

JANUARY 2016 ISSUE 3



CRANLEIGH MAGAZINE

A New Year Dawning in Cranleigh

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

C R O W E S

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contents

January 2016

CRANLEIGH MAGAZINE

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

It is 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 connected in 2016.

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

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



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Cover Photo
Blue sunrise

A New Year dawns in Cranleigh

Here we are in 2016, its a *new day*, a *new month*, and more especially a *new year!* We can't see what's on the horizon but just as we can watch each day's sun rise, with its miracle of light and life, let's look anew and observe the beauty that surrounds us.

Be thankful for the place, the people and all the things we love about life. Embrace every moment and one another. Make that call, be excited for this coming year and the many adventures and challenges to be had that start in January.

Email: paul@cranleighmagazine.co.uk

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Knowle Lane about 1912

The way we were

Joy of Cranleigh

Joy Horn brings some anecdotes of 100 years ago

What was happening in Cranleigh in January 1916?

As the Great War ground on, the numbers of wounded soldiers rose inexorably. Those with serious injuries that would take time to heal were brought back to Britain to recover. The hospitals were overflowing, so many public-spirited owners of large houses offered them as temporary hospitals.

In Cranleigh, Sir George Bonham of 'Knowle' had already welcomed refugees from Belgium into 'Oaklands', an eight-bedroomed house that he owned in Knowle Lane (since rebuilt). Now that the Belgians had moved on, he offered the house as a Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital. Local people responded with enthusiasm to set it up with beds, furniture and equipment, and the first soldiers were welcomed here on 5 January. They had fought in the Dardanelles, Serbia and the Western Front.

Here are some of the recovering patients outside 'Oaklands' at a later date. Most of them are proudly wearing uniform of blue jackets with red ties – known as 'Blighty Blues'. Were they humming the latest popular war song, 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag, And smile, smile, smile'?

People of Cranleigh rose to the challenge of the wounded soldiers. The Boy Scouts carried out 'orderly duties' every day.

Within a month, the Women's War Work Association, beavering away in the Baptist schoolroom, produced 33 pairs of pyjama suits, 31 pairs of socks, fourteen 'comforters' and fourteen pairs of mittens. Mr Leslie Clair of the Common entertained the soldiers with conjuring tricks and ventriloquism. Boys from Cranleigh School gave them a concert. Landed gentry gave or lent motors and carriages for the use of patients.

Meanwhile, the Military Service Act of January 1916 introduced conscription for the first time ever in Britain. All fit single men between 18 and 41 were called up. Farms around Cranleigh were hard hit as farm labourers and skilled machinery operators joined the armed forces. Just at a time when the government was asking for more land to be taken into cultivation for food, farms had to rely on men of over 41 and boys of 14-18. Times were becoming increasingly difficult for the people here. ■





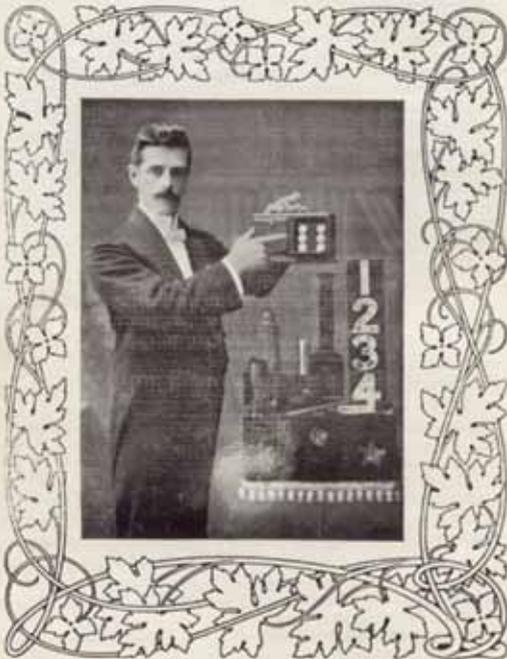
Oaklands soldiers (from Michael Miller, Around Cranleigh)

18 *Elliott's Cranleigh Directory & Almanac.*

Leslie Clair,

(Member of Magic Circle St. Georges' Hall, London, W.)

Magician and Ventriloquist.



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Leslie Clair's advert, 1910

The Cranleigh History Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Band Room. On 14th January the subject is 'Cranleigh Artists', by Michael Miller and Mike Payne

Studio Fitness Classes in Cranleigh

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People Profile

DRAWING FROM LIFE



Who's who?

A Teacher at the Duke of Kent School

Chris Wright

Artist, Cranleigh.

Born in 1978 and raised in Norfolk, Chris Wright now lives in Cranleigh with his wife, Rebecca, and two young boys, Patrick and Ben. A self-taught artist, Chris wanted to follow in his grandparents' creative footsteps, and spent many childhood hours drawing Disney cartoons. Eventually, though, the countryside where he grew up became his greatest inspiration, and he developed a firm fondness for drawing animals, especially wildlife.

Chris established his artwork commercially in 2004, whilst studying for a Masters of Research in Environment & Development – a qualification that led to him working as Senior Programmes Officer, managing great ape and tiger conservation initiatives for the UN and the Born Free Foundation. Since 2012, Chris has taken on a new challenge in the form of primary education, and has been a Teacher at the Duke of Kent School for the past three years. In what spare time he can muster, however, Chris continues to draw, mostly to commission, for what has now become an international clientele.

His debut one-man show at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts in Birmingham in 2004 was a sell-out, followed by a similarly successful solo exhibition at the Cueb Gallery in London. Chris has regularly been selected to exhibit at the annual National Exhibition of Wildlife Art in Chester, he is a three times finalist in the David Shepherd Wildlife Artist of the Year awards at London's Mall Galleries (where his work has been Highly Commended), and was awarded a Gold Citation by The Wildlife Art Society International in 2010.

Chris' conservation work took him to many parts of Africa, Central America, Europe and Asia, where he enjoyed first-hand encounters with many of

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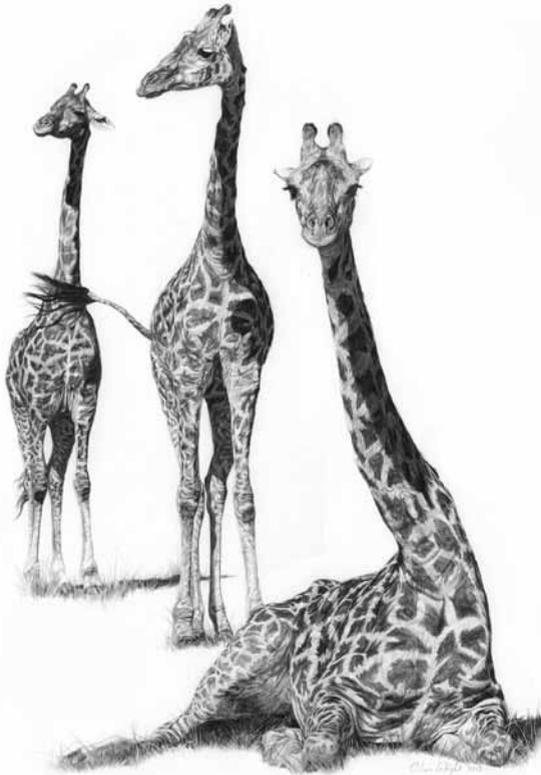




