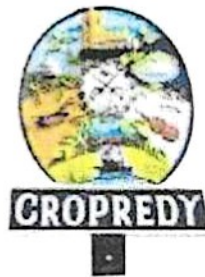


The Cropredy Crier

Village news & events for July 2026



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 14th., Saturday 15th. and Sunday 16th. August 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 a.m. - *All welcome*

Free Lunchtime Concert from 12 noon - 3.00 p.m. on Thursday 13th. August 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.

Cropredy Fairport Festival

Concessionary tickets for the Fairport weekend will be on sale to village residents in Cropredy Village Hall on **Saturday July 4th.** between 10.00 a.m.- 12.00 and 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Payment by card or cheque is preferred please. Residents in the marina are also eligible to buy tickets by showing a current council tax invoice. Please bring identification with you and proof of address. As last year tickets will cost £48 and £24 for children aged 12 to 17

WELFARE MATTERS. Pantry in the Porch at St Marys' Church continues to be very successful and is definitely meeting a need. We are grateful for a grant from Cherwell District Council to help restock but would welcome donations from members of the community to help us fill this need. 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. Please be in touch at: Vicar.shiresedge@outlook.com

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Sunday 5th.	9.30 a.m.	Family Communion Revd Canon Sarah Fenby	
Sunday 12th.	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sue Upton
Sunday 19th.	10.00.a.m.	Seeker Service	Revd Canon Sarah Fenby
Tuesdays	12 noon	Holy Communion Service	
Wednesdays	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	

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 01295 758222,
Graham Oliver 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 a.m. unless otherwise notified)

Sunday 5th.	Chapel Anniversary Service (145 years), with Holy Communion. (Chacombe congregation joining us.) Rev Phil Robinson.
Sunday 12th.	A Local Arrangement service.
Sunday 19th.	Local 'Cluster' service at Greatworth Chapel. (no service at Cropredy). Rev Phil Robinson.
Sunday 26th.	Rev Chris Eddy, with Holy Communion.

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.



COFFEE MORNING
with homemade cakes and other things to buy
FRIDAY 10th 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.

The enthusiasm and engagement we see following these visits reinforces just how important they are in supporting both academic development and personal growth.

We would also like to congratulate our Year 6 pupils for their hard work and dedication during the aforementioned SATs in May. They approached this important milestone with determination and maturity, and we are incredibly proud of their effort, perseverance and positive attitude. As they move into their final weeks at primary school, we wish them a heartfelt well done and every success for the future.

Looking ahead, we are incredibly excited for the summer, where Years 4 and 6 will take to the stage at the world-famous Fairport's Cropredy Convention. After a year of dedicated practice, they will be opening the show on Friday 14th August – a truly special opportunity and one we are very proud to be part of. Do look out for them if you are attending!

Finally, I would like to recognise the outstanding work of our SENCO, Miss Godsell, in championing inclusion across the school. A recent review highlighted the strength of our provision, noting the *"clear and consistent use of adaptive strategies"* and *"very strong behaviour, with all pupils engaged in purposeful learning."* The report also praised the *"particularly effective use of colourful semantics and task management,"* alongside the fact that *"all SEND children are included and supported within whole-class learning."*

It was especially pleasing to see recognition of the *"strong and purposeful leadership"* driving rapid improvements, the *"evident impact of CPD in changing classroom practice,"* and the *"very positive relationships between staff and children"* which underpin our school community. We are incredibly proud of this feedback and the inclusive ethos it reflects.

As always, we are grateful to our pupils, staff and families for making Cropredy such a vibrant, supportive and inspiring place to learn.

Kind Regards, Will Reeves (Headteacher)

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Cropredy Church Fête 2026 Thanks...

A huge thank you to all the people who made our Church Fête such an enjoyable experience and wonderful success on Saturday 20th June. The Churchyard was really buzzing with energy and excitement. None of this happens by accident of course. Without our cheerful team of volunteers working their socks off it would be impossible.

