

CROFT VILLAGE NEWS

SPRING 2019

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CROFT PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to this edition of the Croft Parish Council Newsletter! Croft Parish Council look forward to seeing everyone in the village attend the Fun Day on Saturday 8th June.



The next edition of the newsletter will be out in October 2019 and is delivered to all houses in Croft. If you or your organisation have events to publicise, the Council will be pleased to include them.

Royal British Legion Croft Branch Update

Remembrance Day 2018 celebrated the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. Thank you to all the people who knitted poppies for the cascade and to the Croft School children for their imaginative poppies. These were all displayed in our church to great effect alongside information of villagers of Croft who died during this conflict and information of others who served.

A big thank you also to the ladies of the village who provided an excellent buffet once again for those taking part in the Parade and Service. After a long day, a hot drink and food is really welcome, plus the chance to meet up and talk together, even if it is only once a year.

Thank you to The Heathcote Arms for their unstinting support too. Without the skittle alley we would have nowhere to congregate and enjoy a buffet and chat. We also thank Croft Silver Band for their continued support and all the other organisations that join us on the day.

Thank you to all who attended and participated. So many people are involved in the smooth running of Remembrance Sunday and not all are members of the RBL.

You may wonder what happens to the wooden crosses placed at the Memorial. They are collected on Ash Wednesday, burnt and the ashes put around the roses. Those named on the crosses are always respected.

The RBL is always looking for new members. If you would like to join us, we meet at Heathcote Arms on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:30pm and you would be more than welcome to come and ask any questions.

If you don't want to be a member but are willing to help with care of the Memorial garden, to sell poppies in November Poppy Appeal fortnight (so far the Branch has raised over £36,000), knitting more poppies for the cascade (we hope to put it into church again this year) please contact Brian on 01455 284 967.

At November's AGM Brian Thomas stepped down as Chairman, after 8 years, and handed over to Dennis Denton.

We look forward to seeing you at the June Fun Day. Thank you again for your support.

New Urgent Care Service Set To Open In Blaby District

Enderby Leisure Centre is to host a new urgent care services. From April 2019, the new centre will see services provided for patients at times when GP practices are closed - on weekday evenings from 6.30pm-9.00pm and on weekends and Bank holidays from 9.00am-7:00pm. Patients will be able to walk-in to access healthcare and appointments will be offered to those calling NHS 111 if their symptoms require it.

Council Agrees Precept Amount for 2019/20

This year the Parish Council have reviewed the amount they require for the parish Precept, which goes towards all the activities and work the council are involved in. The Council have made the difficult decision to increase the Precept by £15.73/19% (in a Band D property).

This increase will go towards the cost of a new member of Handystaff to maintain parish assets, the Winston Avenue car park which we recently acquired and towards the new community centre. Anyone who would like to contribute ideas towards the community centre is asked to contact the Clerk or Cllr Sharon Amey.

For more information see our website News pages and notice boards.

CROFT VILLAGE NEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CROFT PARISH COUNCIL

Good Neighbours Need Good Friends

Croft Good Neighbours (CGN) have been helping villagers for over 4 years with various tasks such as, lifts to appointments, help with shopping, DIY, sitting with someone so a carer can go out plus more..

The requests are growing & we need more villagers to volunteer to help with this much valued service. If you can spare some time, every now & then, please think about volunteering & get in touch - call us on 07590 246 386 or contact us on www.croftgoodneighbours.com and we will get back to you.

Volunteers will be asked to complete a Data and Barring Services application - criminal records check, supplied & paid for by CGN - before they are asked to do any requests.

Looking forward to hearing from you...



Church Request Closure of Churchyard Extension Cemetery

The Parochial Church Council of "Broughton Astley and Croft with Stoney Stanton" intend to seek approval for the closure of St Michael and All Angels Churchyard extension in Croft and further approval to transfer maintenance to the local authority.

We would like to hear any thoughts and objections from residents regarding the proposed closure, and would request you contact the Clerk or Councillors with these.