Sumatran Sultan



Titus



He Aint Heavy

the animals that have inspired his art. Most significant amongst them was the moment, in 1997, when he tracked mountain gorillas in Uganda. "Seeing them at such close

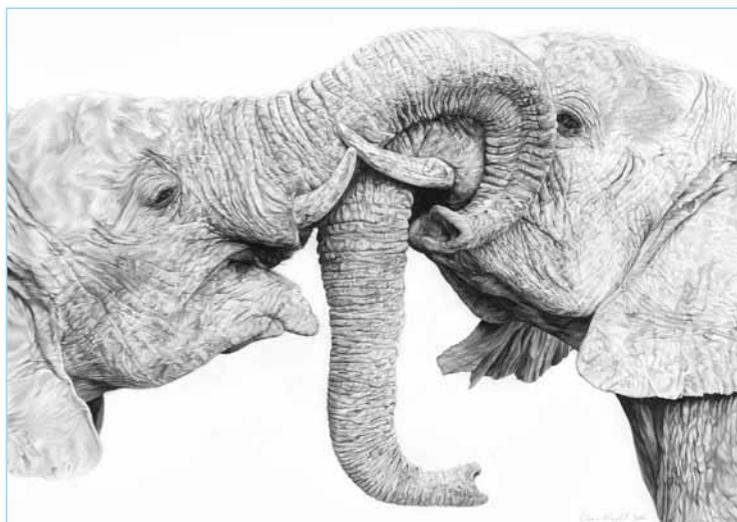
Cromwell Coffee House



quarters, in their own realm,” he explains, “was without doubt the most electrifying and humbling wildlife encounter I’ve been lucky enough to experience.”

Part of his commitment to the conservation of wildlife includes donating a percentage of his profits to Born Free’s project work to help keep wild animals where they belong – in the wild. Chris’ involvement with conservation affords not only the opportunity to make a direct contribution to saving endangered species, but also keeps the stark realities of the threats facing the natural world at the forefront of his mind: “If ever I feel like I can’t be bothered to pick up a pencil, or sense that my concentration is waning mid-drawing, my wildlife experiences give me all the motivation I need to refocus, knowing that my drawings are helping in some small way.” To date, his artwork has raised over £14,000 for wildlife conservation charities.

Chris welcomes commissions and can also be booked as a speaker on conservation issues and/or wildlife art. Original drawings and limited edition prints are available at: www.cwright.co.uk, and progress on his latest drawings can be followed at www.facebook.com/ChrisWrightWildlifeArt. ■



The Tender Tussle

Chris Wright 11/04



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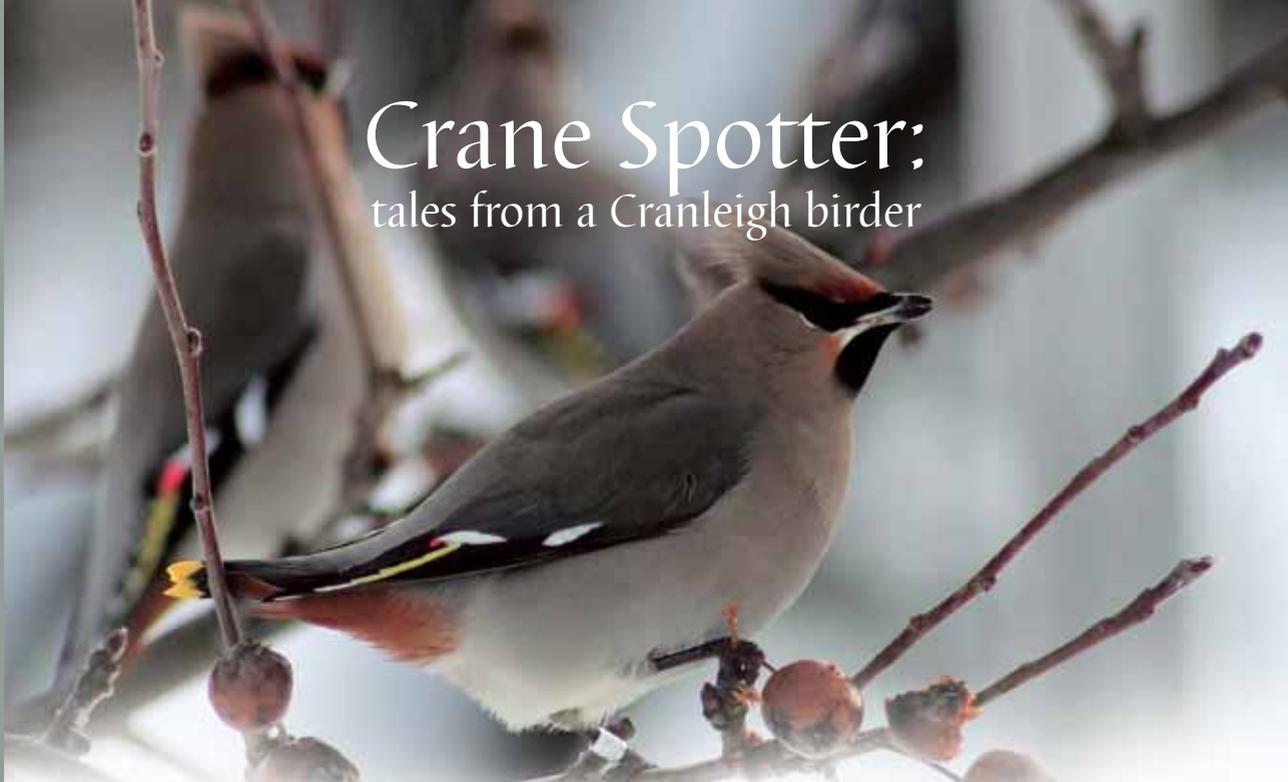
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Crane Spotter:

tales from a Cranleigh birder



January – Waxwing lyrical

Bohemian Waxwing

If ever a bird got even non-birdwatchers interested then it is the Waxwing. Starling-sized and silky feathered, it is a fruit of harsher winters further north.

Also called the Bohemian Waxwing, this strikingly beautiful and often tame species is pinkish brown with orange tinges around the face.

It has a distinctive shaggy crest, black mask and bib, a grey rump and a reddish-brown vent. The tail tip looks like it has been dipped first in black paint and then again in yellow.

At rest the adults display yellow markings along the tips of the outer wing feathers. And half way up the wing, in adults, is the distinctive red blob giving the bird its name. Ancient letters were, of course, sealed with wax of the same colour.

In Lapland, nearly 150 miles north of the Arctic Circle and far beyond the Santa Claus Village HQ, I've seen them flying low to gorge on summer insects. In winter they change diet and if you have any berries left in your garden then keep a lookout.

They were first seen a few weeks ago in Scotland and as I write some have got to Norfolk and Essex. But will they turn up for the New Year's party down here? Or even later in the month?

If they make it to Cranleigh then there will be a flock of other visitors too. The last time they arrived in the

village, two years ago, they attracted photographers to the High Street from miles away.

Up to 13 birds then put on a great show from early January to the month's end when the food ran out and they departed. In 2011 there were over 30. But you can't take them for granted. A 'Waxwing winter' is a rarity and from 1966-1995 there were no Cranleigh records at all.

