

The Cropredy Crier

Village news and events for July 2025



St. Mary's Continental Café

Join us in the parish church for a relaxed Fairport morning. Enjoy freshly brewed fairtrade coffee, a continental breakfast, glass of fizz or juice.

Read the paper and listen to music.

Browse the art in the Pop-up Gallery and buy a momento to take home.

Spend time together or on your own in the peace and beauty of the church.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8.00 a.m.

Indoor and outdoor seating and WiFi connection.

We are keen to build up this venture and to recruit additional helpers to join our tried and tested crew. If you can spare some time over the festival weekend, and would like to join us please contact:

Jane Oliver 07796 367993

Other events in the Church over the weekend?

Fairport Sunday Communion Service at 9.30 am - *All welcome*

Free Lunchtime Concert from 12 noon - 3.00 p.m. on **Thursday August 8th.**
with a stellar collection of musicians, licensed bar and ploughman's lunch available.

Church Lane Gallery Pop-up Exhibition - original art from talented local artists for sale.

Sunday July 20th., 4.00 p.m., Choral Evensong and Afternoon Tea

40th Anniversary Celebration of David Upton as Cropredy, St Mary's organist.

You are warmly invited to join the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of David Upton as St. Mary the Virgin Cropredy's organist. There will be afternoon tea served following the 4.00 p.m. service of Evensong led by the choir. The offering, with David's approval, will be for the St Mary's organ restoration, a contribution to the collection for David can be given to Graham Oliver, St Mary's Church Treasurer. A box in Cropredy Church is available for your contribution, which will be regularly emptied. We very much hope you can join us. It would be helpful to know if you are coming for catering purposes, please could you let Beryl Lascelles or Verna Wass know.



Considering Confirmation, or the meaning of faith in Christ?

Each year I like to offer the opportunity to prepare for Confirmation. The opportunity is to explore what Christian faith involves and looks like in messy everyday life. Whether you are a young person or an older one, there is no age requirement to this adventure. If you'd like to know more about how to join with others or individually explore with me, please do be in touch. I'd be delighted to hear from you:

vicar.shiresedge@outlook.com

01295 750486 / 07747 181868

Revd Sarah

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Sunday 6th.	9.30 a.m.	Family communion	Revd. Canon Sarah Fenby
Sunday 13th.	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship for all ages	Sue Upton
Friday 18th.	9.15 a.m.	School End of Term Service	
Sunday 20th.	10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.	Seeker Service Choral Evensong	Siobhan and Rebecca Croft Revd. Canon Sarah Fenby
Tuesdays	12 noon	Holy Communion Service	
Wednesdays	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	

OTHER SERVICES WITHIN THE BENEFICE

Sunday 27th.	9.30 a.m.	Family Communion Wardington	Revd. Canon Sarah Fenby and Sue Upton
	11.00 a.m.	Family Communion Claydon	Revd. Canon Sarah Fenby and Sue Upton
	4.00 p.m.	Cake Sale and Afternoon Tea, Mollington Church, in aid of Katherine House	

Churchwardens:	Verna Wass	verna.wass@btinternet.com	01295 758222,
	Graham Oliver	nb.Alnwick@gmail.com	01295 750956

All enquiries for baptism, wedding or funeral services,

Revd Canon Sarah Fenby I Vicar of Shires Edge Benefice

The Vicarage, High Street, Cropredy

Tel: 01295 750486 Mob: 07747181868 Email: vicar.shiresedge@outlook.com

Bell-ringing, practices every Monday. Tower secretary: Grace Wilson, 07765 465 994

SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL (all services 10.30 p.m. unless otherwise notified)

Sunday 6th.	Rev Phil Robinson.	Chapel Anniversary (144 years), with Holy Communion.
Sunday 13th.	Hazel Stagg.	
Sunday 20th.	Local "cluster" Service, at Greatworth Chapel.	
Sunday 27th.	Local arrangement Service (Cropredy).	



COFFEE MORNING
with homemade cakes and other things to buy
FRIDAY 11th. 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon.
METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOL ROOM



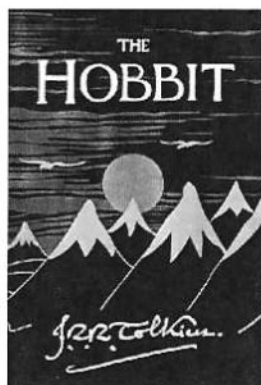
Bring friends and family or come on your own to meet and make new friends.

METHODIST CHAPEL - We will be serving our usual Tea, Coffee and Homemade cake during Fairport week.

THURSDAY 7th., FRIDAY 8th. and SATURDAY 9th. 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

CASH ONLY

The Methodist Chapel would like to offer a huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the recent Flower Festival such a happy occasion and success. We have been fortunate to bank **£610** from this event



Cropredy Historical Society

Wednesday July 16th.

