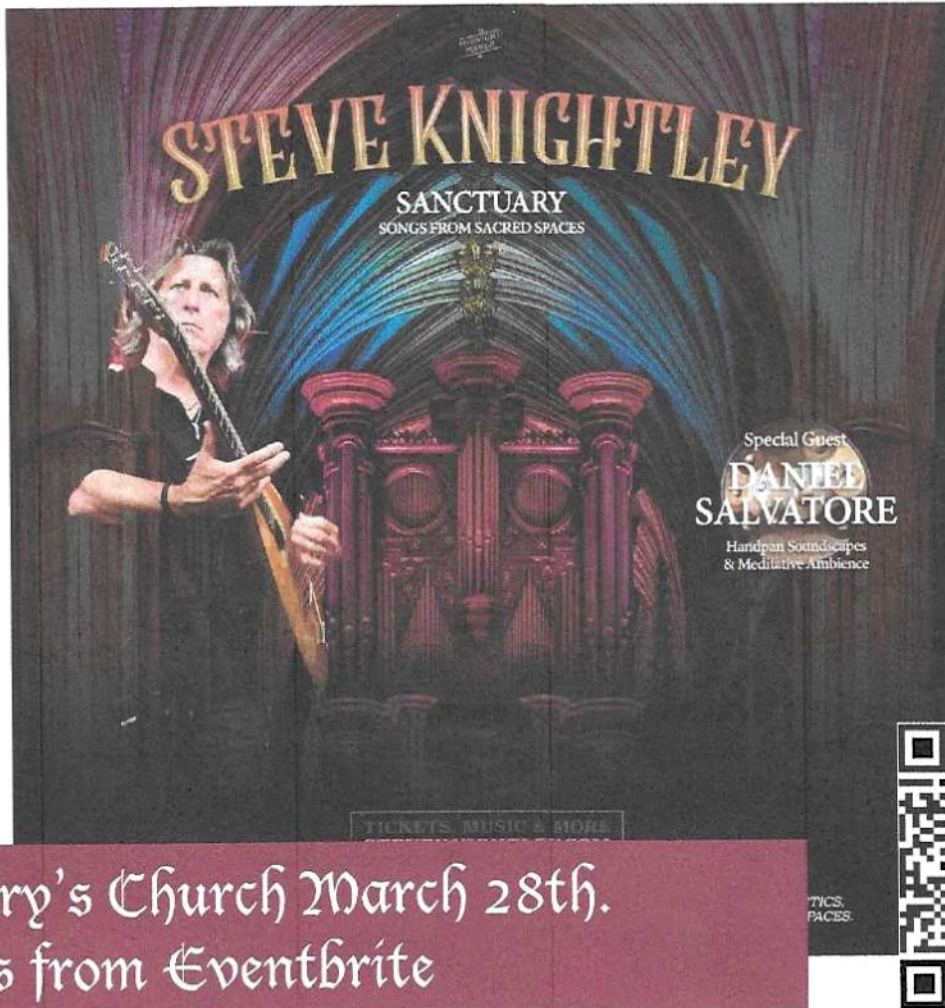
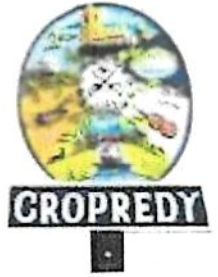


# The Cropredy Crier

Village news & events for March 2026



St. Mary's Church March 28th.  
Tickets from Eventbrite



## CROPREDY SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB BAR MANAGER REQUIRED

We are looking for a new Bar Manager to work alongside the current Bar Manager, David Cherry up to the AGM in May 2026, and then take on responsibility from then for a period of 3 years. The main responsibilities are:

- Management of stock levels
- Occasional orders with Hook Norton for beer supplies and management of delivery
- Journeys to retail outlets to purchase stock and transport back to S&SC including unloading and putting in store
- Managing volunteer bar rotas and advising volunteers of changes due to match cancellations etc.
- Manning the bar for events and special occasions and when the rota is not fulfilled by relevant clubs
- Support and coordination of bar operations during Fairport Cropredy Convention
- Managing bar security
- Managing cash and payments in conjunction with the Treasurer

