

DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE 2



CRANLEIGH MAGAZINE



Ice Cool In Cranleigh

A magazine for Cranleigh and the surrounding areas
www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk

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contents

December 2015

CRANLEIGH MAGAZINE

WELCOME to Cranleigh Magazine, a new magazine for people living, working and socialising in Cranleigh and surrounding Surrey.

It's a different kind of publication to those already out there, and is linked to its sister website www.cranleighmagazine.co.uk, allowing people to communicate and connect through their work and social networks. Take a look, register your business and enjoy reading some of our exclusive articles!

Why not submit your local news to the Cranleigh Magazine or advertise your business, keeping Cranleigh and neighbouring villages informed and 'cool' with a constant flurry of communications.

Contact 01483 275054 or email: paul@cranleighmagazine.co.uk

4 The Joy of Cranleigh

FEATURE ARTICLE

6 People Profile

Wildlife photographer Neil Longhurst

10 Crane Spotter

12 Paris in Cranleigh

14 December Crossword

15 December Sudoku

17 Dates for Your Diary

22 Cranleigh Scout Group

23 Book Review

26 It is Cold Outside

28 Cranleigh Rotary Club

29 Open The Book

31 Mission Impossible



Cover Photo
© Peter Symonds,
Smithwood Common

Colin the Chameleon, from Cranleigh, is hidden somewhere in the magazine. Can you spot him?



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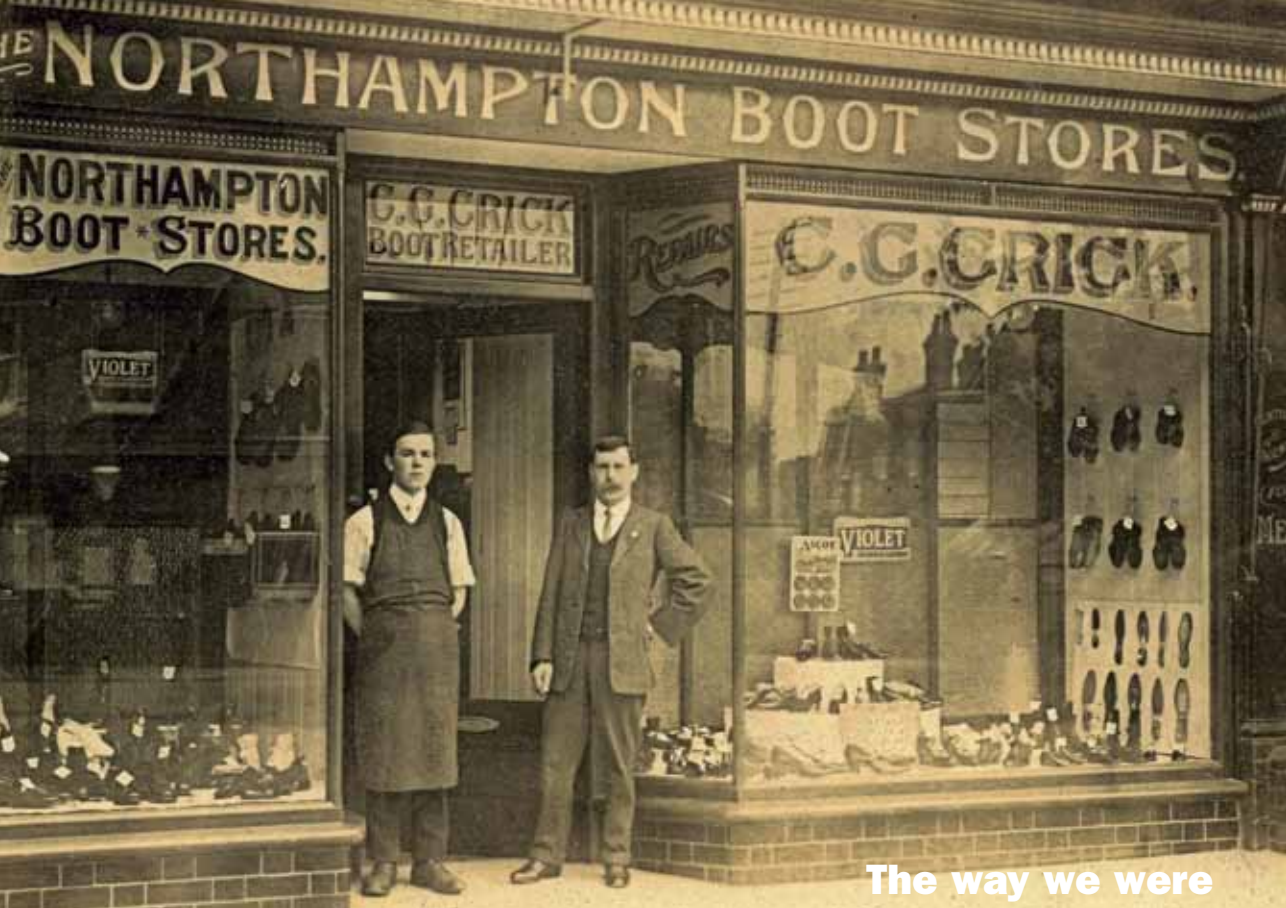
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The way we were

Charles Crick (R) and assistant Charlie Croxford (L) outside the shoe shop, now Oxfam, Fountain Square, Cranleigh

Joy of Cranleigh

Joy Horn brings some anecdotes of 100 years ago

What was happening in Cranleigh in December 1915?

On five days each week, over 100 Cranleigh women gathered at the 'Women's War Work Depot' to produce 'all kinds of comfortable things' for the soldiers at the Front and for wounded soldiers in hospital. These women met to sew and knit in the schoolroom of the Baptist chapel, under the supervision of Mrs E.L. Rowcliffe of Hall Place, with Lady Bonham of Knowle as president.

It was a branch of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild. Parcels of garments were packed and sent to St James's Palace, where we are told that they were unpacked and sorted by Queen Mary herself! The Cranleigh group must have been quite an operation. The equivalent group in Horsham has a small memorial in the Causeway, yet the Cranleigh group is virtually forgotten.

Over Christmas, at least seven soldiers were back in Cranleigh on leave. For some, it would be their last

time with their families. More of the Church Lads' Brigade at the parish church enlisted in the Army as they came of age, bringing the total from the Cranleigh corps to thirty-nine.

Meanwhile, after the disastrous failure of the Gallipoli campaign, the remnants of the Allied forces were being gradually evacuated from the peninsula. Among them was a Cranleigh man, Rennie Crick, son of the shoe-shop owner in Fountain Square, who was in the Royal Army Medical Corps. He and his comrades had been trying to cope, in appalling conditions, not only with the casualties of war but also with the many who caught dysentery.