So, in no particular order our heartfelt thanks go out to:

- ❖ Our sturdy team of bottle collectors who scour the village for donations of bottles of the very highest quality for the Tombola
- ❖ Our chefs who craft and sell the most delicious cakes and preserves for our Village Pantry
- ❖ Our BBQ heroes who work tirelessly to provide perfectly cooked burgers
- ❖ Our brewers of tea and bakers of cake who keep us fed and refreshed
- ❖ Our plant, jewellery, book and toy stall crews who collect and curate a glittering collection for you to shop
- ❖ Our bar staff who prepare and serve (probably) the best Pimms in the world, always with a smile
- ❖ Our games team who ensure that endless fun us had by all when nit eating, drinking or shopping
- ❖ Our music man who keeps us entertained
- ❖ Our logistics team who make sure all the necessary kit arrives on site and is assembled ready for the off, and of course pack up and return it all at the end

What a delightfully cooperative team you were, a pleasure to work with you. **Thank you one and all.**


CROPREDY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

Tuesday July 14th. from 6.30 p.m.

Come and enjoy a sociable evening with Cropredy WI. Light buffet supper, drinks (including wine!), entertainment and lighthearted games or quizzes. We have a great deal planned for the rest of this year including workshops on bookbinding and whip cracking, fascinating and informative speakers and a trip to the Buckingham Palace exhibition "Queen Elizabeth II - Her Life in Style". The WI is open to women aged 18 and over, and we welcome visitors. Admission fee for non-members £5 (deductible from annual subscription should you decide to enrol). For further details please contact carolinewatsham@btinternet.com, tel 07802 722923.

REMINDERS TIME...

Although not illegal to light a bonfire during daylight hours, any smoke and/or ash must not prevent the quiet enjoyment of other homes and could constitute a Statutory Nuisance for which the householder would be responsible, even if the bonfire was started by their gardener or contractor. A case of no fire without smoke! Consideration for neighbours should be paramount, as with the promise of good weather, people will be spending more leisure time in their gardens, having windows open or washing on the line.

 Please remember: NO DOGS are allowed inside the children's playground.

It doesn't matter whether your dog is friendly, well-behaved, on a lead, or whether you always pick up after them. The playground has clear signs stating that dogs must not enter under any circumstances. This rule exists to protect children's health. Dog faeces can carry harmful parasites and bacteria, including roundworms (Toxocara), E. coli, Salmonella and Campylobacter. These can cause serious illness and, in rare cases, permanent damage to eyesight or other health problems. Children play on the ground, touch the grass and equipment, and often put their hands near their mouths. Even when poo has been picked up, traces can remain in the grass and soil where children play. This is not about whether a dog is "good" or "bad". It is a public health issue, and the rules are there for everyone's safety. Please respect the signs and help keep the playground a safe and healthy place for all children. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL E-mail: clerk@croppedyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8th June 2026 at 7pm at The Sports & Social Club, Cropredy. Present: Cllrs Carine Varaz, Jacqui Smith, Des Knight, Clive Dunn, Deborah Collis, and Michael Clyne. In attendance: 1 member of the public, and the Clerk.

17) Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Hughes.

18) Declaration of interests on items on the agenda – None.

19) Co-option of new councillors – It was proposed and agreed to elect Deborah Collis, and Michael Clyne onto the Parish Council. Debra and Michael completed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office, countersigned by the Clerk.

20) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11.05.2026 – The minutes were proposed, agreed, and duly signed.

21) Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

a) Update regarding any items from the last meeting not included on the agenda – None.

22) Public Forum – A resident raised concerns about dog mess becoming a problem in the cemetery and playing field. It was noted that there are a number of dog bins in the village but some people choose not to use them, even if they are nearby. It was suggested that a note goes in the Crier reminding residents about not letting dogs in the play area. Cllr Varaz to put together note and submit to the Crier by 18th June.

23) Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26

a) To receive the Internal Auditor's Report for 25/26 - The Internal Auditor's Report was received with only minor issues raised including the need for supporting documentation for VAT on Fairport tickets, and for receipts from Funeral Directors.

b) To appoint an Internal Auditor for the 26/27 financial year - It was proposed and agreed to appoint Sue Rowley as the Internal Auditor for the 26-27 financial year.

c) To complete and approve for signature the AGAR Annual Governance Statement for 25/26 – It was proposed and agreed to tick 'yes' to statements 2,3,5,6,8, and 9, and tick 'no' to statements 1,4,7, and 10, and for the Chairman and Clerk to sign the document. It was noted that the Parish Council (PC) has ticked 'yes' to statement 9 relating to charities due to the previous clerk having submitted the accounts for the Stone Pit Charity. However, the PC is aware that the trustee is listed as someone who was the Clerk a number of years ago rather than the PC. Furthermore, it is believed the intention was for the PC to be the trustee with the Clerk being the administrator rather than the trustee as an individual. This is how the entry exists on the Charity Commission website and is considered to be in error. New Clerk to review the situation and determine the best way to resolve the issue; one option is to close the charity as there are no longer any funds being held. Clerk to report back to PC by end 2026 with recommendation.

