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Parish Churches of Alfold & Loxwood

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Lay Minister		
,	Mike Edwards	01403 752510
Pastoral Assistants:		
	Mrs Marjorie Loxton	07796 916907
	Mrs Jane Johnson	07778 150527
Parish Office:		
	Parish Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Cross	01403 753821
	Parish Office, Alfold Church Room, Off Rosemary Lane, Alfold	
	Tuesday & Friday 10.30 am to 1.30 pm. & Wednesday 1.30 pm E-mail: alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com	ו - 3.30 pm
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	Mrs Kim Venter	07590 210178
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Loxwood:	Secretary: Mrs L Beadle	01403 752950
	ished eleven times a year. Four of the issues are delivered to ev e. The other seven issues are obtainable through the distributio	

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represent the views of the Incumbent or of the P.C.C.

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Cushing's Column

Dear Friends,

You've all heard of the C of E – the Church of England. Well, before I came to truly believe in Jesus, I used to joke that I was C and E – a Christmas and Easter churchgoer!

Well, if I'm honest, I don't think there are too many C and E churchgoers anymore. I think there are a lot of C churchgoers – because our society still likes to embrace the good old Christmas Carols by Candlelight; and dress up as angels, shepherds and sheep in Crib Nativities. Sadly, however the E has been forgotten. The tradition of Easter eggs and the Easter bunny doesn't seem to be as connected to the Church as carols and nativity plays are, and so our Easter services tend to be a lot less busy than our Christmas services.

I find this sad, because one could say that at Easter we engage with a depth of God's love we do not see anywhere near as vividly at Christmas. At Easter we hear of a God who loves us so much that He willingly chose to lay down His life for His friends. Would you count yourself a friend of God?

That's the message of Easter – there is a way each of us can be friends with God, it is the most amazing news, and the door is opened at the cross of Christ at Calvary.

One of the most comforting sentiments I often receive from a friend is when after pouring my heart out they say to me, "*Greg, can I pray for you*?" Well, did you know that Jesus, who'll be your best friend ever is praying for you right now?

Let me close with the words of a hymn I came across in our Lent book 'An Ocean of Grace' recently from Anne Steele back in the 18th Century:

He lives, the great Redeemer lives. What joy this blest assurance gives! And now before his Father God, Pleads the full merit of his blood.

(continued on page 3)



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Julian Draper NCH Arb Tel 01428 681978 Mob 07968 827711 forkingbranches@hotmail.com Repeated crimes awake our fears, And justice armed with frowns appears. But in the Saviour's lovely face Sweet mercy smiles, and all is peace.

Hence then, ye dark despairing thoughts, Above our fears, above our faults, His powerful intercessions rise And guilt recedes, and terror dies...

Have a Christ-filled Easter

Rev Greg

New Curate

We will be welcoming our new curate and family later on this summer so please do be praying for them as they contemplate and arrange for their move. Their names are James and Jenny Hanson, with daughters Ella and Thea.

Accommodation Needed:

With the Hanson family in mind we are looking to rent a 3-bed house in Alfold or Loxwood for 6-12 months from June/July. Please contact The Rev Greg or the Parish Office if you can help.

Rev Greg

St John the Baptist Church

The PCC has applied for a faculty for some reordering works to take place with St John the Baptist Church Loxwood. Hopefully we will be able to share more details about this in coming months.

PCC

Pilgrim Groups

We are enjoying online Pilgrim groups now through 'Zoom'. For more details please contact the Parish Office: alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com.

The two groups run at 8.00 pm on a Tuesday and 10.00 am on a Wednesday.

Alfold Evening WI



We are continuing to meet on zoom 1st Monday each month at 7.00 pm If you would like to join in our chat over a cup of coffee or a cheeky glass of wine you will be more then welcome.

Please contact Linda Brecke 07786360129 or email: - alfoldeveningwi@yahoo.com

LE

Parish News Subscription - Thank You

Thank you so much to those people who have kindly donated their annual subscription.

The Parish News enables us to be aware of what is taking place within our churches and chapels as well as news of what is happening elsewhere in our villages.

At this time of year, we would normally be calling on our subscribers to ask for a subscription of £5 towards the cost of printing and producing the magazine. At present we are printing many fewer copies of the magazine for delivery, however, there are fixed costs that carry on despite COVID.