One year I could wait no longer and went to see some in Woking. Suspicious neighbours alerted the police when they saw us all apparently looking through people's windows. But the coppers were soon looking through our telescopes too – enjoying the trilling Bohemian rhapsody. ■

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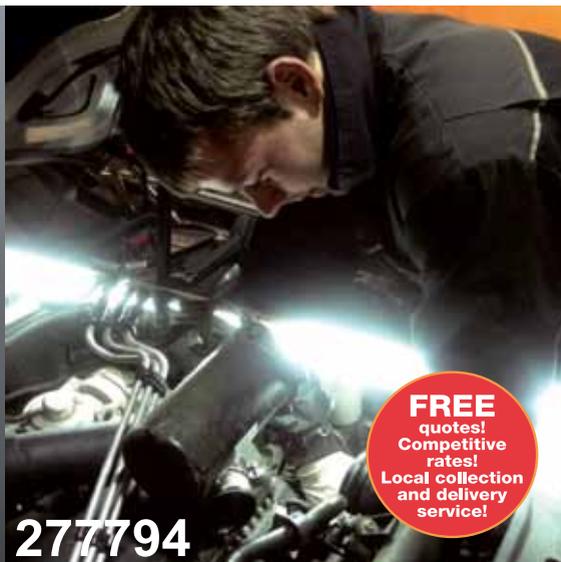
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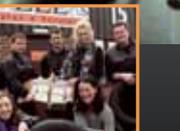
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A percentage of Ele's profits support the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation



A Cranleigh based Community Champion for Virtual Doctors



Mike Ellis

Mike Ellis, is no stranger to helping organisations; he has been a Rotarian for many years and abides by their motto “service above self”, so when asked to take up another volunteering role he didn’t hesitate! Mike will be helping to raise awareness and win resourcing to support the work of the charity in Surrey and beyond.

The Virtual Doctors look to empower overworked and under-resourced clinical officers at health centres in Zambia – which are located in some of the poorest communities in the world – using a combination of cutting – edge mobile technology and in collaboration with qualified volunteer doctors in the UK. Huw Jones, Virtual Doctor’s Executive Director says “Mike

“Service above self”

will be a great ambassador for Virtual Doctors. The saying really is true that “if you want to get things done then ask a busy person”. Mike adds “This organisation really captures my imagination. It is such a simple concept that will be very effective and I am looking forward to helping where I can. I spent my working life in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology arena and got involved because it is a health related charity that has my full support.” Mike’s first challenge was to help spread the word about the crowd-funding campaign that the charity ran during Decem-

ber which aimed to raise funds to roll the service out to new health centres in Zambia. Mike added, “It’s not too late to consider making a donation to help us develop our services more widely. Just look at the www.virtualdoctors.org website and click on the donate button. You will be making a big difference. ■

About Mike Ellis

Mike Ellis is retired. He spent his working life in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology arena working in the area of cancer care and new product development. He worked with the industries and regulatory authorities in Europe, the USA and Japan. Mike became a Rotarian in 1997 and performed a host of roles including President of Guildford Rotary Club. He remains a member of the Rotary Club of Great Britain and continues to work tirelessly for the causes he supports.

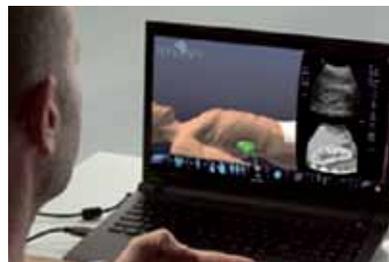
About Virtual Doctors

Virtual Doctors is a UK-based charity (reg no 1129924) that helps rural health workers in Africa to connect to doctors and medical specialists in the UK who respond with diagnosis and treatment advice, helping to save lives. By providing sophisticated yet easy to use telemedicine software and state of the art technology the charity has three clear aims:

- *to help reduce unnecessary mortality and morbidity by allowing rural health workers to treat more patients on-site.*
- *to reduce unnecessary referrals to distant and hard-to-reach hospitals.*
- *to improve the skills and knowledge of rural health workers.*

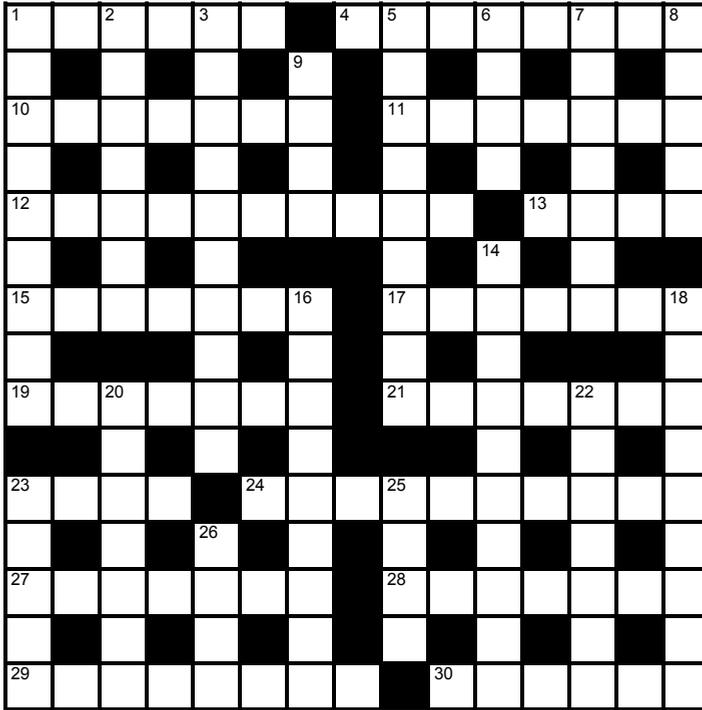
The Virtual Doctors relies 100% on charitable donations to support its work.

Contact: Huw Jones on 07981 720041
email: huw@virtualdoctors.org
www.virtualdoctors.org Twitter: VirtualDocProj



Cromwell Coffee House

January Crossword Puzzle 1 - Hard Level



Across

1. Initially you and I look around. Hurrah! (6)
4. Cheek to criticise cooking pot (8)
10. Very near approach (5,2)
11. Shunted train that's a tendency to stay put (7)
12. Versatile sportsman heard to examine performer (10)
13. Weapons sound like gifts (4)
15. Woman in note is not here (7)
17. Store a hollow red vessel (7)
19. Lunatic helmet, perhaps (7)
21. Stylish worker after Eastern support (7)
23. Pottery error (4)
24. Northern stars riot about electronic device (10)
27. Shred model for an untidy toy (3,4)
28. Knowledge about scenic point (7)
29. Saint's soldier's a good shot (8)
30. Mostly due some leave (6)

Down

1. Pleasureboat's fellow is a sailor (9)
2. Cops hit bad light investigation (7)
3. Choose two short men for engineers, perhaps (10)
5. Old Greek lets a riot develop (9)
6. Fighter strongly superior in the kitchen (4)
7. Slap girl on the knee (7)
8. Approaches mean time (5)
9. Sparkler is no friend (4)
14. Yes! Spanish day follows at the end of the year, one without significant result (10)
16. Fifty-one regular characters become irregular (9)
18. Put man off soap (9)
20. Cause endless rage in fictional feline (7)
22. Pick up device from a new singer, I'm told (7)
23. Time to pack to go away (5)
25. No points for bouquet (4)
26. Girls' delights (4)





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CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH - THANK YOU!