Of nearly 50,000 men who died, more than half were victims of disease. Now, in December, in contrast to the blazing heat of the summer, there were blizzard conditions and food was in short supply. At last, Rennie was evacuated from Suvla Bay and taken to the island





Women's War Depot plaque, The Causeway Horsham of Imbros – now in the news again as the landing-place of Syrian refugees. 'The sailors gave us a good supper', Rennie wrote thankfully.

On Christmas Eve, the soldiers sang carols, and their Christmas Day consisted of going to a service and having some pudding. Turkish aeroplanes regularly



came over and bombed them. On 26 December, Rennie's first present arrived – from an aunt. Then on 29 December he had five letters from home and two presents, followed by a further nine letters and a registered parcel, which had taken since 10 November to come from Cranleigh.

The popular song of 1915 being sung around the village that Christmas reflected the new, sombre assessment of the war:

*Keep the Home Fires burning
While your hearts are yearning,
Though your lads are far away
They dream of Home.
There's a silver lining
Through the dark clouds shining,
Turn the dark clouds inside out
Till the Boys come Home. ■*

The Cranleigh History Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8.00pm in the Band Room. The next meeting will be on Thursday 10th December, when Nicci Pugh's subject is 'On the Uganda in the Falklands War'

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People Profile

THE MAN WHO 'SHOOT'S' BADGERS



Who's who?

*Funny who you meet
when walking up the aisle!*

A few months ago, I was in the Cranleigh Co-op, unable to find what I was looking for, **writes George Trolley**. I was obviously looking a bit lost because a kindly member of staff approached me and asked if he could help. He quickly pointed me in the right direction and I thanked him and continued my shopping.

Over the weeks, I met this friendly Co-op staff member several times during my visits to the supermarket. We got to know one another a bit more, usually saying 'hello' each time we met, as you do in Cranleigh, being – as it is – such a very friendly place to live and work. His name is Neil Longhurst, the Co-op Team Manager, and as we chatted further, he told me about his interest in wildlife photography.

Neil Longhurst

Wildlife photographer, Cranleigh.

Having lived in Cranleigh all his life, Neil first became interested in wildlife and photography around the age of eighteen. He realised how lucky he was to live in this beautiful part of Surrey - home to a wealth of wildlife in so much stunning countryside. As his interests began to develop, it seemed a logical progression that the two combine. Neil also has two daughters who evidently share his passion for animals and photography. His eldest, Amber (24) studied Photographic Arts at Westminster University, while his younger daughter, Chelsea (21) loves nothing more than going hacking in the Surrey countryside with her horse. Locally, Neil is known as the 'Badger Boy', for his passion for photographing local badgers. He is proud to have caught hundreds of great images of the animals in and around



Badgers at play

the village. Beyond the badgers, Neil has travelled further afield, photographing wildlife on the Farne Islands, Bass Rock and Skomer Island, where he captured puffins, otters, dolphins and gannets. Twenty of the photographs from these trips have been chosen by RSPB marine biologist, Euan Dunn, for his book on puffins (Neil's favourite bird!).





Fox cub in May



Nuthatch

Tawny owl



Buck Roe Deer

His work has also been featured in the RSPB Magazine and Amateur Photographer. You can see more of Neil's work by visiting his website: <http://www.flickr.com/neillonghurst>. Alter-

natively, pop down to Cranleigh Pet Supplies on the high street, where a selection of Neil's framed prints are currently being exhibited.

While Neil's photography is currently a part-time passion, he would love to develop it into a full-time career, and to share his love with the world. That's why he loves to give talks at local Surrey schools and wildlife groups, and has judged a number of photographic competitions.

If you're interested in booking Neil in for a talk or lesson on wildlife photography, drop him an email on neillonghurst1@gmail.com. ■



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Crane Spotter:

tales from a Cranleigh birder



Song Thrush

December - Forget robins, the bird for Christmas is . . .

Robins, robins everywhere. Not only real ones but others of all shapes and sizes in Cranleigh's shops. Christmas is coming!

And this year there are more decorative robins than ever. Must be related to the 'redbreast' topping this year's poll to choose our national bird.

They are abundant locally and sing all seasons 24/7. If you leave a carol service around midnight there's a good chance one will still be in fine voice nearby.

Everyone seems to know robins. So I had to laugh when the Mary Poppins movie badly goofed by having her in London with a singing American robin in her hand. That 'Yankee' species is twice as big as 'our' bird.

But 'our' bird is not always as faithful to your garden as you might think. And maybe it doesn't really deserve to be our 'national' hero. It's international. Robins from around here have deserted the village and been seen hundreds of miles away.

Perhaps you can't blame them. A Ewhurst bird was found living it up by the beach on the west coast of France. Another sneaked off to Prince Charles' favoured Swiss ski resort of Klosters. The one you fed at your back door in the summer could be in Spain right now for a winter warm-up.

For me though, the best Christmas bird (apart from the Turkey) is not the robin but the much scarcer and aptly named song thrush. It brings such a huge dose of seasonal cheer to those blessed with a visitation.

Last year one arrived in the garden on November 17th and until June pumped out powerful tunes before dawn to beyond dusk.

You could hear its varied repertoire half a mile away. And the music played on - even when its eggs were sadly predated at Easter. ■

Ice Cool in Cranleigh

As the weather gets colder and the Christmas season approaches, we're thinking about what a 'cool' place Cranleigh is to live. Of course, we mean 'cool' in the vernacular, for Cranleigh is certainly a place of warmth and friendliness. As we wander the village, enjoying the festive atmosphere and cheerful faces of those we know and love, we will recall those old Beatles' lyrics from Hey Jude: "it's a fool who plays it cool by making his world a little colder". Let the warmth of love and laughter light you through these winter months, no matter how 'cold' it gets outside!

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Paris in Cranleigh?



Margery Paris celebrating her 100th Birthday at Senior Link Cranleigh. She was born October 17th 1915

Margery came to Cranleigh, to enjoy the peaceful and friendly atmosphere of our beloved village, 22 years ago, following her husband's death. She and her husband had been married for 54 years, having met in 1939 when they both arrived for a dance that had been cancelled. The two started chatting, and the rest is history!

Margery lived through both world wars. She born during the World War One, and then spent the second living in Woolwich. This was quite a place to find oneself during those troubled times. Being so close to the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich was the unfortunate site of

**"I absolutely love
Cranleigh"**

many bombings during the Blitz. Margery, however, survived the War unscathed, and went on to become both a mother and a prolific volunteer.