Previous experience preferable but not essential as training will be given. If you are interested in this position please contact me, Laurie Wilson, Secretary CS&SC: [lauriejwilson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lauriejwilson@hotmail.co.uk)

### Welfare Matters:

**Pantry in the Porch** at St Marys' Church is grateful for a grant from Cherwell District Council who identify food support needs in Cropredy along with other villages in North Oxfordshire. It is now topped up again with food, but if villagers would also like to add to it, please do feel welcome to. Literature on cooking on a budget also available in the porch.

**One-off Food Vouchers** for those who need extra support from time to time can be accessed through Revd Sarah Tel: 01295 750486/ Mob: 07747181868 or Mr Reeves at the School. An individual, couple or family may apply.

### SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Sunday 1st..	9.30 a.m.	Family Communion	Revd Sarah
Friday 6th.	4.00 p.m.	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	
Sunday 8th.	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship	Revd Sarah
Sunday 15th.	10.00 a.m.	Mothering Sunday , Seeker Service, Siobhan and Rebecca Croft	
Sunday 29th.	11.00 a.m.	Palm Sunday, UB Service, followed by Community Lunch	
Tuesdays	12 noon	Holy Communion Service	
Wednesdays	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	

### Easter Dates in April:

Thursday 2nd.	7.00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service, Mollington
Friday 3rd.	12 Noon	Good Friday prayers with the cross at Chestnut Tree,
	12.15 p.m.	Good Friday Reflective Service at St Mary's
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> .	9.30 a.m.	All-Age Easter Sunday Family Communion Service, with egg hunt

### All enquiries for baptism, confirmation, wedding or funeral services to:

Revd Canon Sarah Fenby Vicar of Shires Edge Benefice

The Vicarage, High Street, Cropredy

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

Churchwardens: Verna Wass [verna.wass@btinternet.com](mailto:verna.wass@btinternet.com) 01295 758222,  
Graham Oliver [nb.Alnwick@gmail.com](mailto:nb.Alnwick@gmail.com) 01295 750956

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 1st.	Local Arrangement Service
Sunday 8th.	Rev Phil Robinson, service including Holy Communion.
Sunday 15th.	Hazel Stagg, Mothering Sunday
Sunday 22nd.	Marilyn Nutt
Sunday 29th.	Farewell service in Marlboro' Rd Church, Banbury, for retiring Superintendent Minister, Rev David Alderman. or - Palm Sunday service in Parish Church (no service in the Chapel!)



### COFFEE MORNING

with homemade cakes and other things to buy

FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup>. 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.

'Warm Space' cafe - Friday 13<sup>th</sup>., 20<sup>th</sup>. and 27<sup>th</sup>.

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[chris@tickingalong.co.uk](mailto:chris@tickingalong.co.uk)

### **CROPREDY UKULELE CLUB**

Monday March 9th. 6.30-7.30 p.m.

A friendly and informal group suited to all levels.

ic provided. Please contact Caroline 07802 722923 for further detai



## CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Cropredy Parish Council meeting held in the Methodist Chapel on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Des Knight, Clive Dunn, Rachel Hughes, Carine Varaz and David Best (Clerk). Three members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Tania Johnson, Jacqui Smith, Carl Twynham, District Cllr Phil Chapman & County Cllr Chris Brant
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> January were approved as a correct record and signed by the vice Chairman.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:**
  - Oak Tree In the Allotments** – The clerk will contact Mr Tim Batchelor to see what he recommends for this.
  - Dog Poo Bin for Upper Prestcote** – This has been ordered but they were out of stock with a lead time of 6 weeks. Delivery in anticipated imminently.
  - Cabinet for the defibrillator at the school** – The school asked if the PC will fund an external cabinet. The clerk will follow up

### VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT

**Canals and Rivers Trust** – The next meeting of the Cropredy Towpath Taskforce is Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**Damaged manhole and sign at the Plantation** – These have now been repaired.