Looking forwards, the coming months will see increasing coverage of vaccinations, restrictions reducing and a managed return to a degree of normality. As part of these changes we are hoping to restart delivering magazines. With this in mind, this year we are asking you to consider donating your annual subscription for whichever format you receive.

To enable a donation of the annual subscription please contact Hazel Gravenstede (752080) or Hugh Beadle (752950)







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Always Through The Church. Always Hope

You may not be aware that Alfold and Loxwood church has a longstanding policy of tithing (giving 10%) of its unrestricted income each year to various mission agencies and charities. In the first of an occasional series, this article focuses on the work of one of those recipients, Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

Having previously struggled with debt himself, John Kirkby started CAP in Bradford in 1996 with a donation of ± 10 and great faith. He believed God was calling him to sacrifice his career in finance and use his knowledge of the industry to help the poor.

He met people crippled by debt: parents who couldn't feed their children, families facing eviction and desperate people living in fear and without hope. He used his expertise to negotiate with creditors, set up budgeting systems and offer a lifeline to those trapped in debt.

Since then, CAP has spread throughout the country and now internationally. It specialises in free debt counselling for people in financial difficulty and looks at all options for them including bankruptcy. It works through a network of debt counsellors from local churches who reach out to those in their communities who are struggling with mounting bills. Social workers, family support workers, and mental health charities also refer clients to CAP.

Clients give CAP authority to negotiate with their creditors and it advises them on how they can organise their finances so as to make them debtfree. This includes devising a sustainable personal budget, prioritising basic living needs and offering creditors fair, affordable pro-rata payments as far as possible.

Many of the clients CAP help are classed as 'vulnerable' – they were already facing significant challenges before the weight of debt landed on them. It is very aware of the need to handle them with extra care.

CAP is careful never to apply pressure or imply that being or becoming a Christian is a condition of getting help. Typically, just 4% of clients do become Christians. However, many who are helped to go debt free (typically 2,500 each year) say their lives are transformed.

CAP also provides Job Clubs for those seeking employment, Life Skills groups to help people develop practical skills to survive on a low income and develop their confidence and Fresh Start Courses for people looking to overcome addictions. The CAP Money Course, which teaches basic budgeting skills, is available in a number of formats, for children, young people, students and adults.

Money-saving expert and TV presenter Martin Lewis says "CAP are unsurpassed when it comes to the debt help they give people across the country. There's nothing better to start you on the path to having more money in your pocket".

As CAP's strapline puts it, 'Always through the church, always hope'.

For more information about CAP, go to www.capuk.org. To make an appointment to speak to a debt counsellor telephone 0800 328 0006.

Iain Taylor

Look on the Bright Sideand Share it with Others

Where has the past year gone?

Perhaps the feeling is that we would rather forget about what has passed! However, talking to people around the village, it has become obvious that there have been some wonderful and often unexpected positive instances during this pandemic, which have proved to be truly uplifting.

We would love to celebrate and share these positive moments in the Parish News.

If you have something that you would be prepared to share, in no more than three sentences, then please email it to

<u>alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com</u> or drop a written copy at 5, Farm Close, Loxwood, along with your milk bottle tops if you have them! Please include your name and a contact number and say whether or not you would like your name included in the magazine.

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Loxwood Parish Council

NORTH HALL PLAYGROUND RESURFACE In order that the North Hall Playground can become an all-weather facility for younger children the Parish Council has paid for the laying of a wet pour surface which by the time you read this article will be in situ. The money for this project is part of the Community Investment Levy (CIL) that the Parish received as a result of the development at Nursery Green. Other projects that have been part funded by these monies include the North Hall Car Park and the new outdoor classroom as the Local School. The Parish receive 25% of any CIL monies paid by residential site developers and this is an elevated percentage as the Parish has a Neighbourhood Plan.

REVISION TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN The consultation on the Draft revised Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan took place last autumn. Since then, your comments were addressed to form the Submission Neighbourhood Plan and consequently the Revised Neighbourhood Plan is now with Chichester District Council, who will in due course carry out a further Consultation on the Plan this being the Regulation 16 Consultation. The Parish Council are hoping this would have been carried out by now in order for the Plan to be progressed to Examination and subject to the Examiner's remarks Referendum as soon as possible. However, Chichester District Council is experiencing delays in receiving comments from Statutory Bodies which are required before the Plan can proceed to the next stage. The Parish Council will continue to press for action but we are informed this delay is a County wide delay.