Margery conducted voluntary work for 35 years, including at Buckingham Palace and St Paul's Cathedral. She was awarded a service medal for her stellar contribution to charitable voluntary work over the years.

Her husband also came to help her in voluntary work in later years, after retiring from his career at the Department for Education and Sciences, for which he earned a British Empire Medal. The medal is given for outstanding civil or military service worthy of recognition by the Crown. Not bad for a gentleman who began his working career as a bus conductor!

Margery has worked tirelessly for others throughout her life, most recently in the hospital charity shop on Cranleigh High Street. She only gave up this role two years ago, at the sprightly young age of 98!

Aside from her esteemed legacy as a long-serving volunteer, Margery has one son, three grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She currently resides at Moat Lodge Retirement Home. ■

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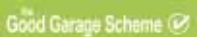
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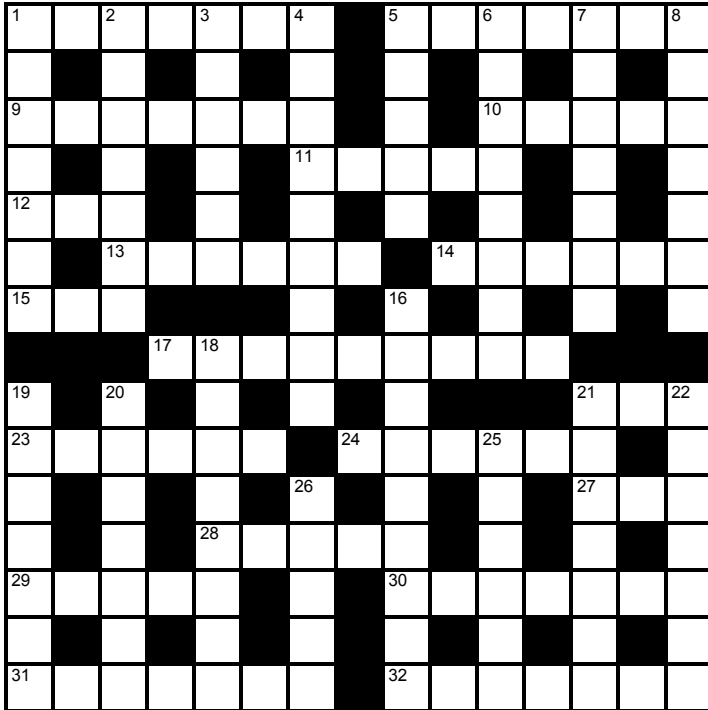
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December Crossword Puzzle 1 - Medium Level



Across

1. Married man (7)
5. Lease holders (7)
9. Most tidy (7)
10. Affected by rust (5)
11. Country in NE Africa (5)
12. Jelly (3)
13. Crotchety (6)
14. Keep under restraint (6)
15. At the present time (3)
17. Ornamental water jets (9)
21. Minor falsehood (3)
23. Member of the Society of Friends (6)
24. Take on a fresh supply of fuel (6)
27. Cereal grain (3)
28. Slumbered (5)
29. That group (5)
30. List as an item (7)
31. Folds (7)
32. Make clear (7)

Down

1. Pistol (7)
2. Devour (7)
3. Person who wields an axe (6)
4. Tending to deter (9)
5. Capital of Japan (5)
6. Situated in the north (8)
7. Feed bag (7)
8. Horizon (7)
16. Holy Land (9)
18. Abroad (8)
19. Living in water (7)
20. Combat area (3,4)
21. State in the SE United States (7)
22. Among (7)
25. Maintenance (6)
26. Transmits (5)

Crossword and Sudoku – answers will appear in the next issue.



Colin the Chameleon, from Cranleigh, was hidden on page 19 of the November magazine. Did you spot him?

S	U	F	M	O	N	S	D	E	F	R	A	U	D
U	A	C	A	P	A	A	U	R	R				
P	A	L	A	T	A	L	T	S	L	A	T	E	
P	T	I	T	H	E	R	E	B	A				
O	N	E	O	W	D	L	I	M					
R	S	U	N	T	A	N	K	A	R	A	T	E	
T	H	E											
A	B	R	R	P									
R	E	A	D	E	R	A	R	M	A	D	A	I	
T	C	C	G	E	R	L	E	V					
I	K	K	N	O	B	S	T	T	U				
C	H	I	N	A	R	S	P	E	C	I	A	L	
L	N	G	E	E	R	N	G						
E	G	H	E	A	D	D	A	Y	T	I	M	E	

November Crossword Solution

December Sudoku Puzzle 1 - Easy

5		7						8	
				9			7		4
	6		7					3	5
1					9	8			
		6	5	4	3	1			
		5	8						2
2	9				7			4	
6		1		2					
	4						9		1

December Sudoku Puzzle 2 - Hard

3	7		9				8	1
		9						2
5			8			4	7	
	3			1	5			
			3		4			
			2	7				1
	9	1			8			5
6						1		
7	5				1		9	8



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November Sudoku Easy Solution

2	4	1	9	7	6	3	5	8
9	6	8	3	2	5	4	7	1
5	7	3	4	1	8	9	6	2
8	5	4	2	9	3	6	1	7
6	3	9	7	8	1	5	2	4
7	1	2	6	5	4	8	3	9
1	9	6	8	3	7	2	4	5
3	2	5	1	4	9	7	8	6
4	8	7	5	6	2	1	9	3

November Sudoku Hard Solution

1	9	8	7	4	6	3	2	5
4	7	5	2	3	8	9	6	1
2	3	6	5	1	9	4	7	8
3	4	7	8	5	1	2	9	6
6	8	2	4	9	3	5	1	7
9	5	1	6	7	2	8	3	4
7	2	3	1	8	5	6	4	9
8	1	9	3	6	4	7	5	2
5	6	4	9	2	7	1	8	3

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D Days Dates for your Diary

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Churches Together in Cranleigh

Catholic Church

Sunday 20th December

6.30pm Parish Carol Service – St Thomas More, (Bramley)

Thursday 24th December

6pm Children's and Families' First Mass of Christmas (Cranleigh)

Friday 25th December – Mass Of Christmas Day

9am Mass at Cockcrow (Bramley)

11am Mass of Christmas Day (Cranleigh)

Saturday 26th December

6pm Vigil Mass (Cranleigh)

Sunday 27th December – The Holy Family

9am Parish Mass (Bramley)

11am Parish Mass (Cranleigh)

Methodist Church

Saturday 12th December

2.30pm Community tea with choir and other music – contact Jane O'Leary for details

Sunday 13th December

10.30am Gift Service with Christingles

Sunday 20th December

10.30am Carol Service

Tuesday 22nd December

3pm Christmas Concert at Elmbridge Village

Friday 25th December

11am Christmas Day Service

Cranleigh Baptist Church

Sunday 13th December

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 20th December

6.30pm The Christmas Couch

Thursday 24th December

4.30pm DIY Nativity – Turn up and take part or the under 11s.

