii. 22/00206/NMA | Non-Material Amendment to permission 18/01287/FUL (allowed under appeal) granted 21.10.2019 for: Demolition of twelve unity-housing flats and twenty garages and the construction of seventeen affordable homes consisting of two one-bed bungalows, eleven two-bed houses and four three-bed homes for rent and shared ownership including associated external works, parking and landscaping. Amendment would allow:-Revision to access junction off Long Acre Road to incorporate a radius junction as opposed to a straight access junction. | Garage Area And Land At 15 - 16 The Close Tye Green Cressing Essex - no comments
  - iii. 22/00244/HHPA | Erection of single storey rear extension. Extension will extend beyond rear wall of the original house by 8m, with a maximum height of 3m and 3m to the eaves of the extension. | 11 Mill Lane Cressing Essex CM77 8HN – no comments
- F. **Applications bordering parish for information** – none advised.

**22/028 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE** - To be carried forward to the March meeting for discussion. **Action: Clerk**

### 22/029 RAINBOW FIELD

In the absence of Cllr Simpson, this this item will be carried forward to the March meeting when a final report will be made. **Action: Cllr Simpson**

### 22/030 EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported on the Employment Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January and confirmed that appraisal reviews for the Clerk and Handyman had been completed. Salary reviews in accordance with the National Joint Council schedule were agreed and the decisions made by the Employment Committee were agreed. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded: Cllr Lawton**

### 22/031 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Items for inclusion on the January Agenda: i) *Parking (Cllr Lapper)*, 2) *The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Clerk)*, and 3) *Rainbow Field – final report (Cllr Simpson)*

### 22/032 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at **7.00pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG**. Any Covid regulations in place will be closely followed: social distancing and face masks unless addressing the Council.

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

#### Dates of 2022 meetings

APRIL	13	7.00pm	
MAY	11	7.00pm	Annual Parish Meeting
		7.30pm	Parish Council Annual Meeting
		8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
JUNE	8	7.00pm	
JULY	13	7.00pm	
AUGUST	10	7.00pm	
SEPTEMBER	14	7.00pm	
OCTOBER	12	7.00pm	
NOVEMBER	9	7.00pm	
DECEMBER	14	7.00pm	

## Cressing Playing Field

You will have seen in previous Magazines or if you came to the Parish Council's Open Day last September, that plans are underway to improve facilities at the playing field.

The first stage of these improvements is to replace the existing changing rooms and showers with facilities that meet the latest specifications for space and showers for players and the provision of three specific Officials' changing rooms.

Our first action has been the layout design to reach the stage where a planning application could be submitted. This happened at the end of 2021 and on 26<sup>th</sup> January, Braintree Planning validated it and published the proposal for comment. The window for comment will have closed by the time this current magazine reaches residents.

We are pleased to say that BDC have received support for the application from many residents. One that we waited for with some trepidation was from Sport England, who were one of the statutory consultees. They stated "**No objection** is made to the application as a statutory consultee. The principle of the application is supported and advisory comments are made on the design and layout of the proposed pavilion as a non-statutory consultee which the applicant is requested to consider and address before the application is determined." The suggestions they recommended, that do not have an influence on the application, were to alter the layout of the showers to form 4 cubicles for each changing room, make the officials' changing rooms slightly larger and to move the external windows. All of these suggestions have been incorporated into the plans now being considered by BDC.

If you would like to look at the documents, you will find these at:

[21/03508/FUL | Single-storey extension to facilitate new changing room facilities, landscaping to the rear to provide new amenity space and alterations to elevations of existing building. | Cressing Sports And Social Club Jeffreys Road Cressing Essex CM77 8JH \(braintree.gov.uk\)](#)

Alternatively get in contact with the Parish Office.

Once we have the outcome of the planning application, we will proceed to developing the works specification, which will include the installation of a family garden area at the rear of the existing Social Club. This will be enclosed with fencing and planting to maintain safety and security and to reduce any noise carrying across the footpath. The area will be open to families and we hope many residents of Cressing will take advantage of this and enjoy some happy times there with their children.