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES. The Parish Council has vacancies for three Councillors. If you would like to get involved to work for the

Community and have time to prepare for and attend monthly meetings please contact any of the Councillors or the Clerk. Contact details are available on the website www.loxwood-pc.gov.uk and the clerk can be contacted on 01403 791323

HTTPS://LOVE.WESTSUSSEX.GOV.UK Please use this website to report problems around the village from overgrown pathways to highways pothole issues. It is an easy to use system and the more people that report a problem the higher priority it will become.

JB

Wey & Arun Canal Trust News



Talks group goes online to entertain during lockdown

While most of the Wey & Arun Canal Trust volunteers have been on a break during lockdown, one group is seeing demand for their services increase. The talks team have been giving online presentations throughout

the pandemic as groups and clubs have turned to virtual meetings instead of face to face gatherings.

Zoom technology means they can broadcast their presentations across the UK and the team have been entertaining clubs and groups as well as other Canal Trusts as a result.



Talks include the history of the canal and its restoration, as well as the vision for its future, and can include a Q&A session.

Anyone wanting to request a speaker for a club or group can go to the Trust's website, www.weyandarun.co.uk.



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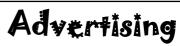
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Sussex Spring Watch

15th MARCH to EARLY MAY

An exciting and varied programme of events for everyone in our community that loves nature!

The programme includes **Educational and informative facts** every week, a **live discussion and Q&A session** with a panel of experts, and an **Activity Pack** for the younger generation.

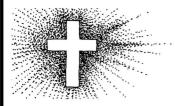
Kicking off with an Arts Competition!

The theme is **'Spring in the woods'.** Open to anyone in the community, age 0-100+! Your entry could be a poem, a painting, a photograph, a song or even a rap! Expert judges. Great prizes to be won. Deadline 16th April.

To find out more details **visit www.stoptheclaypit.org** and follow us on Facebook at **StopLoxwoodClayPitCampaign** and Twitter **@StopLoxwoodClay**



STOP LOXWOOD CLAY PIT Planning expected soon



April 2021

April Church Services

All Main Services for April will be online

Please do find our online services each week on our website: www.alflox.org

There will be 10.00 am Services Outdoors at both Churches on alternate Sundays

- Friday 2nd Good Friday 10.00 am Service of Reflection at Alfold
- Sunday 4thEaster Sunday10.00 amOutdoor Service at Loxwood
- Sunday I I th 10.00 am Outdoor Service at Alfold
- Sunday 18thThe 3rd Sunday of Easter10.00 amOutdoor Service at Loxwood
- Sunday 25thThe 4th Sunday of Easter10.00 amOutdoor Service at Alfold

All Services are subject to Covid 19 regulations and may change at short notice



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Covid restrictions do not allow us to hold meetings in church at present but we do meet on Zoom and you are always welcome to join us. You will need to call us on the number given below so that we can give you the log-in details

TUESDAYS AT 10.30 am, on Zoom, we have a Bible Study and Discipleship group.

TO JOIN US IN A MEETING OR TALK ABOUT A PRAYER NEED PLEASE CALL US. We are also currently running two Zoom Alpha groups (2.30 and 7.30 on Wednesdays) and if you would like further information, please phone Derek Clark on 07710 513761.

For further information about our church,

please call our Church Office on 07873 296186 or visit our web site at: www.emmanuelfellowship.co.uk and Facebook as Emmanuel Fellowship Loxwood

LOXWOOD VILLAGE FETE AND FUN DOG SHOW SATURDAY AUGUST 21ST 2021

The Loxwood Village Fete Committee are determined that we hold a Village Fete this year to raise funds for local good causes following the cancellation of last year's Fete. To give us every possible chance of holding this event, we have decided to postpone from our normal date in June to Saturday August 21st. Do please note this date in your diaries.