Thursday 24th December

10pm Christmas Eve Late Night Carols

Friday 25th December

10.30am Christmas Morning Celebration

St Nicolas Church

Friday 11 December

10am Christmas Tree Festival Grand Opening

7.30pm Festival Concert

Sunday 13th December

4pm Christingle Service

Wednesday 16th December

7.30pm O Come, O Come Emmanuel, reflections in words and music evening

Sunday 20th December

6.30pm Village Carol Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 23rd December

7.30pm Final reflections in words and music evening

Thursday 24th December

3.30pm Crib Service

5.30pm Crib Service

11pm 'Midnight' communion

Friday 25th December

8am Christmas Day Holy Communion

10am Family Carols

10.30am Said Communion



CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH – WITH A DIFFERENCE!



For the past seven years Cranleigh has invited people to its own Community Christmas Day lunch. This was held at Cranleigh Baptist Church for a few years and at St Nicolas Church in the past two. It is an occasion brimming with the joy of Christmas and not only gives the opportunity for everyone who gathers to eat a delicious Christmas roast and also have a time for fun and friendship. Many make new friends and some simply make the most of celebrating Christmas Day in a different way.

Early in the morning a team arrives in the kitchen, as in most households, putting the turkey onto roast, preparing the vegetables and pudding. From there everything flows – the festive food, the fun, the friendships. Whole families get involved and one family acted as 'taxi' drivers picking up and dropping home the guests who didn't have transport. Even when it snowed it didn't deter anyone – the warmth of welcome and the joyful time we shared made up for the trickiness of getting there. To see the younger generation sipping wine, sharing jokes and stories with older folk brought to life the true meaning of Christmas in a vibrant and energetic way.

The afternoon ends with a rousing sing-along of Christmas carols – very apt on the exact day many of the lyrics speak of – and everyone goes on their way rejoicing.

This year the occasion is being hosted at Cranleigh Baptist Church. If you would like to volunteer in the preparations, or be a guest at a very special Christmas lunch please contact the church office on **01483 275371**.

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MES has invested heavily in dealership-level diagnostics facilities as well as the technicians trained to use them, which allows them to deliver thorough, accurate diagnoses and fix any problems quickly. From just a simple fault diagnosis right up to a complete module replacement and re-coding, MES is very proud of their competitive pricing, whatever your needs.

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Unlike many other garages, Mechanical Engineering Services (MES) will actually collect your vehicle for you, work on it to a level above and beyond the industry standard, fully valet the vehicle, and deliver it back to you at home or work. Even better, both collection / delivery and valet are absolutely free of charge. Leave your car at home and come back in the evening to find it exactly where you left it, but with all required works fully complete.

There are now 9 courtesy cars and 2 courtesy vans available for customers use. Keeping customers mobile has always been a keen focus for the team. Another ever-popular reason to choose MES as your local vehicle care centre.

MES has recently invested in its very own purpose built MOT testing facility on site. Should your vehicle fail its MOT, then a Service Advisor will always contact you before letting the workshop carry out any work at all, and don't forget - any retest required is done free of charge! There are quite often service and MOT deals on offer, so keep an eye out to find a deal to suit you.

As a homegrown local business, Mechanical Engineering Services is a proud example of local Cranleigh ingenuity. Always striving to be top of their game, the team at MES are dedicated to providing local Cranleigh and Guildford customers the most advanced technology available. This, as well as keeping any repairs cost efficient and optimally effective, whilst offering unparalleled customer service. ■



November 2015

November can be quite a busy time in the Scouting calendar and is particularly so in Cranleigh. The month started with 40 of our Cubs and Scouts heading off for an adrenaline filled weekend at PGL Marchant's Hill in Hindhead.

The trip was a mixture of fun, games, a Halloween themed disco and 7 adventurous activities including the truly terrifying PowerFan – climbing a 45ft telegraph pole, standing on a small platform at the top and jumping off! To avoid any long evenings of filling in accident report forms, the jumper is attached to a cable which is in turn attached to a large fan that, as it spins up, slows you down to a soft landing.

All of the Cubs and Scouts (and leaders!) faced their own personal challenges over the weekend, be it from PowerFan, the Giant Swing, abseiling or some of the other activities, and I was hugely impressed and proud of how they all responded to the challenge!

Mid-November saw the whole Group take part in Cranleigh's annual Remembrance Day Parade along the High Street to the War Memorial where we joined other community groups and the public for a touching service.

As always, the event was very well attended by all our sections, so a huge thank you to all our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (and their parents) for coming along. This was the day after we helped Cranleigh Lions with their annual fireworks event by organising the public parking at Nottcuts and clearing up the Common in the morning.

November was our last camp of the year. We're off to the Boidier Hurst scout campsite on Box Hill. We've let the Cubs off camping in tents in winter, we'll be staying in the Manly Building. Given we'll be only a

Two minutes silence at the War Memorial.

mile or so from the top of Box Hill, we'll be walking up there, but definitely not taking the shortest route! Hopefully we'll be able to report the fun and games next month.

Group Scout Leader **Colin Desmond** ■

■ A very special mention of thanks to Jeff Mitchell of 'Mitchell and Sons' who has supported the group by giving his time and work free of charge.

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BOOK REVIEW

Top 5 Christmas Books For Children

The shops and television adverts these days are bursting with bright, plastic toys for children, drawing our youngsters in with promises of fun and happiness when Christmas morning dawns. But if your children are anything like ours, they'll already have far too many of these sort of products littering your home. If you want to give a child a gift to last a lifetime, one that will warm their hearts and nourish their young minds, a book is the perfect choice. With that in mind, we have put together some of the very best Christmas-themed books to delight the young ones in your life this festive season.

1. The Jolly Christmas Postman

by Allan Ahlberg
Ages 2 and up

This is a perfect story for new readers, with the lovely addition of Christmas items in envelopes on each page. Kids will enjoy opening each one and discovering what's inside. It's a great way to introduce the fun of reading early on, and a pleasure for us adults to read along, too.