From the Churches Together in Cranleigh

A very big thank you to all those who helped in making the 'Christmas Day Lunch' so special for the people of Cranleigh and surrounding areas, who otherwise would have spent Christmas Day on their own.

To all the local volunteers and businesses who supported the project, donating their time and money generously - **thank you.**

DM

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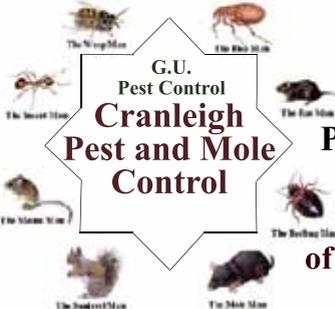
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D Days Dates for your Diary

Fridays 8, 15, 22 & 29,
Cranleigh Country Market
 will be held in The Bandroom, Village Way, Cranleigh,
 9.15am - 10.30am.

Churches Together in Cranleigh

The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Saturday 16th January 2016. CTC are planning a United Service at the Methodist Church at 6.30 pm on Sunday 17th January and we hope as many people as possible will join with us there.

We believe there is no more important time than now for Christians to join together in prayer for our troubled world and you are invited to various prayer events throughout the Week at our four churches:

Tuesday 19th January, 8.30 am
 – Morning Prayer at the Methodist Church

Wednesday 20th January, 8 am
 – Morning Prayer at St Nicolas Church

Wednesday 20th January, 7.30 pm
 – Agape at the Catholic Church

Thursday 21st January, 10 am
 – Prayers for the Community at St Nicolas Church

Saturday 23rd January, 9 – 10 am
 – Prayers at the Baptist Church.

We look forward to seeing you at our United Service and at the meetings for prayer!

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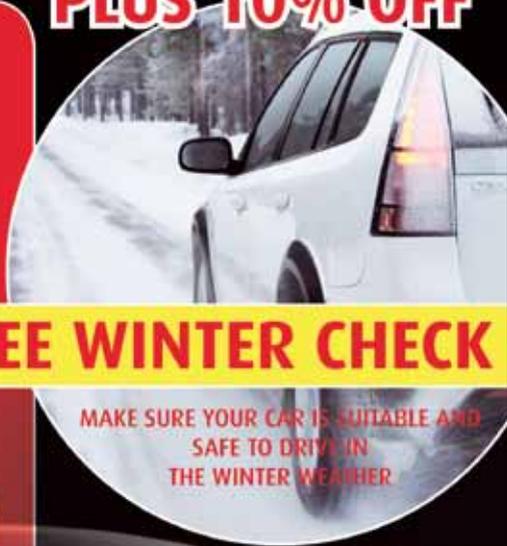
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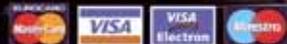
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Cranleigh Patients' Group - stepping into a healthy New Year the SMART way.

To start the New Year in the best way possible, Cranleigh Medical Practice Patients' Group is launching its Health Pledges Project, hoping to inspire Cranleigh people to make small changes in their daily lives which can improve their health, be it physical or mental well-being.

Working on the principle that if people write down and share any changes they decide to make, it helps them see the resolution through, the Patients' Group hopes that Cranleigh will make a Communal New Year Resolution

Lynda MacDermott, Chair of the Patients' Group said, "We got the idea from another patients' group in the north of England and we think it's great. The choices we make each day really do have an effect on our health, so let's think carefully about them, and make healthier choices in 2016."

Anyone can make a health pledge – all individuals, old and young or groups can join in too – like the guides or scouts – rugby, football and cricket clubs or even U3A groups!

It's easy – just work out your pledges following the **SMART** guidelines below and post them on the Patients' Group Facebook page – search for "Cranleigh Medical Centre Patient Participation Group" or drop them in at the medical centre.

Tips to make a successful
Health Pledge – Think SMART

S – Keep your pledge **specific**.

Think, "What am I going to do?" "How often, or how much?", "Will I be able to achieve it?"

For example

If you wrote – I'm going to drink less/eat fewer sweets – that's too vague – so not a good pledge but if you put – I'm going to have three alcohol/sweet free days each week – that's specific and so it's a good pledge.

M – Keep it **measurable**.

If you wrote – I'm going to try the 5:2 diet – that's not measurable, so not a good pledge. But if you wrote – I'm aiming to lose 1 lb per week – that you can measure, so it's good!

A & R achievable & realistic - 1lb per week isn't too much to aim for.

T – Put your pledge into a **timeframe** – I'm aiming to lose 1 lb per week for 20 weeks.

Here are some of the **Health Pledges** already posted

Alison:

Sit in the garden every day for at least 10 minutes (unless it's raining hard) to make sure I get enough Vitamin D for my bones.

Jo:

Spend 15 minutes each day on my walking treadmill and always take the stairs when I am in a building.



Gordon:

3 days per week without a G&T.

Thelma:

Drink 1 litre of water per day on top of my other beverages.

Jill:

Walk to the shops in Cranleigh instead of drive, at least 3 times per week.

Trevor:

Make the best use of my Fitbit & get up to that target of 10,000 steps per day 3 times per week.

Ted:

Swim at least once per week.

Lynda:

Take time 3 times per week to look up at the clouds and watch them, and work towards meditating properly.

Look out for the updates as they report back on their progress over the first few months of the year.

So come on Cranleigh! Let's put our village on the map as the fittest village in the South East.

Make your pledges soon and keep us up to date with your progress, let's have lots of photos and stay healthy in 2016! ■



Cooks of Cranleigh Country Market in the WI marquee at the Cranleigh Show, June 2015. From left to right: Susan Ross, Olive Imber, Daphne Nunneley, Ann Plumley and Carol Ratcliff.

CRANLEIGH'S BEST KEPT SECRET

CRANLEIGH COUNTRY MARKET has been trading in Cranleigh, each Friday, for 35 years! It's like a weekly mini farmers' market.

All of our cooks hold the RSPH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering and their premises have been awarded Grade 5 Hygiene Certificates by Waverley Borough Council's Environmental Health Department.

Preserves and all cooked items are made to exacting standards set by our national office from legislation

received from Government and the EEC and contain no added preservatives or colouring. Baked items are made the day before sale "for you to enjoy fresh, or freeze, by people who enjoy baking"! ■



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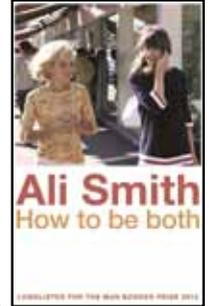
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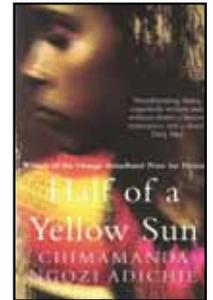
BOOK REVIEW

How to be both

by Ali Smith

The dawn of a New Year, with the customary New Year resolutions, is always a good time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. 'How to be both' is a perfect primer for this process. Winner of the Baileys Women Prize for Fiction in 2015, the book is about family, friendship, love, life and death but not at all in a conventional manner. The book is weighted throughout with duality; a duality of meaning, time, voice, and characters. Even the book comes in two versions. In one version the first part of the book is first (obviously) but in the other version, the order is switched. The whole effect challenges the accepted order of things and catches us out with our own judgements, prejudices and presumptions but in a nice way – a way that helps us to learn about ourselves. It's a clever book that is also extremely down to earth, and simply beautifully written.