The Fete will take on the usual format which is aimed primarily at families. We will include such events as Fun Dog Show, Children's Races, Punch and Judy, Magic Show, Bouncy Castle, Slinfold Concert Band, The North Singers, Face Painting as well as our normal excellent selection of stalls, Tombola, Grand Draw, Licensed Bar, BBQ, Teas and many other attractions. To ensure that our Fete is a success, we are looking to obtain support from many people in the village, especially in the areas listed below:-

Help to run a stall on the day for a couple of hours. Advertise in the Fete Programme Prizes for the Grand Draw and Tombola Cakes for the Cake Stall and Café Help with setting up the Fete

We are especially looking for qualified First Aiders who can be in attendance for an hour or so on the day.

The Village Fete Committee are hoping to make this year's event an even better success in every area to make up for our loss last year. We are optimistic that this event will go ahead and that the whole of the village get behind us to make this a resounding success.

If you can help in any of the above areas, could you please contact Graham Moore on 751722 or Peter Winney on 752377.

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HOLISTIC COUNSELLING SERVICES

Anxiety, bereavement, stress, relationship issues, chronic pain and alcohol dependency can all be an exhausting struggle to deal with alone. Counselling or psychotherapy may help you resolve such problems and restore your wellbeing. So, take that first step towards a less troubled place and contact me for

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Loxwood Luncheon Club

We hope you are all keeping well and safe in these challenging times. Unfortunately for the foreseeable future, we cannot see how we can restart the Lunch Club. Hopefully North Hall will be in a position to reopen following very strict Covid 19 guidelines in the near future, however, due to the nature of the number of people attending and their slightly senior age group, we do not think we could even consider starting up yet.

We will review the situation on a regular basis as we do realise that Lunch Club is an important part of the village social life. As soon as we think it will be safe to run our lunches again we will be in contact with everyone. Best Wishes to all of you and hope to see you all soon.

Gina Moore

Alfold Luncheon Club

Due to the current situation, there will not be any Alfold Lunch Club until further notice, but we will let you know as soon as we plan to restart.

Stay safe all.

Notices Found in Church Newsletters – that didn't quite come out right!

- For those who have children and don't know it, we have a crèche in the crypt .
- Bring and share church supper: Prayer and medication will follow.
- At the church meeting last week the rector spoke briefly and delighted the audience.

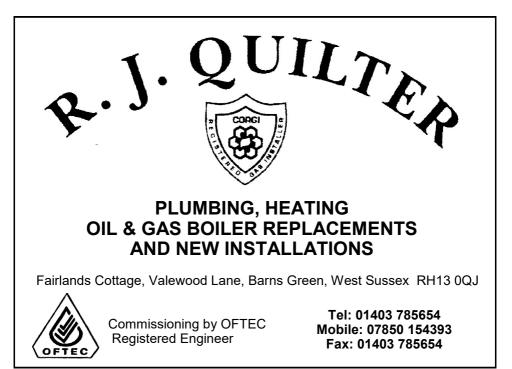
AE

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.



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On the Best Way to Run a Church Council Meeting

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness his tongue-in-cheek letters from '

Uncle Eustace'... The Rectory St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Thank you for inviting me to speak at your church council yesterday. I began to suspect that my theme of why Eusebius's dislike of Sabellianism led to his condemnation at the Council of Antioch in 324 was a little misjudged, when the only question I was asked after my lecture was if

Eusebius was on Facebook.

I never realised how much technology is needed these days just to discuss church matters. It seemed that everyone had brought their laptop, so they could refer to all the diocesan briefing documents and reports that you mentioned. I've been in the diocese 40 years and have never heard of most of those papers. But then I find it too easy to delete the diocesan mailings, unread, with a click of my mouse.

Our church meetings are far more traditional. Since the church floor seems to have been carved out of permafrost, our meetings circulate round members' houses. This introduces a nice element of competition, as each host tries to outdo the previous one in the baking of cakes. Meetings at Colonel Drinkwater's – a more inappropriate name one cannot imagine – are the shortest, since we are always promised wine once the meeting is over. It is remarkable how unanimity is achieved on every subject within minutes, and nothing appears under "any other business".

Mrs Eddington never troubles us with minutes, largely because she can rarely read the notes she takes. She just shares with us whatever she *can* decipher at our next meeting. Last month, she accidentally brought her shopping list instead, and so read that out. There followed a lively discussion on whether carrots from our local shop were better than those at the supermarket. When it was found out she intended to use them in a venison casserole, endless recipes were keenly debated.

