

CRANSLEY CHRONICLE

Issue 232

October 2020

LOTTERY SEPTEMBER 2020

PRIZE	NAME
1 ST PRIZE	ANGIE REID
2 ND PRIZE	PAM HARDY
3 RD PRIZE	MARGARET NORMAN

GREAT CRANSLEY VILLAGE SHOW 2020

Very sadly with the Virus still providing a considerable risk to people's health, we were unable to hold our Village Show at our Village Hall this year. It was to have been on the 5th September, and would have been the 75th Cransley Annual show of Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, Eggs, Cakes, Jams, Photography and Crafts - all produced in our small Community.

It is "typical" that this year has been a very productive year in the Garden, and those of us with fruit trees will be having bumper crops. Also typically my Dalias have been a record size, and I think I would have been a contender for the Trophy this year!!! ... see Photo. My sunflowers were eaten by a Muntjac, so I certainly would not have won that, but look forward to seeing who does.



Out of interest, before we had our own show (Founded in 1945) there was a "Broughton and Cransley Flower and Bird Show" that was started in 1887 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The first show was held in the Rectory Gardens at Broughton and had Classes for Adults, Cottagers and Juveniles, with entertainment by the Broughton Brass Band. The show was then staged in 1888 in the grounds of Cransley Hall, and moved on alternate years between the Villages. There were, in those days, classes for Exotic Birds, and many people kept Canaries and other foreign Birds. This show continued up to the First World War, and was not revived until 1945.

We are determined that there will be a Show next year, and the date for your Diary is Saturday 4th September 2021.

Richard Barnwell – Chairman, Village Hall Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I've had no contact from any resident yet - see last months' article in the Chronicle. It could be two or three people who could do this work together.

Richard Barnwell

FACE COVERING TO FLOOR COVERING

Since March, two ladies of the village, Julie and Mary, have been making masks to protect against Covid-19. The donations that they have collected have been given to the Church and Village Hall. The treasurers of these organisations sincerely thank Julie and Mary for their generosity.

In case you are wondering about the title; it's because the money given to the Church is pledged towards the cost of a replacement carpet, which is so desperately needed.

HANDMADE WASHABLE FACEMASKS

Handmade washable facemasks are still available to be purchased, with donations going to the Cransley Church and Cransley Memorial Village Hall funds. To date we have raised £1,500.80.

Christmas Fabric facemasks are now available, these will make lovely stocking filler presents.

Please call Julie on 01536 799860 if you wish to purchase masks.

CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, GREAT CRANSLEY

We are pleased that (for now at least) we are able to open the Church building for services. There will be a service of Holy Communion at 9.30 am on the third Sunday of each month. We have a number of Covid measures in place, including hand sanitiser, social distancing, and face coverings need to be worn unless you are exempt.

Dates for the rest of the year:

18th October (this will also be our Harvest Festival service)

15th November

20th December

More details of Remembrance and Christmas services will follow nearer the time.

We know that not everyone will be able to join us yet, so we have online, phonenumber and postal resources available to help people pray at home. If you would like to know more about these, please contact Revd Nicki Hobbs on 01536 799533.

RIDE AND STRIDE

A big thank you to everyone who supported Ride and Stride this year. Nicki raised over £700 which is to be split between Cransley and Broughton Churches and the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. She walked 27000 steps, over 11 miles, visiting 6 churches and gaining 3 blisters!

Revd Nicki Hobbs
01536 799522

GARAGE SALE OCTOBER 17TH / 18TH

The Garage Sale will take place on Saturday 17th October, and maybe Sunday 18th October, between the hours of 10.00 hrs. 16.00 hrs.

Just come and see? There may be just what you have been looking for, or some early Christmas Shopping. Many new items, from clothes to jigsaws, jams to house plants. You will never know unless you come and look. Have a good day.

GARAGES OPEN

The Old Brewery, Church View, off Church Lane
Old Stables, Loddington Road
No. 11 Loddington Road
No. 51 Loddington Road

All subject to any Covid19 instructions to the contrary.

For further information, contact Gordon Smart on 790135 or by email.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Village Hall will be holding a Christmas Raffle. Instead of knocking on doors, the tickets will be delivered in November's chronicle, we'll then arrange a couple of mornings to be at the Village Hall car park (the hall will not be open) to collect monies and ticket stubs. More details about prizes to follow.

The draw will be held in December.

This year we are asking for donations to the raffle, things such as nice candles, bottles of beer, wine, champagne, homemade and homegrown produce - think Christmas gifts. A full list and where to drop your donation will be in November's chronicle.

If you have any fancy baskets or hampers that you no longer need, we'd be super happy to take them off your hands.

NORTH NORTHANTS UNITARY AUTHORITY

In April 2021, Kettering Borough Council together with 6 other County Boroughs, District Councils and Northamptonshire County Council, will be abolished and replaced by a single new authority to be known as The North Northants Unitary Authority, which will then be responsible for our Village. If you are of voting age, you will be invited to vote for three Councillors to represent your views.

There will still be a Great Cransley Parish Council, and the election to this will be at the same time.

There is currently a 'Shadow' Unitary Authority and we (The Parish Council) are trying to discover if there is any intention to offload the provision of services from the new Unitary Authority to Parish Councils. The current claim is that there is no intention of "Forcing" Parish Councils to be responsible for mowing and maintaining verges and greens, or maintaining street lights, to name just 2 services. However, if the Unitary Authority decides it does not wish to do these things any longer and the Parish Council does not take it up, then who will do it? Answer; No One ... When the street lights go out they will remain out.

We (The Parish Council) have been advised to make a list of all the services our Village currently relies upon, and who is responsible for their maintenance and replacement when necessary. Then we are advised to make investigation into what it would cost for us to do these things ourselves, so that we are prepared for all eventualities.