Half of a Yellow Sun

by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Last month, The Guardian reported that every 16-year-old in Sweden would receive a copy of Adichie's 'We Should All be Feminists.' If you are not acquainted with the Nigerian author's work, a good starting place is 'Half of a Yellow Sun.' This is an 'epic' story, not so much in terms of its own length, but on the journey it will take you. The reader is transposed to 1960s Nigeria and a university compound where bright minds meet and hope and dream together. But those hopes and dreams are all too quickly shattered as the characters get caught up in the Nigerian Civil War – Biafra. Adichie is an extremely accomplished storyteller, who weaves magic with words, constructing a web that entraps the reader. At the same time, she deals directly with difficult issues such as racism, violence, migration, and loss in an emotionally intelligent manner. 'Half of a Yellow Sun' provides an insight into a part of history that is rarely told, and into issues that affect us all - no matter where you are in the world.

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January

Although December was the warmest recorded for years, this month your garden may need protecting from frosts, strong winds and heavy rain. Make sure you check stakes, ties, fleeces and other supports for damage and consider moving plants to sunnier positions to maximize light. Also keep feeding the birds as food is in short supply for them during these winter spells.

January jobs

Pruning and training fruit

Prune apples, pears, quinces and medlars.

Prune currants and gooseberries.

Prune autumn raspberries.

Problems

Place mice controls near stored vegetables.

Protect early seed sowings from slugs.

Protect brassicas from pigeons.

Look out for grey mould and brassica downy mildew on brassicas.

Remove all remaining plant debris from the vegetable plot. Do not compost any diseased material such as blight-infected potatoes, onions suffering from white rot and any crops with rust. Burn or bin the diseased material.

Spray against peach leaf curl.

Check apples for canker and prune out.

General care

Fruit

Keep checking stored fruits and remove rotten ones.

Ensure tree stakes and ties are firm and sound.

Apply winter washes to fruit trees and bushes.

Apply a top dressing of sulphate of potash to all fruits and nuts.

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Monica Fisher from CHASE hospice receiving a cheque from Tom Cornwell, President, of the Cranleigh Rotary Club

Cranleigh Rotary Club Supports Children at Christmas

In recent weeks, members of the Rotary Club of Cranleigh have been supporting children in this country and abroad.

Following on from their efforts in collecting more than 1,000 shoe boxes from local schools for dispatch to disadvantaged children in Romania, Tom Cornwell, this year's president of Cranleigh Rotary Club, was delighted to hand over a cheque for £1,250 to Monica Fisher from the CHASE hospice for children in Guildford. The funds were raised from the Festival of Model Railways, which took place on 26 September.



On 7 December, local schools took part in the traditional Carol Concert, organised by the Cranleigh Rotary Club.

Unfortunately a bug hit St Cuthbert Mayne Primary School, so they had to withdraw at short notice. However, the choirs of Cranleigh Church of England Primary School and Womersley & Shamley Green Church of England Primary School put on a fine show, singing a mixture of Christmas carols

and songs. They even managed to add a couple of unplanned items to the programme.

Splendid musical accompaniment was provided by Godalming Town Band and Santa Fir kindly provided the Christmas tree. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

The evening was led by Rev'd Sally Davies, Vicar of Christ Church, Shamley Green, who produced a special seasonal card to explain the significance of Christmas.

Rotary's Christmas Collection for Cumbria

Cranleigh Rotarians were out in force 17-19 December for their annual street collection. This year the collection raised a fantastic £2,200, which will be sent to help those families and businesses hard hit by the recent floods in Cumbria.

"The Rotary Club would like to thank everyone who gave so generously to help those in need in the disaster-struck Lake District," said Tom Cornwell, President of the Rotary Club of Cranleigh. "This was one of the most successful Christmas collections for good causes and charities that we have ever made." ■

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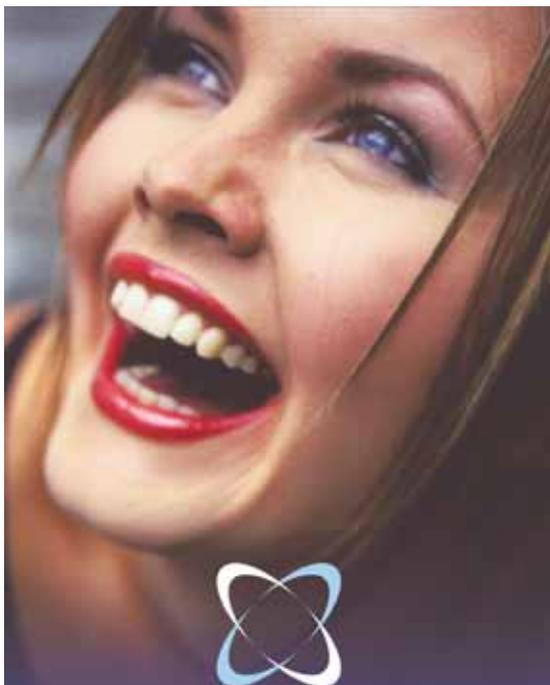
Close-up in Cranleigh

- Photography

Neil Longhurst

If, after reading Neil's article in the December issue, you're interested in booking Neil for a talk or lesson on wildlife photography, drop him an email on: neillonghurst1@gmail.com.






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Glebelands School



Year 11 leavers with their GCSE certificates and various prizes

Glebelands School held their annual Presentation Evening on Thursday 19th November to celebrate the achievements of the Year 11 leavers.

The evening started with an address from Glebelands headteacher, Mrs Hutchinson, who said that the school was celebrating their best ever GCSE results despite the increasingly challenging context set by the Department for Education. Mrs Hutchinson went on to say, "This year group will be remembered for their overall contribution to the school community and how they became tremendous role models for the younger students," and wished them every success in the future.

Thanks were also given to the parents and teachers who had supported students throughout their time at Glebelands. Head of Achievement, Mrs Hearn, shared her memories and reflections of what will be a warmly remembered year group.

Guest speaker, former student and producer of the Radio 4 Today Programme Andrew Bryson talked to the students about their achievements and how they had their future lives ahead if they strive and succeed to be the best they could. His powerful message was one of encouragement and optimism for the very bright future that lies ahead for every member of the Class of 2015.

Mrs Hutchinson and Mr Bryson then presented every student with their GCSE certificates and awarded prizes for service to the school and community as well as for each subject area. Donations for these came from our community sponsors who include: The Rotary Club of Cranleigh, David Mann and Sons Ltd, The Cranleigh and District Lions,

Data forms Chartered Press, Oakwood Business Consultants and Cranleigh Parish Council.

Thirty-one students were also awarded additional prizes for gaining eight or more A/A* grades in their GCSEs, which is a fantastic achievement.