2. The Night Before Christmas

by Clement C Moore
Ages 3 and up

The ultimate Christmas poem that every child should experience, The Night Before Christmas comes in a range of different editions featuring splendidly festive illustrations. Look out for the edition with illustrations by Christian Birmingham, for the perfect Christmas Eve bedtime read.



3. How The Grinch Stole Christmas

by Dr Seuss

A Christmas classic from across the Pond, this American tale is a real treat to read aloud to your little ones. The rhyming and fun names of the characters skip merrily from the tongue, whilst the story of joy and love overcoming bad is a message all-too important in the troubled times we live in.



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4. A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens

Ages 12 and up

Whilst the original full version of A Christmas Carol is really only suitable for adept older readers, there are absolutely loads of simplified versions available for younger age groups. The archetypal Christmas tale, the story of Ebenezer Scrooge's lesson in compassion and generosity is one that has stood the test of time for generations.

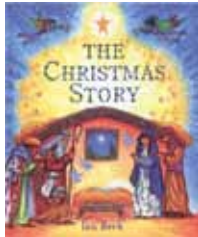


5. The Christmas Story

by Ian Beck

Ages 3 and up

Of course, no Christmas reading list would be complete without the story of the very first Christmas. Ian Beck's gorgeous book tells the story of the nativity with gentle, poetic prose, and is accompanied by warm, colourful illustrations.



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With the weather getting colder, the sunshine hours diminishing, increasing rainfall, windy weather and frosts, it can be bitter outside in the garden with the possibility of snow. Who wants to be working outside at this time of year? So keep an eye on winter protection of plants and shrubs.

Winter protection Top 10 jobs this month

- 1 Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted
- 2 Prevent ponds and stand pipes from freezing
- 3 Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops
- 4 Take hardwood cuttings
- 5 Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls)
- 6 Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding
- 7 Check your winter protection structures are securely in place
- 8 Keep mice away from any stored produce
- 9 Check that greenhouse heaters are working
- 10 Reduce watering of houseplants



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Cranleigh Rotary Club

The Christmas carol season begins on Monday, December 7th with the traditional annual Carol Concert, organised by the Rotary Club of Cranleigh. The concert will be held in Cranleigh Village Hall, starting at 7 pm (till about 8pm).

Everyone is invited to come along on this joyful occasion to sing and listen to carols from three local school choirs: Cranleigh Church of England Primary School, St. Cuthbert Mayne Primary School, and Wonersh & Shamley Green Church of England Primary School. Musical accompaniment will be provided by Godalming Town Band.

The evening will be led by Rev'd Sally Davies, Vicar of Christ Church, Shamley Green. There will be a retiring collection to support the Cranleigh Community Fund.

Cranleigh Rotarians will also be out in force in the village 17 – 19 December during their annual street collection. All proceeds will go towards various Rotary charities.



Cranleigh Rotarians Andy Kolmar (rear) and David Reed collect shoe boxes for Romania.

Cranleigh Rotary Collects Christmas Shoe Boxes

For the eighth year in succession, members of the Rotary Club of Cranleigh have been helping to bring smiles to the faces of hundreds of disadvantaged children and families at Christmas by supporting the collection of shoe boxes for Romania.

The students of Glebelands Secondary School, St Cuthbert Mayne Primary, Cranleigh Church of England Primary, Cranleigh Preparatory School and Park Mead Primary School once again surpassed themselves, donating more than 640 shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts.

Rotary President Tom Cornwell also arranged an extra collection from Longacre School in Shamley Green. The total was further increased by contributions from Oakwood Business Consultants, the Methodist Church and the Challenger magazine.

Glebelands School students alone brought in 270 shoe boxes filled with toys, sweets, stationery and other goodies. The pupils of Cranleigh Church of England Primary School also surpassed themselves by amassing a magnificent 178 shoe boxes and Cranleigh School gave 380!

The collection was organised by Cranleigh Rotarians who contacted the schools, collected and sorted the shoe boxes, then helped to load them onto a lorry at a warehouse in West Cranleigh Nurseries, which was kindly made available by Nic Vrijland, an honorary Member of the Cranleigh Rotary Club.

The shoe boxes are delivered to Romania and given to orphans and other deprived or disabled children who live in and around the old Romanian steel town of Hunedoara and who have few, if any, other presents at Christmas.

David Reed, international chairman for the Cranleigh Rotary Club, thanked all of the schools and students for once again donating such a huge number of "little boxes of happiness", as one pupil described them.

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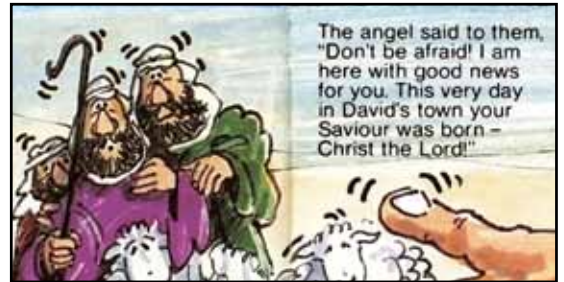


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OPEN THE BOOK

Ask any junior school child in Cranleigh what '**Open the Book**' is and they will tell you - but for those of you who don't know . . .

Open the Book is a Churches Together in Cranleigh group and what we do is each week we go into Cranleigh CofE Primary, Park Mead and Cuthbert Mayne assemblies and act out stories from the bible! It is a nationwide initiative with the aim to enable every child to hear the story of the Bible at school in their primary years.

We are now entering our fourth year of Open the Book and it is still so much fun! There are some real characters in our team and it is such a joy to work with people from **ALL** the churches and share bible stories that we all know and love in a way that the children remember and enjoy. We often get the children involved in the acting and we have found some excellent actors and actresses in the schools!

We try to be as creative as we can with our props and costumes to help the children engage with and remember the stories. Some of our props over the last year have been great, but how would you go about making an Ark for Noah? A fish to swallow Jonah? Enacting the parting of the Red Sea? Converting water in wine? These are the kind challenges that face our team every week and I have to say we have got quite inventive! My personal favourite so far this year was using the wheelchair from the back of church to create a chariot for Pharaoh. We are always looking for people to join our team, so if you can act, make props, sew costumes or read a story we have a spot for you! Get in touch with **Georgie Hendy 01483 548368** for more information.