7.30 p.m. Cropredy Village Hall

C.S.LEWIS & J.R.R. TOLKIEN

"In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit..." is one of the most well-known opening lines in favourite English novels. THE HOBBIT and THE LORD OF THE RINGS written by J.R.R.Tolkien, and THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA by C.S. Lewis including The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe, are known and loved internationally. The two men were friends for decades, and taught in Oxford for many years. They belonged to an informal literary discussion group called The Inklings, meeting on Tuesday mornings in The Eagle and Child in St Giles, Oxford.

Alastair Lack will outline their lives, beliefs and experiences, as well as the importance of their friendship and their influence on creative writing and readers of all ages.

. Refreshments

Visitors welcome £5



Cropredy Gardening Club

Visit to Woodcote Villa, Long Buckby

Sunday 20th. July

Leaving Cropredy Village Green at 11.00 a.m.

In a much admired location this stunning canal-side garden has a large variety of plants, styles, structures and unusual by-gones. The garden has featured in Garden Answers and Garden News magazines and is full of ideas and plant selections for individual areas and appeals to flower arrangers due to the large variety of foliage plants and shrubs. Home made teas available. **Admission £4**

Please contact Sue Fairbrother on 750523 or by email if you would like to come. Non members welcome

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Church Fête Thank You

Well the dust has settled and we're almost back to normal. How wonderful it was to see the church and churchyard at St.Mary the Virgin full of people having fun, and the feedback has been truly heartwarming. It is safe to say people loved it!

We are greatly indebted to all our:

- ❖ stall holders
 - ❖ games supervisors
 - ❖ cake bakers
 - ❖ bottle collectors and ticketers
 - ❖ Raffle fixers
 - ❖ BBQ, Bar and Tea teams
- for their hard work before and on the day.
- ❖ All of you for your generous donations and coming along to swell the crowd.

None of this would have been possible however without our logistics team who ensured that everything was brought together and erected in the right place, and returned again at the end of the day. Thank you all!

In view of the change of venue we took a very encouraging figure of £3246.65, although a small number of expenses have still to be deducted, we should clear around £3000.

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YOGA

Cropredy Village Hall

Classes aim to gently improve muscle strength, flexibility and alignment, release tension from body and mind, increasing wellbeing.

Postures, Breathing, relaxation.

Please enquire for more information.

Beginners Welcome. New term 8th Jan. 2025

Wednesdays (term time) 10.30-12.00am

Donna Duncombe (Real Yoga Qualified)
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HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY CROPREDY WI WI Then until Now. 1920s to 2020s

In the 1920s the WI was concerned with a wide range of issues. They wanted the reinstatement of women police officers – the Metropolitan Police Women Patrols of WW1 had been disbanded. It was thought their preventative work among women and girls was more productive and sympathetic. They asked the Home Secretary to give adequate sentences against persons found guilty of serious offences against women. On road safety, as a result of the increasing number of motor omnibuses and lorries, they wanted these vehicles to carry guards to prevent people and animals from slipping under the wheels. There should be rear lights on bicycles and a light should be carried at the front and back of a herd of cattle being driven on the road. Concern for the health of school children suggested that school lunches to be provided and also “a change of footwear”. Children’s dental health was a worry and the merits of vaccination should be studied. It was proposed that all county councils make use of opportunities for the development of adult education in rural areas offered by the WI. The clearing of oil from the sea and concern about large scale pollution of rivers and streams as a result of trade effluent and agricultural run-off was also expressed. Every WI was asked what it was doing about rubbish, this eventually resulted in 1955 in the Keep Britain Tidy campaign. The need to improve the midwifery service was also noted. Does any of this sound familiar to us in the 2020s? Nearly all the subjects are still topical and being continually brought before the appropriate authorities. Then they were concerned about improving living standards and getting fairness and justice for women. Very few were in meaningful paid employment so the idea of equal pay does not seem to have worried them until the 1960s.

Cropredy WI is also busy now, although not having glove making or chair caning demonstrations. They went on charabanc outings and so are we. This month we are celebrating our centenary in style. A bus (charabanc c.1950) will take us in our 1920ish hats and dresses to an afternoon tea at Ettington Park – there will be singing on the bus but no jam sandwiches.



Here at the 1935 Jubilee fete in the vicarage garden are founder members Mrs Frank


Sumner, Mrs H..R. Garrett,, Mrs T. Cooknell and Mrs T. Bradley.

Can you recall or did you hear about other early members? Do the names of Muriel McDougall, Florrie Hammond, Mrs Alban Cherry, Mrs W. Pettifer and Mrs C. Lambert ring any bells? Please look in family photo albums. We have minute books from 1925, handwritten and full of interesting information.