We always leave our church meetings well fed, up to date with village gossip, and totally untroubled by any church council business. And the lack of any minutes ensures that I can then make all the decisions myself, between meetings. I think you will find our system has much to be commended.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog to worship him and a cat to ignore him.

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The Easter Story is a colourful One!



It's full of contrasts from the peaceful greens and whites of Palm Sunday to the deep reds of the last supper and the crucifixion.

Using beautiful crafts, fun games and meaningful stories, we will explore this story and learn just how much Jesus loves us

We would love you to join us for a colourful step into The Easter Story Saturday 3rd April at 2:30pm Ages 4 - 11 Email: kimventer@gmail.com and register in order to have a craft pack delivered

Church Flower and Cleaning Rota

April 2021

Please be advised that the Church cleaning and flower arrangements will not be required until both Churches are permitted to fully re-open.

Magazine Copy Dates

Please note the copy dates for the next two issues of Parish News.

Month of Issue	Preferred copy date	<u>Final</u> date for copy
May	5th April	l I th April
June	10th May	l7th May

It would greatly help the editors if copy could reach the Parish Office as close to the preferred date as possible. It is very much regretted that copy delivered after the final date <u>will not</u> be included.

Copy can be delivered to the Parish Office on Tuesdays or Fridays between 10.30 am and 1.30 pm, or Wednesdays between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm.

For preference, please e-mail your contributions to alflox.parish.off@btinternet.com

Magazine Working Party

Under the current restrictions we will not be meeting to assemble the magazine in April.



Help your business grow in 2021This monthly magazine is delivered to
residents in Alfold and Loxwood on a
subscription basis, and to every
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Community Organisations ~ Loxwood

NORTH HALL:	Hire & Bookings Secretary: Hall Secretary:	Cathy Cook	07564 347478 01403 753827
	Website	www.loxwoodvillage	ehall.org.uk
Pilates	Mondays	Pippa Storey	07984 050799
	Mondays	Liz Fielden	07879 643310
	Wednesdays	Liz Fielden	07879 643310
Bridge	Wednesdays	Graham Moore	01403 751722
Dog Training	Tuesdays	Kelly C-Morris	07905 416622
Flowful Yoga	Tuesdays	Tamryn Waters	07432 742615
Junior Art Club	Tuesdays	Kim Venter	07590 210178
VM Dance	Tuesdays	Vicky Freeman Smith	07879 773705
Caterpillars	Wednesdays	Maxine Paddock	01403 752905
The North Singers	Wednesdays	Jean Spira	01403 752534
Badminton - Ladies	Thursdays	Jill Johnson	01403 752787
Table Tennis	Thursdays	Peter Winney	07951 623273
Performing Arts	Thursdays	Tash Black	07717 398797
Ballroom Dancing	Thursdays	Heather Frewer	01403 753203
Yoga	Mondays	Laura Kingdon	07957 835984
Zumba	Wednesdays	Michelle Vorster	
Luncheon Club	4th Monday	Mrs G Moore	01403 751722
Jazz Club	3rd Tuesday	Anita Bates	01403 752954
Film Night	2nd Friday	Peter Winney	07951 623273