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Mission: Impossible



It was nearly time. Henry's nose was pressed against the bedroom window, his breath steaming up the glass. He watched his mum crunching over the snowy driveway towards the car, toss the shopping bags on the passenger seat and drive away. Dad was snoozing on the sofa downstairs. His big sister, Charlotte, was listening to pop music in her bedroom. The moment had come. He crossed the room, carefully avoiding the army of dinosaurs and soldiers lined up for battle, and gently turned the doorknob. The door was obstructed by a pile of discarded school clothes, shoes and an overstuffed rucksack. Henry forced it as far as it would go, and squeezed through the gap. **Phase One:** complete. He was now on the landing.

Henry took a deep breath and exhaled slowly. He could feel his heart pounding in his chest. A surge of adrenalin coursed through his veins. It was now or never. A flicker of doubt crossed his mind. Perhaps he shouldn't be doing this. Would he spoil the surprise on the Big Day by continuing with his mission? What if Dad awoke, or Mum came home early from the supermarket? She often forgot something. It was entirely possible she could already be on her way back up the drive. Henry steeled himself against his doubts, and entered **Phase Two.**

The goods were located in one of three separate locations on the first floor of the building, narrowed down to one specific area in the master bedroom. Location One: At the back of one of the drawers under Mum and Dad's bed. Location Two: Mum's wardrobe, under the handbags. Or, Location Three: Above the wardrobe, behind the box of his and Charlotte's old paintings. The bedroom was situated right above the liv-

ing room, where Dad was napping. The house was old, the floorboards creaky. There was a very real danger of being discovered.

Fortunately, Henry had planned ahead regarding the floorboards. Simple physics implied that the best method to avoid detection would be to approach the target location on his belly. With a larger surface area placing less pressure on the boards, he figured they would be less likely to creak and give the game away. Of course, this method would add time to the mission, time which was already of the essence. He must engage immediately.

Phase Two underway, Henry dropped to the floor in the middle of the landing, and, using his elbows and the movement of his thigh and stomach muscles, began crawling across the carpet. This is how snakes move, but they don't have elbows. Their muscles must be very strong, and probably very different to mine, Henry thought to himself, shuffling along. He made a mental note to look up the anatomy of snakes in his encyclopaedia once the mission was over.

Henry was making good progress. He had already passed the top of the stairs, and was just about to broach the quarter-way point under the tinsel-decked bay windows, when the sound of a door opening made him freeze mid-shuffle.

"What are you doing?" It was Charlotte. She was leaning against the door frame to her bedroom with her arms crossed.

"Shhhh!" Henry hissed. "I'm on a mission."
"You're such a loser," she scoffed, and disappeared back into her room, closing the door behind her.

Phew! That was close. Had she suspected? No, Henry didn't think so. He paused a moment, wondering whether to engage Charlotte in the mission. She was taller, after all. If the goods happened to be in Location Two, above the wardrobe, her height would be extremely beneficial to attaining the goal. But no, Henry decided against it. It was too much of a risk. Charlotte's loyalties were split, and you never could tell which side she'd be on at any given time. His sister was a dangerous double-agent, not to be trusted.

So our hero shuffled on, stoic and resolute, to his destination at the end of the hall. The door loomed in sight. The door was closed, but not locked. It could only be locked from the inside, and with both occupants elsewhere, entry would be simple.

At the door, Henry eased himself up onto his knees, and slowly turned the knob. He heard the catch slide back, and the door swung inwards. Henry lowered himself back onto his belly. Entering Phase Three.

Location One was closest, just a few feet ahead. Henry shuffled towards the bed. There were four drawers under the bed, each one of them potentially holding the goods. He began with the one closest to him, sliding out the



drawer and raising himself onto his hands to see inside. Bed sheets, all neatly folded and stacked. Henry slid a hand right to the back, felt under each pile just in case. No luck.

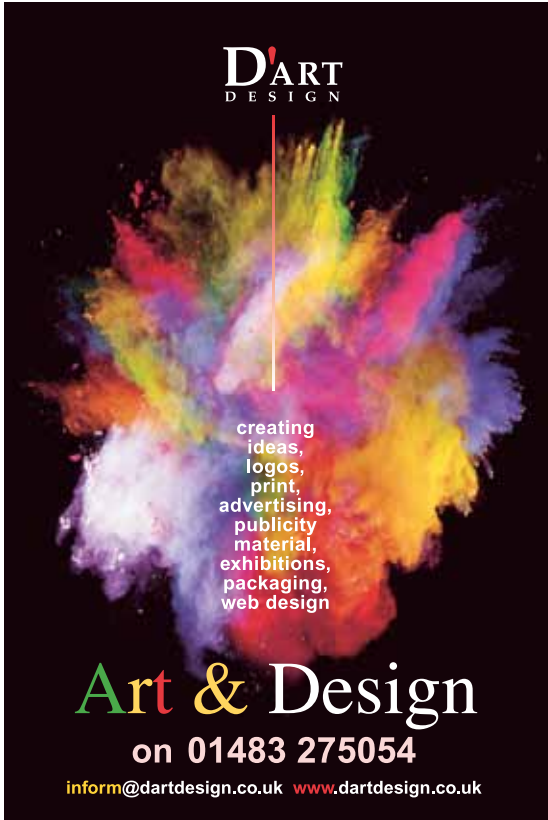
Executing a perfect alligator roll to the right, Henry opened the next drawer. This was filled with all kinds of weird stuff. An old hairdryer, magazines, a tangle of unidentified cables. There was a white plastic bag at the back. Henry felt inside. It was just old tights. Now he'd have to make it round to Dad's side of the bed and check the drawers there.

Henry managed to shuffle his way over to Dad's side without so much as a peep from the floorboards. Alas, there was nothing to be found in either of Dad's drawers. Next stop: Location Two – Mum's wardrobe. He shuffled across the floor, still on his belly, and opened the wardrobe door from the bottom by hooking his fingers under it. Peering into the darkness, Henry located the pile of handbags. He stuck his hand inside and felt around for something beneath the pile. Nothing. Feverishly, Henry climbed half into the wardrobe and turned the pile of bags upside down. Still nothing underneath.

Henry whispered a bad word under his breath, and sat up. He closed the wardrobe door and sighed. That left only one more place to check. Taking pains not to upset those creaky floorboards, he got to his feet. The wardrobe was too tall for him to see to the top. There were no handles or other footholds he could use to scale the face of it. There was just one thing for it: he'd have to get Mum's dressing-table chair.

With all the care and silence he could muster, Henry dragged the heavy wingback chair across the carpet, and climbed on. He couldn't reach. He tried standing on the arms, but he was still too short to even reach a hand onto the top of the wardrobe, let alone to move the box of paintings to see what was behind.