**Cracks in the Tennis Courts** – Mr Tim Batchelor's quote for carrying out a clay test was accepted.

**Loose Kerbstone at the Village Hall** – This has been reported on Fix my Street

**Surface water in Red Lion Street opposite the bungalows** – This was reported by a resident and has been reported on Fix my street.

**Lower Churchyard Strimming** – Mr Simon Bull has kindly offered to take this on.

**Upper Churchyard Mowing** – The equipment will shortly be serviced in readiness for the season.

**Licence Labels for Brown Bins** – These will be applied for before the end of February.

**Mowing and Hedge Cutting quote** – Mr Steve Watts has kindly submitted a quote for cutting the other areas in the village. The clerk will circulate a comparison with last years quote so that this can be agreed.

**Mowing in Creampot Close** – A resident has advised that this was not mown last year. Cllr Des Knight will check the mowing schedule.

### 5. TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHTING

**Street Lighting** – All lighting was due to be converted to LED by the end of 2025 but this deadline has passed. Cllr Clive Dunn will ask OCC for an update. A streetlight at the entrance to Kyetts Corner is on 24x7. Cllr Clive Dunn will report this.

**Blocked gulleys on Williamscot Road** – These have been cleared by residents. They were reported to OCC on Fix My Street and the current status is under investigation. The ditch needs to be cleared of vegetation to assist drainage.

**Pot Holes** – These are getting worse. Mr Laurie Wilson is reporting them and authorising the repairs.

### 6. VILLAGE EMERGENCY PLAN, CRIME PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENT : No update

### 7. PARISH COUNCIL USE OF INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA: No update.

### 8. SOCIAL & ENTERTAINMENT: No update

### 9. PLANNING:

**25/03234/OUT** – Land East of Claydon Rd - 74 Houses – 208 responses have been posted on the CDC planning portal so far. It was agreed that pictures of the flooded land will be taken with a drone to support the response to the application, subject to clarifying the



## 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.

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necessary permissions to take images of private land, and that the planning consultant will be asked to complete the report which will focus on the size of the development compared to the current size of Cropredy. Clubs have responded with their requirements for S106 payments if the application is approved and the houses built.

**New Planning Applications and Appeals:**

**26/00040/MA56** – The Straw Barn – Change from workshop to single dwelling – PC to decide response by 20/02

**26/00166/F** – Thickthorn Farm – Alterations to extension of outbuilding – PC to decide response by 24/2.

**23/00976/F** – Land between Railway track and School Lane – 71 Houses & public car park – PC to decide response by 26/02

**New Planning Decisions:** None since last meeting.

**25/02754/F** – The Straw Barn – Addition of 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows – CDC permitted 5/02/2025.

**23/02754/F** – Cropredy Lawn – Glamping Pods – Appeal against CDC refusal dismissed by inspector.

10. **COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** None

11.

12. **SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB:**

**Parish Councillors representation on the Management Committee** – The constitution provides for 2 councillors to be represented on the committee but there are currently none. Representation on the committee will be decided at the March PC meeting.

13. **PARISH MATTERS:**

- i. **Churchyard Wall repairs** – The Diocese of Oxford has requested further information on the specification of the wall rebuild which has been provided. The Oxford Diocese has also requested some information from the Parochial Church Council. Quotes for the work will be sought from stone masons in February.
- ii. **Venue for Parish Council Meetings** – It was agreed that the May and June PC meetings will be held at the Sports and Social Club as a trial and the PC will investigate providing remote participation for members of the public.
- iii. **Live cam to show flooding at the bridge so that residents can plan their journeys**– This will be investigated by Cllr Carine Vareaez.
- iv. **Garage sale for residents from their homes** – Cllr Carine Vareaez has organised these in the past and will investigate this further.
- v. **Metal recycling** – Middleton Cheyney PC co-ordinates a scheme and this will be investigated by Cllrs Carine Vareaez and Rachel Hughes.
- vi. **Community Repair Scheme** – This will be investigated by Cllrs Carine Vareaez and Rachel Hughes.
- vii. **Traffic Management at the school** – Cllrs Des Knight and Clive Dunn with discuss this with OCC Highways what options are available to improve safety.