Improved changing facilities will be available for all planned sports' activities held at the playing field or the Pavilion and Cressing Sports & Social Club, and thereby providing opportunities to encourage other sports on the field, catering for all sections of the community. The playing field is a valuable asset for Cressing and

Tye Green, one that is currently under-used. This first stage of making it more attractive will include provision of new seating and picnic benches, boundary tree-planting, refurbishment of the existing playground and the installation of equipment for older children.

None of this work will affect the precept payments included within the annual Council Tax bills, as the Parish Council will work hard to meet all costs from existing reserves, S.106 monies and grant funding.

If you would like further information on this, or any other Parish Council initiatives, please get in contact with the Clerk.

Christine Marshall  
Parish Clerk & responsible Financial Officer



### Cressing Book Group

Our January book was *Lady in Waiting*, the autobiography of Anne Glenconner. Anne grew up in the grandeur of Holkham Hall in Norfolk with Princess Margaret as a playmate and in 1971 she became her Lady in Waiting, a relationship that lasted until Margaret's death. She married Colin Tennant, handsome and charismatic but subject to terrifying rages and to erratic behaviour such as taking his naive bride to a live sex show on their honeymoon. When she tried to leave him, her mother sent her straight back. Colin bought Mustique, transforming it into a playground for the rich and famous including Margaret herself - he gave her a patch of land there but when she saw it she promptly demanded a bigger one. Despite all its glamour Anne's life wasn't easy, especially when she had to cope with the deaths of two of her sons and the near fatal accident of a third.

We enjoyed this book and thought it was particularly interesting as a social history of aristocratic lifestyles and contemporary attitudes to women. Anne also writes compellingly about drug addiction and AIDS. We felt that she showed us a different side to Princess Margaret by focusing on her kindness and the fun they had together rather than her better known difficult aspects. One thing that shines though is Anne's loyalty and a determined stoicism which sustained her in hard times but also trapped her in situations others would have found intolerable. Finally, *Lady in Waiting* inspired much lively discussion about marriage, motherhood and the place (or otherwise!) of the royal family in the modern world.

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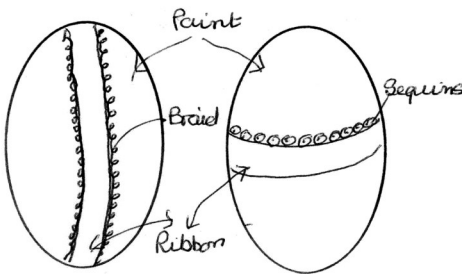
Any eggs can be decorated. duck, goose, hen, turkey, peacock or ostrich. They must be clean and dry and blown.

To blow an egg:- the egg should be at room temperature. Pierce a small hole at top and bottom with a sharp point. Stir the inside with a cocktail stick to break up the yolk then blow the contents out over a basin. If the egg is fresh the blown egg can be used in cooking. Wash out thoroughly and dry inside and out.

A good glue to use is white PVA glue or Tacky Glue. Super glue is needed for metals. Most acrylic paints are suitable as are most varnishes.

When decorated a ribbon can be threaded through for hanging or the egg can be mounted on a stand.

Here are a few ideas:-



Serviettes randomly torn and glued on. Varnished when dry.



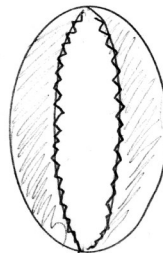
Cut outs or transfers



Yarns of various thickness stuck close to each other



Tied in a stocking and boiled with onion skins Gives mottled effect - greys and browns



Egg divided into 4. Each section covered with velvet. Joins covered with braid



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Now you may remember that Aviva Insurance advert containing the interrogation and the words "...does your door lock conform to British Standard 3621..." reply "I don't know, nobody knows" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PTtGHaftGM> . This relates to product certification such as LPS1175 general security, and PAS24 window and door-sets which are a measure that it has passed independent security testing. Another and easier way to find a tested security product is to look for the logos or webpages of Secured by Design [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) or Sold Secure [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com) accredited products which as part of the accreditation process have to have the relevant certification.

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