The closure of the churchyard will mean no new plots can be used for burials, though where the Existing Right is held, burials may still take place in existing plots. Burials will still continue in the new cemetery.



Reduce, Re-use, Recycle

As the amount of plastic waste being sent to landfill continues to grow and have a devastating impact on wildlife, both on land and at sea, we would like to challenge as many people in Croft as possible to cut down on the amount of plastic they use, looking instead for loose, not packaged vegetables at the supermarket, using a reusable drinks bottle rather than buying a plastic bottle from the shop each time, taking extra bags with you to use again, and trying to separate as much of your rubbish as possible to ensure that as much as possible can go to be recycled rather than going to landfill.



Volunteers Needed To Listen To Children Read In Local Primary Schools

Can you spare an hour or two a week to listen to children read in a local primary school? Schoolreaders is looking for more volunteers in Leicestershire to carry out this important role.

Reading time for many children at home and at school is often insufficient and according to Government statistics, one in four children are now leaving primary school unable to read to the expected standard. This can have a lifelong consequence.

Schoolreaders is flexible and aims to match your availability to an appropriate, local school. No qualifications are necessary, just a good command of spoken and written English and a commitment of one year is requested. Our volunteers find the scheme incredibly rewarding, knowing that a few hours helping a child learn to read each week can have such a great impact on their life chances.

Visit the website www.schoolreaders.org to join or call 01234 924111 for further information.

CROFT VILLAGE NEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CROFT PARISH COUNCIL

CROFT NEWSREEL

Croft Community Association - Croft Community Association met for their AGM on Monday 4th March to agree the closure of the group.

The AGM agreed that all assets would be sold off, and any monies generated would be distributed among the various groups.

Croft Wednesday Group - The group will be having a Charity Fashion Show in aid of Dementia on Wednesday 26th June 2019 at Croft Primary School. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Croft Players - Croft Players have been entertaining the Village of Croft for 45 years. Along with our Annual show, plays and murder mystery's. We're always looking for new members, so if you fancy having a go don't hesitate to contact us. Please check us out on our website/Facebook.

Rehearsals are well under way for this years annual show - **WE'RE GOING ON AN HEIR HUNT**

WHEN Thursday 25th / Friday 26th / Saturday 27th April.

WHERE Croft School, Brookes Ave.

TIME 7:30pm

TICKETS £7 and Concessions £6

To order your tickets please contact Vicky Willcox on 0116 286 1583.

Village Fundraising – We are keen to organise as many fundraising opportunities as possible to raise money for the Village Hall project and our local groups in the village. If anyone has any ideas for fundraising or would like help or advice in organising their own fundraising events, please contact us.

St Michael and All Angels Croft welcome anyone wishing to book our new community space for yoga, pilates or similar, or choir or band practise etc. in Croft, or perhaps would like to hold a charity coffee morning to contact Eddy Brew, The Churchwarden on 0116 284 9372 for a chat.

Police Beat Surgeries where you can report any issues/concerns directly to a local police officer are scheduled for Sun 24th March, 10:00-11:00 at Huncote Pavilion, Tues 2nd April, 10:00-11:00 at Sharnford Garden Centre, Thurs 16th May, 10:00-11:00 at Thurlaston Garden Centre, Mon 8th July, 10:00-11:00 at Sapcote Sports Pavilion, Thurs 24th August, 15:00-16:00 at Stoney Stanton Library, and Mon 23rd September, 15:00-16:00 at Stoney Stanton Library.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Bingo and Bangers evening, an evening of good fun, good food and silly prizes. At Croft school, Friday 29th March 7pm. For more information please contact Claire on 01455 282 495.

Croft Wednesday Group Charity Fashion show - Wed 26th June, Croft School

Fun Day - Saturday 8th June, Winston Avenue Sports Ground see the return of the village Fun Day, bigger and better this year, and the chance for various village groups to hold stalls. If you are interested in having a stall please contact Cllr Amey or Cllr Rhodes. This year we are donating proceeds to local projects and village groups instead of a national charity.