Still, he was running out of time. He'd come too far to abort the mission now. With the skill of a trained stuntman (as he was sure he would one day become), Henry climbed right onto the back of the chair, and hoisted himself up onto the top of the wardrobe. There was a sound from outside the window, a car's engine purring on the



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drive. Shaking but determined, he pressed on.

He could see something shiny, just behind the box. It was Christmas wrapping paper, he was sure of it! Squinting in the dim light, he reached out an arm. A creaking of footsteps on floorboards in the distance. He could see something else there, in the bag with the wrapping paper. It was toy packaging! He could even make out the Action Man logo. If he could just get a little closer . . . just a little closer . . . "HENRY!" ■

Michele Baker - Copywriter
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Ice Cool In Cranleigh: Eat, Drink and Be Merry!

The festive season is upon us, which means plenty of celebration: eating, drinking and merriment galore! With that in mind, we've put together some of our favourite festive recipes, all in keeping with our 'Keep Cool For Cranleigh' theme.

Eat

Whilst many of us hail the Christmas pudding as the ultimate dessert for the big day, not everybody is a fan of the traditional fruity treat. That's why it's often a good idea to offer an alternative for your guests at Christmas lunch, or for other meals this season. We absolutely adore this chocolate-y Christmas bombe recipe, which is not only utterly delicious and different, but is so simple to make that you can do it with the kids in just half an hour. The other great thing about this recipe is how flexible it is. You can play around with flavours and ingredients to meet the tastes of your guests, with a huge variety to choose from.

Ingredients

- 1 litre of chocolate ice cream
- 75g raisins
- 75g chopped fudge
- 50g chopped pistachios
- 2 tsp cocoa
- 40g chopped white chocolate
- 40g chopped dark chocolate

Of course, you could choose an alternative flavour of ice cream, mix in fresh strawberries or raspberries in place of the raisins, or choose chocolate chips instead of fudge. The nuts can be left out or replaced with marshmallow, biscuit chunks or even cookie dough!

Method

First, remove your ice cream from the freezer and allow to stand for about 15 minutes to soften. Then, scoop it into a mixing bowl. Add the raisins, pistachios and fudge, then spoon the mixture into an oiled 1 litre pudding basin. You could create a hollow in the



middle and fill with fresh berries, chocolate spread or Smarties. Then freeze for 1 hour until solid.

To remove the pudding from the basin, rub a damp cloth dipped in hot water over the surface of the bowl. This will loosen the pudding, allowing you to turn it out onto a plate. Take care, though!

Once you've turned it out onto a plate, dust with the cocoa and then return to the freezer for 30 minutes. Next, melt the white and dark chocolate together (or separately if you prefer), in a bowl over a pan of simmering water. Drizzle the chocolate over the top of your pudding, and freeze again.

Remove your finished pudding from the freezer again 10 minutes before serving, so it's nice and soft (but not too soft!). Dust with icing sugar for a snowy effect, and top with a single cherry, sprig of holly, or maybe some edible glitter!



Drink

Chilly Cranberry and Ginger Punch

A good festive punch is the perfect addition to your Christmas party. What's better is one that works for all the family. This punch is perfect for kids and adults alike, with just one simple addition to give a little alcoholic kick for the over 18's!

We also love how eye-catching this punch looks, with the mix of colour really giving it a seasonal appearance. We think that the best way to serve this punch is in a large glass drinks dispenser, which helps ensure the bits don't clog up your guests' glasses, as well as providing the best way to show off the beauty of your creation.

Ingredients

- 1 part lemonade
- 1 part cranberry juice
- 1 part ginger ale
- For adults, add a measure (or two!) of Spiced Rum
- Also: a bowl of fresh cranberries, two slices of lemon, a stick or two of cinnamon, and a sprinkling of cloves

Simply mix the liquid ingredients in a bowl, before pouring into your glass drinks dispenser. Add the fruit and spices last, so they float to the top.

Be Merry

One of the greatest things to be happy about not just at Christmas time but all year round is that the real gifts of Christmas are **free** gifts; peace, joy and goodwill to all men.

'An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is

the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

Luke Chapter 2: v 9-14



Follow the web site link to activate our online advent calendar every day over the Christmas period.

<http://www.dartdesign.co.uk/Advent>



Keeping Bees Alive:

Facts about Britain's Bee Population

- Honeybees are the only insect that produces food eaten by humans.
- Worker honeybees are female.
- The average worker bee produces only 1/12 teaspoon of honey over her lifetime.
- A worker bee lives about 6 weeks. The queen bee can live to be 5 years old.
- Honey never spoils.
- To make one pound of honey, -bees must visit 2 million flowers.

The Natural Life Shop are stockists of local honey supplies produced by beekeepers in the Cranleigh and Ewhurst areas. www.thenaturallifeshop.co.uk



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St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

11 - 14 December

Open to the Public:

Friday: 11am - 7pm (Concert at 7.30pm)
Saturday: 9am - 12.30 + 2.30 - 7pm
Sunday: 12noon - 6.30pm (Christingle Service at 4pm)
Monday: 9am - 6.30pm (Prize-giving and Carols at 6.30pm)

Entry is Free, but donations shared between St Nicolas Church and The Children's Society

Refreshments served throughout

Sponsored by **SANTA FIR**

Christmas at St. Nicolas Church

Christmas is coming to St Nicolas Church in a big way this December. We have as many as 50 Christmas trees all being decorated. There will be prizes for the best trees for Business, Village Children's Groups, Village Adult Group, and Individual entry.

We start with a grand opening on Friday 11th December at 11am and then in the evening there will be a Festival Concert in church surrounded by these magical trees at 7.30pm. On Saturday you can view from 9am with Christmas music playing throughout the day until 7pm, except when a wedding takes place at 12.30pm to 2.30pm. The church will be closed during this time. What a lovely way to have romantic wedding to remember. Then we will be carrying on this truly special time with a fairyland feel.

On Sunday again we start at noon until 6pm with the opportunity to attend the special Christingle Service which will take place at 4pm until 5pm within this forest of glittering trees all around, you don't have to be a child to come. So this is just the start of things we are doing during December so watch the notice boards and check our website: www.stnicolascranleigh.co.uk.

On the last day there will be a carol concert and prizes for the best trees at 6.30pm. The Festival sponsored by SantaFir.

Jane Etherington

Communications@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk



Vocal Point



Vocal Point Singers.