d) To approve for signing the AGAR Accounting Statements for 25/26 - It was proposed and agreed to approve the Accounting Statements and for the Chairman to sign the document.

e) To confirm the dates for the Notice of Public Rights for the 25/26 Financial Year – Monday 15th June to Friday 24th July 2026 - Proposed and agreed.

24) Finance

a) Proposal to remove David Best from the Bank Mandate, and add on the new Clerk – It was proposed and agreed to remove David Best and Tania, and add on the new Clerk with view, and set up payments access. Clerk to complete mandate change form.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 7:44pm.

b) To note and approve a number of payments and receipts

25) To receive the report from the Speedwatch Group and consider their proposal to request a reduction in the speed limit on the Williamscot Road to 40mph – A discussion was held regarding the low compliance with lower speed limits when the road in question is straight and appears open, and it was suggested that a physical intervention, such as rumble strips, could be more effective. It was agreed that Cllr Dunn should ask County Cllr Chris Brant if he can offer any advice as to what options there may be for speed reduction in the area. It was agreed that the Speedwatch reports should be shared with the parish councillors when published, and the police should be asked if it is acceptable for the information to be shared with the public.

Cllr Dunn left the meeting @ 8:07pm

26) Reports from Working Groups

a) Village Maintenance & Improvement – Surface water opposite bungalows at top of Red Lion St - Fixmystreet said it would take some time to come up with a permanent fix.

Upper churchyard mowing – a new volunteer has been recruited so the rota is now covered for this year.

The next meeting of the Canal and Rivers Trust volunteer group is on Wed 24th June.

Playground inspections – Cllr Knight has taken on the inspections of the play area

and will complete them on a 10-14 day cycle. The annual professional inspection will take place in July.

Flooding on Williamscot Rd – The application to the Oxfordshire County Council

(OCC) Flood Prevention Grant was unsuccessful, however the Sports & Social Club reported the issue on Fixmystreet and OCC have scheduled some action on this matter which could include clearing the ditch.

Station Rd post box repairs – Repairs are being arranged to maintain the traditional post box but timescales cannot be provided at the moment.

Tree work – A quote of £1,450 has been received for tree work required on PC owned trees. There was some uncertainty about which Ash tree is being referred to in the quote, so it was agreed that the contractor should be asked for a copy of the map of trees in the parish so this can be confirmed. Subject to the councillors confirming the correct tree it was proposed and agreed to go ahead with the work. Cllr Knight to obtain a copy of the map and instruct the work at the appropriate time.

Cllr Smith provided a 10 year plan document in relation to the Play Area, advising that the first priority is to replace surfacing along with some other much smaller items such as cleaning the skate park, which will cost around £13,800. £1k grant has been received from OCC towards this. Cllr Smith to look into other possible grant schemes to fund the repairs. Clerk to send details of known grant schemes to Cllr Smith.

b) Transport, Traffic, & Street Lighting – The status of 20mph roundel has changed on Fixmystreet.

c) Village Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention, and Environment – No update.

d) Parish Council use of Internet and Social Media – No update.

e) Social & Entertainment – There are lots of different groups in the village and it was suggested that maybe an event could be held to get the groups all together so people can find out what is available in the village.

f) Planning & Climate Change – No response yet to the major planning application.

27) Planning applications received - None Planning decisions received – None

28) County Councillor's Report – None.

29) District Councillor's Report – None.

30) Sports & Social Club – To consider request to arrange the repair of 6 fence posts – Cherwell Fencing did this work last time but they are no longer in business. Cllr Knight to speak to a local contractor to obtain a quote for this work.