14. **FINANCE.**

**Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> January** – These were circulated prior to the meeting and there were no requests for clarification. The VAT accounts for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter to 31<sup>st</sup> December have been submitted and HMRC owes the PC £298 for VAT on purchases.

15. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None outstanding

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE:** None

17. **ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None

18. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

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## Cropredy Gardening Club

Wednesday March 11th at 7.00 p.m. Cropredy Village Hall

*Please note the earlier start time*

AGM followed by speaker

**Malcolm Moodie**

Come and find out about the events we have planned for the coming year and collect your new membership cards, £15 for the year, which includes free admission to talks and 10% discount at several local garden centres. We will then welcome the return of Malcolm Moodie, the orchid expert, who will be giving a presentation on **Orchids of Ecuador and Peru**, followed by an orchid clinic, where you can ask questions or bring your orchids for advice on their care.

There will be a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles

New members very welcome. We look forward to seeing you there

## Cropredy Historical Society

Wednesday March 18th. at 7.30 p.m. Cropredy Village Hall

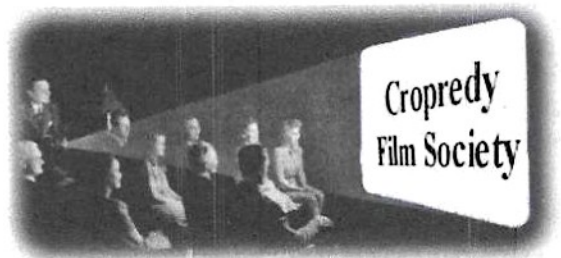
### ***The River At War***

*An illustrated talk by Bill King*

This talk explores why the River Thames was such an important strategic feature in World War II and its role in the defence of the country. Bill describes how the river would have served as a major defensive feature, and the way the industry along the Thames was adapted to serve the country in its hour of need, including airfields, aircraft production and boatbuilding.

Visitors always welcome £5

Free refreshments after the talk



## Cropredy Film Society

Saturday March 21st.. Doors open 6.30 p.m., supper at 7.00 p.m. Cropredy Village Hall

### ***September 5th.***

September 5 is a 2024 German historical drama thriller film directed, co-written, and produced by Tim Fehlbaum. The ensemble cast includes Peter Sarsgaard, John Magaro, Ben Chaplin, and Leonie Benesch. The film chronicles the Munich

massacre of 1972 from the perspective of the ABC Sports crew and their coverage of the events.

Booking through [f.61whitaker@btinternet.com](mailto:f.61whitaker@btinternet.com). No tickets on the door in order to comply with film licensing rules. New members always welcome.

**CROPREDY HARLEQUINS** - advance notice of AGM which will take place on Monday April 13th. 7.30 p.m. at the Chapel Schoolrooms. After brief formalities we will enjoy a social evening and reading of our Autumn adult comedy. We are also seeking acts for our Summer event, an open air concert on the theme of Weather. Songs, sketches, readings and offers of behind the scenes help all welcome. Further information from Caroline 07802 722923

**CROPREDY WI** - Tuesday March 10th., 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall. AGM followed by entertainment. The WI is open to women of 16 and over. In Cropredy we enjoy a varied programme of guest speakers, workshops, outings and campaigning. Guests (including men) welcome. Small admission fee for non-members (deductible from annual subscription should you decide to enrol).