The evening ended with a collection for The Childrens' Liver Disease Foundation. Over £220 was raised for this important charity working towards preventing and treating children with liver diseases.

The evening was followed by refreshments and an opportunity for students and staff to catch up on the last few months. This was the last time that the year group would meet together as a whole and it was a wonderful evening of celebration. ■

GLEBELANDS SCHOOL EAGLE RADIO TOY APPEAL 2015



The Glebelands School community were delighted to contribute to the 2015 Eagle Radio Toy Appeal in local association with Gascoigne Pees Estate Agents, Cranleigh. The students, parents and staff helped by contributing 65 brand new toys to the appeal this year. "This is the first year that we have participated in the appeal" said Ms Catherine McAulay, Glebelands Head of Achievement for Year 9 who helped to publicise the appeal in school. She also said "We are so pleased with the response from the wider Glebelands community. Glebelands students do so much for charity especially at Christmas and we are grateful and thankful for their kindness and consideration for others". The Eagle Radio toy appeal collects new toys for donation to charities and schools in the local area for children of all ages. ■

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SHORT STORY



Louise walked into the coffee shop and immediately spotted her friend Jane, sat at a table by the back window. As she walked over, Jane stood up and embraced her.

"It's so good to see you. My treat this time, remember? It's my turn. What can I get you?" asked Jane, "The usual?"

"Go on then. Yes please."

As Jane went off to get their customary rooibos tea and petit fours (for which the coffee shop was renowned) Louise unravelled her scarf, took off her hat, gloves and coat and sat down at the table. Jane came back with the tray and sat down.

"I won't be able to have these next week," she remarked, as she took the plate of four miniature cakes off the tray and put it on the table. "It's my New Year's resolution. I'm giving up refined sugar."

"Do you think you're going to last at that?" enquired Louise teasingly.

"Well...who knows? I'm going to give it a go. I read about it a while back and it really interests me. I can still eat natural sugar, such as foods high in sugar like fruit and honey, just not refined sugar. There was a study that proved this diet can boost energy levels, clear the skin, help weight loss and beat those sugar cravings – like these," she said picking up a strawberry coloured cake with an iced rose on top and biting into it with obvious relish and delight, "Mmm".

"Ha, Ha" laughed Louise, picking up a white cake with

lemon drizzle on top, "We're going to have to meet in a different coffee shop if you're going to have any chance of sticking with your resolution then!"

"What's your New Year's Resolution going to be?" Jane asked Louise.

"Oh, I don't know," Louise sipped her tea. "It's my 50th this year, on 4th February, so giving up or cutting down on alcohol and eating just isn't realistic. Actually, it's never been realistic! We've got to enjoy life, right?... I was toying with the idea of not shouting at the kids... but again, that's not realistic. I don't know Jane, reaching the big 5 0 I feel like I want to do something, something different, something significant."

"Why don't you come and volunteer down at the Home? You're still part time at the school, right?" suggested Jane biting into another cake. "Got to enjoy these while I can!"

"Oh, I don't know Jane. You're so wonderful, working there with the old folk with their various frailties. You're a fully trained nurse. I'm not sure I could cope. It'll be depressing. I said I'm turning 50 not 90!"

"You know what, Louise, I think you'd enjoy it. I wouldn't suggest it if I didn't think you would like it. Just come and make tea, plump up the cushions and turn up the volume on the TV! You don't have to commit now. Just come and try it. It'd be a real help"

"Really, I'm not sure about it." Louise insisted.

The conversation drifted onto other subjects, the kids, the new house, 50th birthday preparations. But as they collected up their things and left the shop Jane said, "I'll check with the Manager that she's happy for you to visit. If she agrees then I will pick you at 10am on Tuesday. I start late on Tuesdays. Don't over think it. There's a guy who likes to be read to. You could do that. You might like it! If you do and you want to come more often there'll be some formalities to go through. Let's wait and see!"

On Tuesday morning, Louise was still pondering what to wear and feeling stupidly nervous when she heard a car turn into the drive, followed by a honk of the horn.

'Well, this will have to do' thought Louise as she looked at herself in the mirror wearing grey trousers and blue and white striped jumper. She threw on her coat, locked the house, took a deep breath, walked over to Jane's car and got in.

As they walked into the Home, Louise felt even worse. The strange environment coupled with a temperature equivalent to that in the tropics was overpowering.

"Really Jane, I'm not sure about this," said Louise timidly, regretting her choice of jumper.

"Don't be silly Louise" replied Jane "You're here now. We'll all be old one day. Come on. I need you."

Louise followed Jane to meet the Manager and sign the Visitor's book. Then they walked through a large living room, to a kitchen area, and introduced her to Kerris, who was busy unloading the dishwasher.

"I've got to get on, Kerris. This is Louise. She's here to help out," said Jane introducing the two ladies. "Can you show her how to do tea, and introduce her to John, she can read to him please," and then turned with a smile and a wink at Louise and walked out.

Louise's head began to swim as Kerris showed her where to find all the bits and bobs to make tea and as she showed her around the Home she couldn't help stare at all the people there and feel sorry for them, shut up all day with apparently nothing to do. Kerris showed her where John's room was and on the way back through the lounge to the kitchen, a lady with white hair in an up-do held by a silver shell clasp, full-on makeup, pearls, and wearing a beautiful navy cardigan with lace detail called out.

"Excuse me, dear, please can you pick up my glasses, they fell on the floor, and I just don't bend that far any more!"

"Can you get them for her please, I'm off to sort out beds," said Kerris nodding over to the lady and walking off in the other direction. Suddenly realizing that Kerris had directed the comment to her, Louise went over to the lady, picked up the glasses and gave them back to the lady.

"There you go," said Louise timidly.

"Oh thank you, are you new round here? I don't think I've seen you before, but then I don't remember too much these days, I remember plenty from the old days when I was your age, but not much now. What's your name?" "I'm Louise, What's your name?"

"I'm Elizabeth. You can call me Beth. I've been Beth all my life and all my life I've been me. I don't suppose I could trouble you again?" said Beth, taking hold of Louise's hand and squeezing it

"Could you be so kind as to get me a cup of tea, please?"

"Sure. That's exactly what I'm here to do. Be back in a minute". And with a very new found spring in her step and a sense of purpose Louise headed back to the kitchen to make tea. As Beth had reached out to hold her hand, Louise had reached into her heart.

Louise started to enjoy herself, chatting to each person as she gave them a cup of tea, plumping a cushion here, getting a book there. After giving out the tea and clearing up the cups, she went to John's room. The door was wide open but she knocked and then entered.

She found John by the open window, leaning on the windowsill where he had a window box full of beautiful flowers, to which he was tending. It was nice and cool in the

room compared to the main lounge.

"Hello? John?" Louise started bashfully "I'm Louise. I'm a friend of Jane's. She told me that maybe you would like me to read to you."

"Oh. Well. Hello!" replied John. "Yes, that would be lovely. I can't see too well to read these days. Why don't you choose something to read whilst I tidy up here," he said as he started to put his gardening tools away in a little green box. They're over there on the shelf. Take your pick."

"They're wonderful flowers John, and at this time of year! You must have green fingers!" remarked Louise as she walked over to the bookshelf.

"Yes. I suppose so," said John.