31) Parish Matters

a) Update re Church Wall – The surveyor had hoped to get the report done by the end of May but the report has not yet been received so Cllr Knight will chase him up.

b) To consider whether to purchase a defibrillator cabinet to be sited at the school at a cost of £635 + VAT Proposed and agreed. Cllr Varaz to contact the school to confirm they have considered the cost of an electrician to install the cabinet. Subject to this being confirmed, Clerk to order the defib cabinet to be delivered to the school.

c) To consider request from Cropredy Tennis Club for the Parish Council to offer support in relation to the payment for repairs of the Tennis Courts – Total cost £625 + VAT – After some discussion about the legal situation relating to reclaiming VAT and receiving donations, it was agreed that the detail of who has the legal responsibility for maintaining the Tennis Court (PC/Tennis Club) should be clarified before a decision can be made regarding the best way forward for this repair to be organised. Cllr Knight to send the electronic copy of the agreement between the Sports & Social Club and the PC to all councillors and the Clerk.

d) To agree the arrangements for the sale of tickets for the Fairport weekend – Saturday June 27th, and Saturday July 4th from 10am -12 noon, and 2-4pm.

32) Allotments

a) To agree the process for dealing with uncultivated plots which may result in termination of the allotment tenancy – It was agreed that the current tenancy agreements are not very clear about requirements for cultivation or the process for the PC to follow should a plot be left uncultivated. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk should put together a draft new tenancy agreement along with a process to be followed in the event of a plot holder not complying with the tenancy agreement for consideration by the PC.

b) To consider the possibility of offering to split some allotments into two smaller plots to support those who may be struggling to maintain a full plot, and to allow those on the waiting list to access a plot – It was agreed that if a plot holder is struggling to maintain their plot due to the size, but they would like to continue having an allotment, that the PC would offer to reduce the plot to half the size and offer the remaining half plot to someone on the waiting list.

33) Information exchange – The Sports & Social Club are looking for a new volunteer Bar Manager, and key holder to open up for events. It was agreed that Cllr Varaz would put an advert on social media. Cllrs Knight and Smith to provide details for the advert. It was agreed that PC meetings will continue to be held at the Sports & Social Club. Cllr Knight to confirm the booking with the Sports & Social Club for the second Monday of each month

except September. A discussion was held regarding whether September is the best month to miss a meeting or whether there are other months where Cllrs may find it more difficult to attend due to holidays. It was agreed that the Clerk should put an item on the next agenda regarding the meeting schedule. There is a filing cabinet in the Chapel that holds old PC paperwork, although it is not known exactly what is in there. It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange retrieval of the paperwork to look through it to see if any of it is no longer required, submit any old minutes to the Records Office, and look into an appropriate storage space for any remaining paperwork that must be kept.

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Cropredy C of E Primary School – Celebrating a Busy and Successful Term

It has been another exciting and enriching term at Cropredy C of E Primary School, filled with memorable experiences and opportunities that have brought learning to life for our children.

One of the highlights of the term has been the wide range of educational visits across the school. Our youngest pupils in Cygnets enjoyed a magical trip to Tumblestone Hollow, immersing themselves in imaginative play and exploration. Year 2 visited Cotswold Wildlife Park, where they experienced African wildlife up close, deepening their understanding of animals and habitats. Year 3's visit to the Ashmolean Museum provided a fascinating insight into Egyptian history and artefacts, while Year 5 stepped back in time during their visit to Sulgrave Manor, bringing their historical learning vividly to life.

Our Year 6 pupils rounded off their SATs journey with a fantastic residential visit to Torquay, where they demonstrated independence, teamwork and resilience while creating lasting memories with their peers.

These trips are a vital part of our curriculum. We firmly believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and these real-world experiences enrich children's understanding, spark curiosity, and help to embed knowledge in a meaningful and memorable way.

MEN'S COFFEE MORNING
CROPREDY VILLAGE HALL
10.00 a.m. - Mid-day
Thursday 9th. and 23rd. July
For Further Info Contact Mick 07588867540

Coffee, Conversation
Welfare
£3.50 per person

Cropredy Historical Society Wednesday July 15th. 7.30 p.m. Cropredy Village Hall
ANCIENT HEDGEROWS

Pam Keegan made a detailed survey of hedgerows in 1983, complete with diagrams and lists, of the area bounded by Backside and the Mollington road. She observed where the hedges had been laid to the east, west or north, and the location of gates and stiles, ponds and springs.