Cream teas with Treasure Hunt starting from church, July 13th 2pm. For more information please contact Claire on 01455 282 495.

Croft Canter - Saturday 21st September.

Travel Festival weekend of 27th - 29th September, St Michael & All Angels church would like everyone in the village to be involved by bringing any souvenirs they have collected on their holidays so that we can make a great display. How many counties, countries and continents can we cover? How far around the world will we go? There will be refreshments throughout the weekend. For more information please contact Claire on 01455 282 495.

Future Events

The Croft Branch of the Royal British Legion will be organising another coach visit to the National Memorial Arboretum in June as this has proved popular. Date, times and cost will be on the Notice Boards nearer the time and seats will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the parish notice boards for more details of other events, including'

- Croft Open gardens - to be confirmed at this week's meeting
- Xmas Pudding Chase
- Croft Xmas Fayre and Light Switch on!

CROFT VILLAGE NEWS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CROFT PARISH COUNCIL

Parish/District Council Elections - Thursday 2nd May 2019

Every four years you as the local electorate are asked to vote for who will represent you at the Parish and District Council levels.

The last such election was held in May 2015 when District Cllr Mr David Freer retained his seat. All parish council candidates were elected uncontested, any vacancy has since been co-opted.

Parish Councillors are elected/co-opted to represent the interests and expectations of everyone who lives and works within the parish boundary, and have three main components to their role:

- ♦ **Decision Making** – Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.
- ♦ **Monitoring** – Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.
- ♦ **Getting involved locally** - as local representatives, Councillors have responsibilities towards their parishioners and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the Councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:
 - Going to meetings of local organisations
 - Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community
 - Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public
 - Running a surgery for residents to bring up issues

If you would like to learn more about Parish Council's, what is involved as a councillor or if you wish to become a councillor and help support Croft and drive the community forward, then please speak to an existing Councillor or the Clerk who will be happily give you more information.

Alternatively, more information can be found in the [About Your Council](#) section of our website.

Detailed information is available on the 2nd May 2019 elections by visiting www.blaby.gov.uk/about-the-council/voting-elections/elections-may-2019/.

How to Contact Your Local Councillors

Should you have an issue to raise or a question about something going on in your community that you would like answers to, please don't hesitate to contact the Clerk or one of your local Councillors for help, support and advice.

Cllr CLIVE MAWBY (Chairman) -	5 Salisbury Avenue, Croft	(01455) 285 468
Cllr PHILIP SMITH (Vice-Chairman) -	25 Sparkenhoe, Croft	(01455) 282 470
Cllr SHARON AMEY -	1 The Green, Croft	07734 152 166
Cllr CHRIS HOLMES -	2 Brookes Avenue, Croft	(01455) 282 703
Cllr RICHARD HOWARD -	49 Broughton Road, Croft	(01455) 282 284
Cllr CARL KING -	18 Bala Road, Croft	(01455) 282 632
Cllr SUE RHODES -	9 The Green, Croft	07787 515 469
Cllr AARON SPENCE -	Fulmore Farm, Croft Road, Cosby,	07767 787 223
Cllr MAGGIE WRIGHT (County Councillor) -		07815 450 031
	www.leicestershire.gov.uk	maggie.wright@leics.gov.uk
Cllr DAVID FREER (District Councillor) -		07976 667 703
	www.blaby.gov.uk	cllr.david.freer@blaby.gov.uk
STUART BACON (Parish Clerk) -	c/o 3 Mountfield Road, Earl Shilton LE9 7LW	07922 614 585
	www.croftparishcouncil.org.uk	clerk@croftparishcouncil.org.uk

Would you like to know more about what is happening locally?

Have you been keeping up to date with the Parish Council and what's happening in the village on Twitter or Facebook? Why not look us up and 'Like' / 'Follow' us to be kept up to date with the latest news and info from the Parish Council and links to other helpful, informative and important news from our partners.

facebook.com/CroftPC.LE9



twitter.com/Croft_PC