More photographs and exhibits from our past on display in the village hall on **Saturday July 12th.** and **Sunday July 13th.** to celebrate our Centenary.

We’ll be serving cream teas to audience members from the Harlequins’ production of *The Saint, The Witch and the Wharfinger*, but why not call in during the afternoon and check out our amazing history?

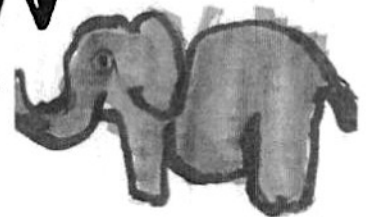
From knitting socks for soldiers and plucking chickens, to campaigning for equal pay, getting Cropredy rubbish collected, looking after evacuees and the environment, checking on water pollution in the river, treasure hunts round the village and initiating the scarecrow trail, members of Cropredy WI played a valuable and valued contribution to village life.



Roll up, Roll up
for this year's ...



Cropredy Scarecrow Festival!



Cropredy residents and neighbours, we're back
for another year of creativity and we need you to
design and display your scarecrows!

This year's theme is...

CIRCUS-PORT!



Trail dates:
7-9th August
2025



Email cropredyscarecrowtrail@gmail.com
for your entry form!



Cropredy Harlequins

Invite you to take a stroll through Cropredy's rich and colourful history

The Saint, The Witch and the Wharfinger

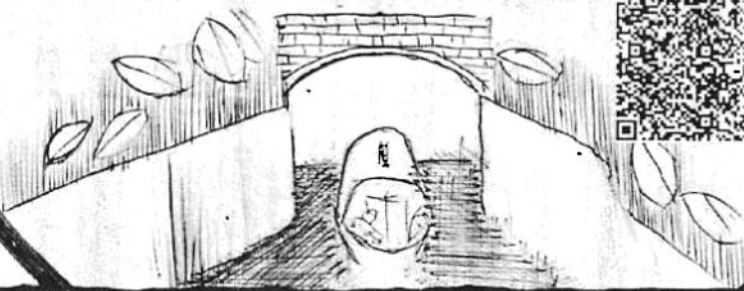
TRAVEL THROUGH TIME
TO VISIT KEY LOCATIONS,
MEET CHARACTERS FROM THE PAST
AND HEAR THEIR STORIES.

*Starting at the Church Barn, Church Lane
First performance 1.45pm*

*Your journey will conclude at the village hall
to enjoy afternoon tea courtesy of
our wonderful W1*

Save the dates: Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th July

Adults £10, Children £3



CROPREDY

link to ticket source: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/select/jmznywqrgkqp>

Famous Fairport
BREAKFAST
AT THE VILLAGE HALL



**THE VILLAGE HALL IS LOOKING FORWARD TO
PROVIDING ITS FAMOUS FAIRPORT BREAKFASTS
AGAIN THIS YEAR.**

(We served over 2,300 of them in 2024!)

We are looking for new volunteers to join our wonderful team, preparing & serving breakfasts over the Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday (7th - 10th August) of festival weekend.

If you are interested in helping us to provide our famous, friendly (& fun) festival service and can spare a few hours on any (or all) of these days, then we'd love to hear from you!

Please contact Kate Payne on **07765 548308** or **katepayne@rocketmail.com** as soon as possible to reserve your place on the team!

Thank you!

from the Cropredy Village Hall Committee

CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held in the Methodist Chapel on Monday 9th June 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Tania Johnson, Des Knight, Jacqui Smith and Sheila Jones, District Cllr Phil Chapman, County Councillor Chris Brant and David Best (Clerk). Five members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN:** Councillor Tania Johnson was re-elected as chairman and Cllr Des Knight was re-elected as vice-chairman. It was agreed that Tania with support of Des would lead the Village Maintenance and Improvement, Des would lead the Transport, Traffic & Street Lighting, Sheila would lead the Village Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention & the Environment, Tania would lead Internet & Social Media until another councillor can be recruited and Tania will also lead Planning until another councillor can be recruited.

3. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS:** Three members of the public that attended the meeting were co-opted onto the council.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting of 12th May were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **MATTERS ARISING:** None

7. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT**

Tree Survey – Cllr Tania Johnson is monitoring the work recommended in the survey. There are items for June which Tania will discuss with Mr Tim Batchelor.

Upper Churchyard Mowing – Additional volunteers have been added to the rota and there are now 3 mowers with the addition of a new one.

Canals and Rivers Trust – The next Towpath Taskforce is scheduled to take place on 25th June but was brought forward to 18th June due to holiday commitments. Potholes have been filled along the towpath.