The bookshelf consisted of two full rows of leather bound books, of differing sizes and colours, each with a different year printed on its spine running from 1948 to 1985.

"Have you chosen a year?" enquired John as he sat down in the old leather chair next to the window.

On impulse Louise picked up a book. "1966" she said, walking back over to sit in the chair opposite John's, "The year I was born."

"1966" repeated John vaguely. "No. I can't remember it now. Remind me."

So Louise opened the book and began to read:

"Diary of John Featherstone March 1966
Posting to Kericho tea plantation, Kenya. Soil Acidity
FAO project."

"So you're an agriculturist!" remarked Louise. "No wonder you have green fingers!"

"Well, I was an agricultural chemist actually. Studied at Cambridge. Travelled the world. Probably did too much as I can't remember much of it now. I'm glad I kept a diary all that time. It comes back to me when I read the diaries, although now my eyesight is going I can't do that much either!" said John laughingly.

Louise smiled "I can be your audio tape" she said and they began to giggle.

Louise started to read "The drive out from Nairobi to Kericho was something else... the road wasn't too bad and we travelled without misfortune, it still being the dry season. Stopping for lunch at Lake Naivasha, we spotted a pair of hippos in the lake, and there were zebras and giraffes at the water's edge drinking...."

Suddenly Louise realised she had two New Year's resolutions: to volunteer regularly at the Home and keep a diary herself. ■



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Something New

The Great After Christmas Operation

RECIPES



It is a well known fact that for the Christmas festivities the average family produces more food for the table than at any other time. This also produces more “left over” and although there is always the “cold meal or the cottage pie” to help, there are times where the imagination needs that **little extra help** to make very ordinary food into **something new**. This in spite of what a well-known chef said, “there is nothing new in the kitchen, only reinvented”. In the two recipes I propose below, I have tried to recreate my memories of Christmas long past at home with my parents.



1. POLPETTINE AL POMODORO E BASILICO

(Makes 6 good portions)

The Polpettine

400g of any meat, minced
½ onion finely chopped
2 cloves of garlic crushed
50g or 1 celery stick finely chopped
10g tomato puree
10g whole seed mustard
2 whole eggs
100g breadcrumbs
Salt and coarse black pepper
20g butter and a little olive oil
10 leaves of fresh basil finely cut to be kept for the final garnish

The Sauce

1 tin of Italian chopped tomatoes
½ onion finely chopped
½ stick Celery
15g tomato puree
60mls white wine or 30 of sherry (optional)
10g finely cut fresh basil leaves
Salt and coarse black pepper
20g butter and a little olive oil.

Preparation of the Sauce

1. In a non stick sauce pan, melt the butter and oil and fry the onion and celery until a nice gold colour.
2. Add the tomato purée and cook until it takes a slightly darker colour (and moisten it with the wine or sherry)
3. Add the peeled Italian tomatoes, stirring well on a lively heat for a few minutes, season (do not forget to taste!) reduce the heat to a minimum. The sauce must just simmer **NOT** boil
4. Cook for at least 1 hour stirring regularly.

IN THE MEANTIME

Preparation of the Polpettine

1. In a non-stick frying pan, melt the butter with the oil and fry the onion, celery and garlic without letting it take colour.
2. Place all other ingredients and half bread crumbs in a large bowl.
3. Add the cooked onions, celery and garlic and mix well to form a uniform paste.
4. Try to squeeze some in your (washed) hand and adjust the consistency by adding either a little water or bread-crumbs, it must be compact.
5. Divide the paste (using a tablespoon as measure) into equal size small balls by rolling them in your (washed) hands.

6. Roll all the meatballs in some of the remaining bread-crumbs and lightly flatten them. Place them on an oven tray, covered, in the fridge or larder.

WHEN THE SAUCE IS READY

1. In a non stick frying pan melt more butter and oil and fry the polpettine on a lively heat; colour them on both sides.
2. Return them on to the oven tray and pour over the hot sauce.
3. Place the tray in a hot oven for 20 minutes.
4. Dress the polpettine on a suitable table dish (hot), sprinkle the saved basil over and serve.

A good accompaniment to the above would be some plain boiled rice or mashed potatoes and a green salad.

Suitable wines: Valpolicella or Beaujolais

ALTERNATIVELY

If you are in a rush and do not wish to spend 1 and half hours in the kitchen:

1. Place whatever you have left over with some onions and celery in a food processor, mince to a coarse point.
2. Heat a large frying pan, melt in it some butter with oil.
3. When hot, pour on the contents of the processor, and cook for 10 minutes on a lively heat stirring continuously.
4. Add some wine and stock plus some "Bisto" gravy mix, place the lot in an oven dish, cover and cook it for half an hour in a pre-heated oven at 160C.
5. Serve with mashed potatoes, carrots and green vegetables.

2. TORTA GELATO

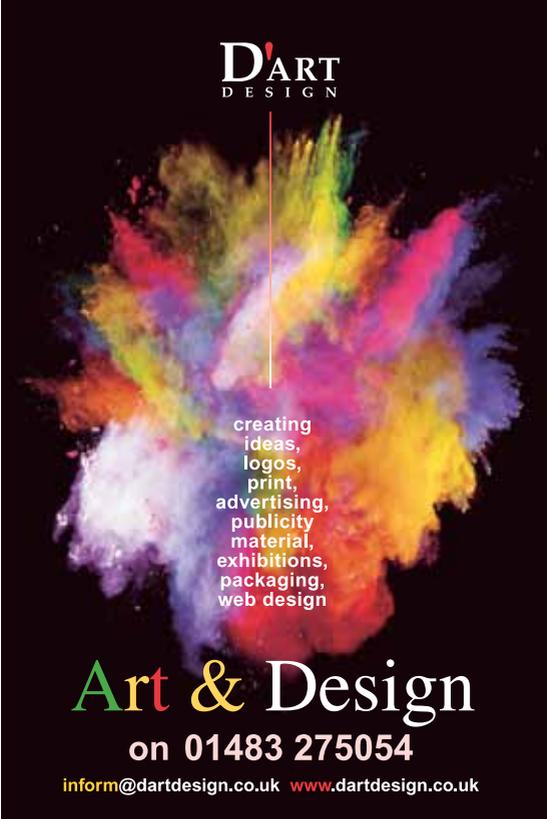
(Makes 6 good portions)

This recipe is adapted to the modern times, when most ingredients are either factory produced or different altogether.

Use a Vanilla soft scoop "Carte D'or" ice cream.

Ingredients

250g of Christmas pudding, mince pies, panettone or other items
 250g ice cream
 50mls Sherry
 100g Mascarpone or Ricotta
 Sugar to taste
 10g butter



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Preparation

1. In a large bowl crush the dry items to a rough crumble
2. Add the Sherry and the Mascarpone or Ricotta
3. Mix well to a firm paste

Use a 4/5 cm deep dish

1. Butter the dish and sprinkle with sugar
2. Layer the bottom with the mixture
3. Cover with the Ice cream
4. Place in a freezer until required
5. When serving, scoop out the required amount per person

Suitable wines: Chilean Moscatel, Italian Vino Passito, French Montbasillac

Buon Appetito



Giovanni Fontebasso

Cranleigh Arts Centre January



Branagh Theatre Live Encore Screening: The Winter's Tale

Saturday 9th January, 7pm

2016 sees the addition of Branagh Theatre Live to Cranleigh Arts Centre's line-up of event cinema screenings. The Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company, in partnership with Picturehouse Entertainment, broadcasts three productions of its year-long plays at the Garrick season live to cinemas and theatres worldwide. Cranleigh Arts Centre's first screening will be an encore of *The Winter's Tale*.