14 Skilled and enthusiastic amateur singers who enjoy a wide variety of musical styles, will be in St Nicolas Church Cranleigh on 11th December starting at 7.30pm. Tickets can be purchased on the door or from the Church office priced £10 which includes refreshment in the interval, should be very magical amongst the Christmas Trees. ■

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Cranleigh Arts Centre December



Exhibition: Margarita Vul

Tuesday 1 to 9 December, 10am to 4.30pm
Spirituality, the human mind and nature are just some of the themes explored in Margarita Vul's stunning collection of 3D mixed media paintings.
www.margaritavul.com **Entry Free**

Classical Recital Series:

Leander Kippenberg on Cello

Wednesday 2 December, 1pm

Cranleigh Arts Centre in association with the Philharmonia Orchestra's Martin Musical Scholarship Fund presents Leander Kippenberg playing Cello, with accompanist Edward Liddall. Leander performed as a soloist and chamber musician in Germany, Switzerland and the UK in renowned concert halls such as the Tonhalle Zürich, the Sendesaal Bremen, the Glocke in Bremen, St. John Smith Square in London and the Barbican Hall. Leander and Edward will present the following programme: Beethoven cello sonata no. 3 op. 69 in A major and Shostakovich cello sonata op. 40 in d minor.

Tickets: £16, £15 Friends of Cranleigh Arts Centre, £10 Students & under 16 yrs



Film: Force Majeure (15)

Wednesday 2 December, 8pm

A Swedish family travels to the French Alps to enjoy a few days of skiing. The sun is shining and the slopes are spectacular but, during a lunch at a mountainside restaurant, an avalanche turns everything upside down. With diners fleeing in all directions, Ebba calls for her husband, Tomas as she tries to protect their children. Tomas, meanwhile, is running for his life . . .

Tickets: Adults £7.50, Friends £6.50, £5 16 yrs and under



Live Music: Soul Sugar'd

Thursday 3 December, 8.30pm

No musical morsel is left unsugared with this unique blend of Soul Sugar'd Soul, as well as vocal harmonies you won't believe! Expect fabulous soul treatments of iconic - as well as off-the-wall - material from artists as diverse as David Bowie and the Beatles, from Stevie Wonder to Joan Armatrading, Prince to Massive Attack, The Stylistics to Lenny Kravitz, Aretha Franklin to Elbow. Backed by the top class 4-piece Soul Sugar'd band.

Tickets: £16 cabaret seating & balcony



National Theatre Live: Jane Eyre

Tuesday 8 December, 7pm

Almost 170 years on, Charlotte Brontë's story of the trailblazing Jane is as inspiring as ever. This bold and dynamic production uncovers one woman's fight for freedom and fulfilment on her own terms. This acclaimed re-imagining of



Brontë's masterpiece was first staged by Bristol Old Vic last year. Director Sally Cookson now brings her celebrated production to the National, presenting an exhilarating performance. **Tickets: £16**

Exhibition: Christmas Ornaments Forest

Thursday 10 to Sunday 13 December, 10am to 4.30pm

Christmas Ornaments Fair is a beautiful white forest installation displaying original and handmade tree ornaments by Margarita Vul. Visitors are very welcome to browse between white trees, reach up and pluck the ornaments from branches! **Entry Free**

The Cranleigh Community Choir...and Friends Christmas Concert

Thursday 10 December, 8pm

Sharon Duggan presents The Cranleigh Community Choir...and Friends Christmas Concert. The Cranleigh Community Choir concerts are really popular and entertaining events for all the family. A very special variety event with a high standard of wonderful performances from professionals, students and of course the choir - so come along and be our guests for a brilliant night out!

Tickets: £7.50, £5 for 12 yrs and under

Children's Theatre: The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Friday 12 December, 11.30am & 2.30pm

Charlie Hubble is a little boy with a very big dream; he wants to be a world-class magician. On Christmas Eve there is a knock at the door. But it's not Santa - it's a real life Sorcerer. This Spellbinding new show comes to life with a magical blend of music, puppetry and storytelling - the perfect treat for Christmas for 3-7 years. **Tickets £8**

Christmas Crafted

Wednesday 16 to 23 December, 10am to 4.30pm

The Cranleigh Arts Centre gallery and Art Tea House will be transformed into a winter wonderland with local artists selling handmade crafts with a festive theme. An ideal opportunity to buy Christmas cards with a difference and last minute Christmas presents. **Entry free**

Royal Opera House Live: The Nutcracker

(2nd Screening) Thursday 17 December, 7.15pm

It wouldn't be Christmas without The Royal Ballet's classic production of The Nutcracker. Loosely based on a story by E.T.A. Hoffmann, it opens with the Christmas festivities of little Clara and her family and progresses through a sequence of dreams and enchantments that take Clara on her magical journey to the Land of Snow and the Kingdom of the Sweets. Peter Wright's enchanting production with its wondrously growing Christmas tree and a rousing battle between the villainous Mouse King and an army of toy soldiers, mines the colour of Tchaikovsky's score, retaining exquisite surviving fragments of the original Ivanov choreography, including the beautiful pas de deux for the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. **Tickets: £18**

Family Theatre: The Snow Queen

Tuesday 22 December, 2pm & 7pm

Hold on to your hats and get ready to be blown away by this enchanting new version of Hans Christian Anderson's fairy-tale adventure. This show features magical songs,



beautiful costumes, scenery and a host of colourful characters. Wrap up warm and join us for this delightful laugh-out-loud retelling of a timeless chronicle that will melt your heart. A fun, frosty, fast-paced adventure for the whole family.

Tickets: Adults £12, Children £10, Family Ticket £40 (2 adults and 2 children under 16)

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

01483 278000 (Tues-Sat 10am-4.30pm) or visit www.cranleighartscentre.org

PRESS ENQUIRIES

For further information or images - please contact: Jane Howard on 01483 278001 or email jane@cranleighartscentre.org
Sign up to our e-newsletter / facebook / twitter



ROWLEYS

Centre for the Community

Rowleys provides a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for all its visitors. It's a great place to meet up with friends, enjoy a meal or one of our activities. You can also sign up to go on one of our popular day trips or weekend breaks.

There is no age limit at Rowleys, we welcome everyone of all ages to come along.

Our regular visitors come from all around the Cranleigh district which includes Dunsfold, Bramley, Ewhurst, Sharnley Green, Ellens Green, Alfold and Rudgwick but if you live a little further afield and would like to come along, there are no restrictions. **BOOK your place NOW** for our New Year pantomime . . . **Little Red Riding Hood . . .** on **Friday 22nd January 2016**
Price £6 to include a special 3 course lunch.

Contact the office for details. **01483 277155** or Email: info@rowleyscranleigh.co.uk

Local information

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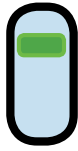
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