She described how hedges followed the furlong curves, or were planted in the old ridge and furrow fields and along the parish boundary. Using the traditional field names, she noted where there were hedges before the enclosures of 1775, and that a shortage of timber at that time led to the planting of elms in the hedge lines. Many elms were dead or dying in 1983. The hedge along the towpath from Moorstone into the village used the old meadow hedge that predated the construction of the canal. The crab-apple trees that she logged are still there and she listed over 25 different varieties of trees – and nettles, brambles and mistletoe! This evening's illustrated talk by Emma Hamer will provide a wider view of the history and importance of English hedgerows.

Free refreshments after the talk

Visitors welcome £5

Famous Fairport
BREAKFAST
AT THE VILLAGE HALL



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

(We served just under 2000 of them in 2025!)

We are looking for new volunteers to join our wonderful team, preparing & serving breakfasts over the Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday (13th - 16th 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 Scarecrow &
Creative Trail 2026,
10th.– 16th. August**

Get ready for a week of creativity, nostalgia and fun as the Cropredy Scarecrow & Creative Trail returns this summer! This year's theme is: "Your Favourite Childhood TV Show or Film" Think of the programmes and movies you loved growing up. From classic cartoons and children's TV favourites to magical films, superheroes, sitcoms and family favourites, there is plenty to inspire everyone. You can create: a traditional scarecrow; a favourite character; a memorable scene; a decorated window or fence display; a painted board or illustration; LEGO® creations; knitted, crocheted or textile artwork; models and sculptures or any other creative interpretation inspired by a TV show or film. Whether you're young or old, artistic or simply enthusiastic, everyone is welcome to take part. Individuals, families, schools, clubs and businesses are all invited to join in. The trail will run from **Monday 10th to Sunday 16th August 2026**, with visitors able to follow a digital map and vote for their favourite creations.

To register your display or to find out more, please contact:

eventsinthecommunity@gmail.com

**Let's fill Cropredy with imagination,
memories and a little bit of movie magic
this summer!**

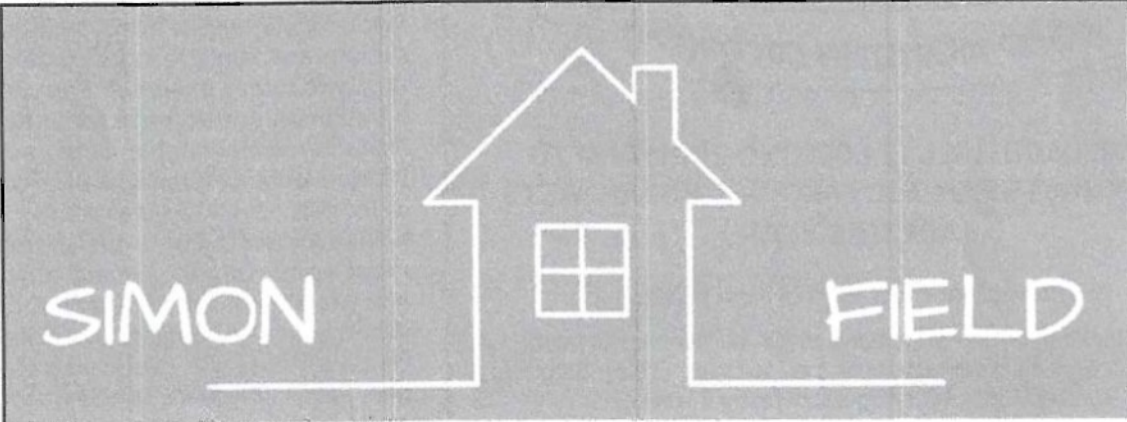
July

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Wednesday 1st.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Saturday 4th.	10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.	Fairport Concessionary Ticket Sales	Village Hall
Monday 6th.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Thursday 9th.	10.00 a.m.	Men's Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Monday 13th.	12.30 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall
	7.00 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	Sports and Social Club
Tuesday 14th	7.15 p.m.	Cropredy WI <i>Garden Party</i>	07802 722923
Wednesday 15th.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
	7.30 p.m.;	Cropredy Historical Society <i>Ancient Hedgerows</i>	Village Hall
Monday 20th.	7.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Thursday 23rd.	10.00 a.m.	Men's Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Monday 27th.	12.30 p.m.	Cropredy Lunches	Village Hall
Wednesday 29th/.	2.00 p.m.	Cropredy Short Mat Bowls	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 future joys of nice red rumble strips, as if the happy smiling green-faced man wasn't welcoming enough

Deadline for the next edition Saturday July 18th. editor@church-of-st-mary-the-virgin-cropredy.org



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