## Travel, Troubles and Transgression, Notes on the Cropredy Burial Register Part VI

Of course there were other occasions, fortunately quite rare, when the inhabitants of Cropredy were faced with, if not violent, then unexpected death:

- 1624 August 15th. William Wood killed by ruckance
- 1649/50 January 2nd. Nathaniel Brooks of Mollington who was killed in Oxhey by William Russell of same town
- 1651/52 February 21st. Valintin Huxley who died suddenly in the fields
- 1655 August 16th. Joane White drowned August 14th.
- 1739 November 17th. Uriah Falkner killed by his mill Cropredy

All of these entries raise more questions starting with, 'what is a 'ruckance'? The OED is silent on the subject but offers another possibility. Could the word be linked to the term 'ruck', to pile up, as in, 'When Autumns Stores are ruck'd up in the Yard.' A. Ramsay, *Wealth* (new edition) 1720? A ruckance could have been a store of some crop or other that collapsed on him. What were the legal consequences of the murder of Brooks by Russell? Was the suggestion of murder a conclusion arrived at by the parish authorities or had there been a trial? Did Joane White drown in the River Cherwell and was it by design or accident? The other water related death was that of Uriah Falkner, born 1670 to a family of millers based in Warmington, who worked at Slat Mill in Cropredy. Did he drown too or perhaps more likely fall a victim to his mill's machinery?

Equally calamitous were the deaths of infants suffering the additional taint of bastardy. There is no doubt that illegitimate children, born 'out of wedlock' as the phrase went, were a feature of Cropredy life throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, indeed the records of the Cropredy Peculiar Court, an institution of the Church of England, paint a detailed picture of a variety of irregular arrangements:

- 1606 February 13th.  
Imprimis we do certify that Anne Truss and Judyth robins beinge presented for incontynency have penytently performed the penaunce in the parishe church of Cropredy accordinge to the order therein appoynted
- Item we present Elizabeth Dene for incontynency beinge begotten with child as shee sayeth by Nicholas abery who has since that tyme departed our of our parishe
- Item we present William etherton and gilian herridge who as it is reported are married, but when or where we know not.
- 1684 May 26th. We [ .....] doe present Sarah Pratt of Cropredy for having of a bastard child...

### Cropredy Welfare Trust

Cropredy Welfare Trust is a group of Cropredy Charities dating back to the Sixteenth Century. The objective of the Trust is to grant financial support to Cropredy residents who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.

Applications are invited from Cropredy residents who believe they may satisfy the above criteria.

Applications to: Revd. Sarah Fenby the Vicarage, High Street, Cropredy  
Rachel Dean 3 Creampot Close, Cropredy.  
Or Peter Croft 23 Station Road Cropredy

**The Trust meets annually to review administration needs and is bound by strict Charitable Trust Status rules.**

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1687 May 13th. We present Sarah Pratt Alies Hunt for having a Bastardised Child borne in Cropredy about a week past and is supposed begotten ( by hir mothers husband del.)

... and perhaps most scandalous of all:  
1688 January 19th. Wee present George Hunt who lately did teach School in the towne of Great Bourton for getting Catherine Hastings of the same parish single woman with child who has delivered of a female child about the 31st. Of December last past, and charged the same George Hunt in her pangs to be the father thereof . As far as burials are concerned, with the arrival of John Bosse as the new incumbent in 1726 things took a turn for the worse, more of this next time.

## March

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Monday 2nd.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Monday 9th.	12.30 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall
	7.00 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	Methodist Chapel
Tuesday 10th.	7.15 p.m.	Cropredy WI AGM	Village Hall
Wednesday 11th.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Gardening Club AGM	Village Hall
Monday 16th.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
	7.00 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	Methodist Chapel
Wednesday 18th.	7.30 p.m.	Cropredy Historical Society <i>The River at War</i>	Village Hall
Saturday 21st	6.30 p.m.	Cropredy Film Society <i>September 5th.</i>	Village Hall
Monday 23rd..	6.00 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall
Wednesday 25th.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Saturday 28th.	6.30 p.m.	Cropredy Film Society AGM	Village Hall
Monday 30th.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall

**Dorothy Wright's** family are sad to announce her death on Thursday 5th February in the Horton Hospital. There will be a requiem mass on Thursday 12th March in Cropredy Church at 11 a.m. followed by a private family burial in the cemetery. Please feel free to attend the Church service. She requested no flowers, but donations to Save the Children.



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