Damaged bollard on The Plantation – A bollard has been knocked down and Mr Simon Bull will be asked to replace it with one of the two spares.

Playground maintenance – Infinity Playgrounds has replaced all the shackles on the swings and repaired the roundabout. A repainting quote will be required in four years to maintain the equipment. It will be easier to paint in future as long as it is not left so long. The new sign on the gate will be fixed by Mr Rob Johnson.

Lock Garden – The new sign for the lock garden which Cherwell District Council is funding has been delivered but cannot be fitted until permission has been obtained from the Canals and Rivers Trust.

New dog bins along School Lane – Dog walkers have advised that they are very grateful for these.

Dog Bin at Broadmore Lock – This is due any day now and will be fitted immediately.

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8. **TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHTING**

Community Speedwatch – This is

continuing. A couple of complaints have been received by the Police. The detail of the complaints is known but the Police will provide details shortly. The speeding along Williamscoth Rd has not improved.

Potholes – Some of the deep potholes along Oxhey Hill have not been filled but County Councillor Chris Brant will raise this with OCC Highways.

Highways Maintenance - Recent road resurfacing has been carried out in local border areas of Warwickshire and Northamptonshire and North Oxfordshire is being left behind. County Councillor Chris Brant will review this with OCC Highways.

9. VILLAGE EMERGENCY PLAN, CRIME PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENT

Emergency Plan – This is up to date and a representative from OCC, Mr Paul Mann, will be reviewing this.

10. PARISH COUNCIL USE OF INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA:

Help for the website – Mr Clive Dunn and Mr Bob Garland are updating the website and Mr Bob Garland is giving training to councillors on how to upload documents.

11. PLANNING, CLIMATE CHANGE, FINANCE & LEGAL

New Planning Applications:

25/00708/F – The Seed House, School Lane – remove condition 8 from 12/00611/F – PC has no objection.

25/00729/F – The Old Manor – New storm porch and gates – PC has no objection.

New Planning Decisions:

25/00729/F – The Seed House, School Lane – Remove condition 8 from 12/00611/F – CDC permitted 8/05 2025.

12. COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:

Claydon Road Development - It is believed that the S106 agreement for a new GP surgery as part of the Claydon Road development has been agreed and is just awaiting signature by all parties. It is believed that the NHS has advised the GP surgery that it will not renew the lease on the existing premises.

Gulley Cleaning – OCC Highways have started a gully cleaning programme and the gulleys will be cleaned every year instead of every 4 years.

Parish Cluster Group – It was agreed that the PC will join the parish cluster with The Bourtons, Hanwell, Mollington and Drayton to work together

13. SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The telegraph poles retraining along the edge of the car park have been reinforced. It was agreed to proceed with the installation of a ramp at the entrance to the new cricket pitch to divert surface water and reduce flooding of the tennis courts.

14. PARISH MATTERS: None discussed.

15. FINANCE.

Accounts to 31st May 2025 – These were circulated prior to the meeting.

16. CORRESPONDENCE: None outstanding

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE:

Flowers overhanging the pavement along Red Lion Street – A parishioner had complained about this, and it was agreed to investigate and contact the owners if this is considered to be an issue.

18. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

19. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 14th July 2025.



Date	Time	Event	Venue
Wednesday 2nd.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Monday 7th.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Saturday 12th.	1.45 p.m, onwards	Cropredy Harlequins <i>The Saint, The Witch and the Wharfinger</i>	Here, there and everywhere
Sunday 13th			
Monday 14th.	12.30 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall
Wednesday 16th.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
	7.30 p.m.	Cropredy Historical Society <i>C.S.Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkein</i>	Village Hall
Sunday 20th.	11.00 a.m.	Cropredy Gardening Club <i>Visit to Woodcote Villa</i>	Village Green
	4.00 p.m.	<i>40th Anniversary of David Upton as church organist.</i>	St. Mary's Church
Monday 21st.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Monday 28th.	12.30 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall

The Crier is published by The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Cropredy.

Whilst every care is taken the editor accepts no responsibility for any errors, omissions, consequences or the queries from some readers about the fact that there was no comment about the speed signs last month and asking about the status of our 'relationship', well there is no 'relationship' with the speed signs, we're just good friends....

Deadline for the next edition will be Friday July 18th.

Stephen Wass: editor@church-of-st-mary-the-virgin-cropredy.org

Village organisations have generally been allocated half a page each month. We can sometimes accommodate more, depending on the volume of notices coming in, and we will always do our best if you have a special event coming up. Please talk to us if you think you might need more space, and bear in mind when drawing up notices that they may need to fit on half a page and that we can only print in black and white.

Advertising rates for 2024 are as follows:

Quarter page £8 per calendar month

Half page £15 per calendar month

Full page £25 per calendar month

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