All householders in the parish currently pay annual Council Tax to pay for these services, at present to the County or Borough. I expect you will think "well, surely they will charge less Council Tax when they no longer have to provide these services?!". I can assure you this will not happen and therefore, when and if, we are in effect forced to take on the provision of whatever the Unitary decide no longer to provide, the only way Great Cransley Parish Council will be able pay for them, will be by increasing our own Precept to cover the costs, and then you will be, in effect, asked to pay for them twice. This has already happened when Kettering Borough went from giving an annual grant to Parishes to forcing us to raise our own Precept each year, there was no reduction in the Borough precept that year, we all had to pay twice.

Please do get interested in this, as it is something that we all have to pay ... we cannot opt out. We should all strive to make sure our elected representatives know our views and then when the time comes vote accordingly.

If anyone wishes to speak to me about this please ring 07885431520 or email me at rsg.barnwell@gmail.com.

Richard Barnwell
Chairman
Great Cransley Parish Council

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

The results are in! It's been wonderful seeing all the beautiful blooms around the village, thank you to everyone who took part. The feedback has been a resounding YES to doing it again next year! Many thanks also for the donations received.

And the winners are:-

Rosi Greenall - Tallest

Sarah Church - Smallest

Loki Johnstone - Most Unusual

Pat Appleby - Best Display

Thelma Lacy - Prettiest

Joint winners in Largest Sunflower head - Cat Asbery & Joanne Lloyd

Freya Johnstone - Art aged 3-7

Connor Evans - Art & Photo aged 8-12

Sophie Mead-Payne Art young adults

Nikki Jones - Art adult

THE THREE CRANES NEWS

No doubt you will be aware our Village Pub, The Three Cranes, is closed and on the market through Musto Estate agents. The current owner of the Freehold is Pytchley Estates Ltd, which is owned by Mr Barrie Tilley, who purchased the property in March 2018.

Mr Tilley has achieved planning consent to divide the property into two parts - the new building as a separate residential unit, and the Old Pub building which is still registered as a Public House and at present this status cannot be altered without planning consent for change of use.

Cransley residents will recall that following the Public meeting in the Village Hall 18 months ago, the "Action Group" resolved to apply to Kettering Borough Council for an "Asset of Community Value" order, and this was granted on 10th January 2019. This order means that the property could not be sold without the Action Group being informed and given the opportunity to come up with an alternative bid to preserve the property as a community asset.

At the beginning of 2020 the Action Group was given the option of making a bid for the site, and declined to do so. This means that at present Mr Tilley can sell without further reference to the group until June 2021, when once again if the property remains unsold the Action Group has to be given the option to purchase.

At all times Pytchley Estates has the right to refuse any offer and they are free to make whatever planning applications re the site they choose. The Action Group and the Parish Council are free to react to any such applications and make their views known to the Planning Authority.

The dilemma that we face at present, is that we all want to see the Pub re-opened, but to achieve this we either need someone to buy it with the intention of reopening, or we need a concerned resident or a group of people to get together and come up with a scheme of running it as a Community Asset. This means not just a Pub, but possibly pop up Post Office, Café, Hair Dressers, Shop, Internet Café, Nail Bar, in fact, any use that will generate income to support the obvious costs of owning and operating a successful enterprise in the Village. The research and time involved in such a scheme would be time consuming and needs dedication and long term commitment, all at an uncertain time, with the Virus threat and imminent Brexit and in the knowledge of the decline of Village Pubs generally over the last 10 years.

Mr. Tilley had offered to allow the group 6 months rent free, to either run the Pub, or try different schemes of operation. This week he contacted the Parish Council to say that no one from the Village had contacted him, or made any proposal known to him, so he was going to take the silence, as a lack of enthusiasm or interest in participating in discussions re the Pub's future.

My personal view is the same as it was in January 2019 in that if we as a Village wish to preserve the Pub there is no point in just talking about it ... it needs a strong, active group, willing to selflessly put in the long term time and effort and fund raising on behalf of the Parish for no reward, and probably considerable grief, especially in the current uncertain times.

I may be incorrect, and forgive me for being deliberately controversial, but I don't believe that such a person or group of people exists in our Village. I hope they will prove me wrong.

Alternatively we can pray for someone to come forward and buy the site with the desire to provide us with a Pub?

If neither of the above occurs, then The Three Cranes will not reopen and the site will be zoned as residential.

Richard Barnwell
07885431520
rsg.barnwell@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - OCTOBER 2020

Oct 8 th Thursday	Virtual Parish Council meeting 7pm
Oct 17 & 18, Sat & Sun	Garage Sale - see text
Oct 18 th Sunday	Harvest Festival and Communion Service 9.30 in St. Andrew's Church

October 2020 Stone Bus Shelter Cleaning, Michael Dawson. All helpers please note that this also involves brushing the War Memorial, dealing with the leaves and checking the Village Hall bus shelter.

For more information on Church matters call 01536 799522 or www.churchesbmc.org

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN GREAT CRANSLEY

All activities are suspended until further notice.

CRANSLEY VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

For information and booking the Village Hall, call Pat Appleby on 01536 790607.

CRANSLEY CHRONICLE DEADLINE

The absolute final date for inclusion in the next month's Cransley Chronicle is at

5pm on the 24th of each month

(though December is often earlier due to Christmas shut down).

Please email your article, if you can, to Thelma Lacy on the following email:

greatcransleyipc@gmail.com or if you can't, please ring her on 790997.

All articles must have a Title, and Posters must be A5 size, Portrait.

STREET DOCTOR

Don't forget to use the Street Doctor on telephone number 0300 126 1000 or

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor for any problems with Highways.

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