Shakespeare's timeless tragicomedy of obsession and redemption is reimaged in a new production co-directed by Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh, following their triumphant staging of *Macbeth* in Manchester and Manhattan. King Leontes appears

to have everything: power, wealth, a loving family and friends. But sexual jealousy sets in motion a chain of events with tragic consequences... The cast includes Judi Dench as Paulina and Kenneth Branagh as Leontes.

Tickets: £16

Rembrandt: Exhibition on Screen

Wednesday 13th January, 7:30pm

With exclusive access to both galleries in London and Amsterdam, this film documents "The Late Works", a landmark exhibition, whilst interweaving Rembrandt's life story with the behind-the-scenes preparations at these world famous institutions. This exhibition is a unique opportunity to experience the passion, emotion and innovation of Rembrandt.

Tickets: £10 advance (£12 on the day)



Film: 45 Years (15)

Thursday 14th January, 8pm

There is just one week until Kate Mercer's 45th wedding anniversary and the planning for the party is going well. But then a letter arrives for her husband. The body of his first love has been discovered, frozen and preserved in the icy glaciers of the Swiss Alps! Starring Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay.

Tickets: Adults £7.50, Friends of Cranleigh Arts Centre £6.50, 16 years and under £5



Live Music: Cregan and Co. featuring Ben Mills

Saturday 16th January, 8:30pm



Rod Stewart's original guitarist and co-songwriter Jim Cregan, teams up with 2006 X-Factor finalist Ben Mills, together with a great band, to celebrate an evening of smash hits

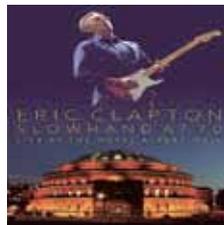
of the many major artists Jim has worked with. **Tickets: Standing £18 (advance), £20 (on the day) Seated £23 (advance), £25 (on the day)**

Documentary Film Screening:

Eric Clapton Slow Hand at Seventy Live at the Royal Albert Hall

Friday 22nd January, 8pm

2015 was a year of landmark events for Eric Clapton. He turned seventy in March and then in May he performed his two hundredth concert at the Royal Albert Hall fifty years after his first performance there with The



Yardbirds. This film captures a momentous night for one of the world's greatest rock guitarists, celebrating his fifty years at the top of the music business. **Tickets: Adults £7.50, Friends of Cranleigh Arts Centre £6.50, 16 years and under £5**

Winter Affordable Art Sale 2016

Tuesday 26th January – Saturday 27 February



The Affordable Arts Sale is annual event enabling local artists to sell and display their work in Cranleigh Arts Centre's gallery. A wide variety of media has

been accepted, so don't miss this eclectic collection of local talent.

National Theatre Live: Les Liaisons Dangereuses (12A)

Thursday 28th January, 7pm

National Theatre Live brings the Donmar Warehouse's highly anticipated new production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* to cinemas - broadcast live from the Donmar's London home. Directed by Josie Rourke (Coriolanus), the cast includes Elaine Cassidy (The Paradise), Janet McTeer (The White Queen) and Dominic West (The Wire).

In 1782, Choderlos de Laclos' novel of sex, intrigue and betrayal in pre-revolutionary France scandalised the world. Two hundred years later, Christopher Hampton's irresistible adaptation swept the board, winning the Olivier and Evening Standard Awards for Best Play. Josie Rourke's revival now marks the play's thirty year anniversary.



Former lovers, the Marquise de Merteuil and Vicomte de Valmont now compete in games of seduction and revenge. Merteuil incites Valmont to corrupt the innocent Cecile de Volanges before her wedding night but Valmont has targeted the peerlessly virtuous and beautiful Madame de Tourvel. While these merciless aristocrats toy with others' hearts and reputations, their own may prove more fragile than they supposed. **Tickets: £16.00**

**Royal Opera House Delayed Live Screening:
Rhapsody/The Two Pigeons
Friday 29th January, 7:15pm**



This delightful Frederick double bill opens with his setting of Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, using the music's turbulence and brilliance to inspire some of his most thrilling choreography. Witty, impassioned and sublime, this ballet was the pinnacle of Ashton's romantic style. The second half

of the programme features Ashton's delicate, deceptively comic The Two Pigeons – a work rarely performed and a real treat for ballet fans everywhere. **Tickets: £18.00**

**Johnny Cash Revisited
Saturday 30th January, 7:30pm**

Johnny Cash Revisited is a two-hour musical rollercoaster of classic Country, Rock 'n' Roll and Rockabilly hits!! Rick McKay and special guest Jodie McKay, pay tribute to Johnny Cash and June Carter, with the fabulous live band Starkville City, bringing you an exciting two-hour show fun and GREAT music! **Tickets: £15.00**



BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

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

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Keeping Bees Alive:

Surrey Beekeepers' Association – Guildford Division

Guildford Division is your local division of Surrey Beekeepers' Association which is a registered charity and began in 1879. The Guildford Division started in 1920 and currently has around 200 members who are very friendly and very happy to welcome new beekeepers in order to promote the craft of beekeeping. Many of our members have years of practical beekeeping which is a valuable resource and the current Committee has over 160 years beekeeping experience between them.

The Division has its lovely teaching apiary at Birtley House, Bramley. It is in a beautiful setting with wonderful views and has excellent facilities for members. Here we have a large number of hives for new beekeepers to obtain the experience and help that they need before starting out on their own.

We hold Practical Courses for both beginners and not so new beekeepers at Birtley in a purpose built facility. The Theory Courses are held at Shalford Village Hall. These courses provide the prospective new beekeepers with all the basic knowledge needed to get started in the craft.

Our next Theory Course will be starting on Thursday 7th January 2016 from 7.30 to 9.30pm and will run for

8 weeks. The Practical Course will follow on the 16th April 2016. Then members may purchase a nucleus of bees (subject to availability) and keep them there for up to a year until they feel confident working on their own. At this stage the Division will provide them with a mentor if they wish, so that they have someone to refer to for any further help and guidance. These courses get booked very quickly and anyone interested should register their interest as soon as possible.

The Division also holds "Taster Days" at the apiary in Bramley during the summer where you can come along just for the day and get a feel for beekeeping. All clothing and equipment is provided for these. These days



Demonstrating the craft of beekeeping



are announced on our website and should be booked in advance www.guildfordbeekeepers.org.uk

"Taster Days" at the apiary in Bramley

The Division also provides the service to the local area of swarm collecting. Anyone who thinks that they have a swarm of honey bees should go to the Division's website at www.guildfordbeekeepers.org.uk and click on "Swarms". Please note that we only deal with honey bees.



The honey bee is greatly endangered as most people will know from recent publicity, so if you feel like becoming a beekeeper and helping these wonderful pollinators to survive please contact our chairman, Jane Hall, on janeandhughhall@aol.com

A honey bee at work



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