Community (Dragnisations ~	loxwood	
Community Organisations ~ Loxwood RIDING FOR THE Monday to Thursdays & Saturdays			
DISABLED ASSOCIATIO		Mrs P Breakell	01403 752063
CARRIAGE DRIVING FOR THE DISABLED	Wednesdays 10.00 - 1.00 pm, Tismans House, Tismans Com		01403 741355
IFOLD & PLAISTOW SC Beaver Scouts Brownie Guides Guides. Cub Scouts Scouts	Monday 5.15 - 6.30 pm. Tuesday 5.30 - 7.00 pm. Wednesday 7.30 - 9.00 pm. Thursday 6.30 - 8.00 pm.	Q Foxbridge Lane. Stella Ribbens Gill Rittmeyer Linda Douglas I stpla Andy Fenney out Leader ifoldsco	01483 200688 0800 1695901 itow@gmail.com 07958 424230
IFOLD CHRISTIAN FELI	OWSHIP	Paul Thompson	01403 751930
LOXWOOD BOOK CL	UB Penny Line pennyline75	64@gmail.com	01403 753882
LOXWOOD COMMUN	IITY WELCOME PACK Penny Line pennyline75	64@gmail.com	01403 753882
LOXWOOD SCHOOL	Headmistress	Miss P Kitson	01403 752207
LOXWOOD SURGERY	Drs. Woodcock, Mitchinson &	& Piper Appointments	01403 752246 01403 753499
MOBILE LIBRARY:	Alternate Thursdays Kelsey Hall Ifold, 1.20 pr Nicholsfield, Loxwood 1	n - 1.50 pm.	
PARISH COUNCIL	Parish Clerk:	Jane Bromley E-mail: clerk@lo	01403 791323 pxwood.pc.co.uk
LOXWOOD PRE-SCHO	OOL Contact	Lorraine Sparkes loxwoodpresche	
LOXWOOD SPORTS Cricket Football Stoolball Squash Snooker	Secretary: Secretary: Secretary: Secretary: Secretary:	Mr A Dudman Mr G Read Mrs M Edwards Mr D Edwards Mr I Parsons	07772 079352 01798 343839 01403 752973 01403 752973 01403 752922
LOXWOOD SOCIETY	Chairmen:	Len Milsom or Tony Colling	01403 752032 01403 753163
LOXWOOD COMMUN	ITY GARDENS INITIATIVE:	Graham Moore	01403 751722
LOXWOOD & ALFOLD RELIEF IN SICKNESS TR		Helen Collis	07799 415595
LOXWOOD & DISTRIC ANGLING SOCIETY	CT Membership Secretary:	Mrs K Simms	01798 815980
VILLAGE WEBSITE		w	ww.loxwood.org
POLICE:	IN AN EMERGENCY Routine matters (24 hours a c	lay)	DIAL 999 101

Community Organisations ~ Alfold

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THE FRIENDS OF ST N	NICHOLAS, ALFOLD		
	Hon Secretary:	Mr R Brockway	01403 753645
CHURCH BELLS	Booking Secretary:	Mr Stewart Snook	01403 752546
CHURCH ROOM	Booking Secretary:	Mrs E Cross	01403 753821
VILLAGE HALL:	Booking Secretary:	Mr A Erricker	01403 753102
	Key Holder	Katie Marsh	07867 486402
Ballroom Dancing		Heather Frewer	07979 016318
Step Fit	Tuesday 6.15 - 7.15pm.	Heather Frewer	07979 016318
M 11.	Friday 9.30 - 10.30 am		
Munchkins	Mother & Toddler Gro Thursday 10 am - 12 pr		01483 278199
Pilates	mursuay to am - 12 pr	Sarah Wilford	01483 273979
Short Mat Bowls	Thurs. 2 pm	Roy Barnett	01403 752558
Youth Club	······································	Sue Parker	01403 753948
EVENING WI:		Mrs Linda Brecke	07786 360129
	lst &3rd Tuesday 7.30		
SPORTS COUNCIL:	Secretary	Mrs Becks Pearl	07969 466327
	Seel etal y		oldssc@mail.com
SPORTS ASSOCIATIO	NS:		
Cricket	Secretary:	Trevor Goacher	07745 776067
Darts	Secretary:	Mrs Delia Fishburn	01403 753101
Football	Secretary	Mr W Mouring	01403 752308
Stoolball	Secretary:	Helen Bryce	01403 753599
Tennis	Secretary:	Justin Mansley	01483 268783
Bar Billiards	Secretary:	Mr M Greening	01403 752885
PARISH COUNCIL	Clerk:	Julie Flenley	01428 683903
		E-mail: clerk@alfoldpa	
Borough Councillor:	Mr Kevin Deanus		07967 987227
		E-mail: kevin.deanus(@waverley.gov.uk
SCOUTS & GUIDES	_		
Guides	Contact:	Mrs S Viner	01483 275583
Beaver Scouts	Thursday 4.45 pm }	Cranleigh Scout Group	
Cub Scouts	Thursday 6.00 pm }	For details contact	01420 402250
Scouts	Thursday 7.45 pm }	Wayne Richardson	01428 683250
HEALTH CENTRES:	Cranleigh		01483 273951
	Dunsfold		01428 683174
	Loxwood Surgery		01403 752246 01403 753499
	Appointments: Rudgwick		01403 753499
LOXWOOD & ALFOL	-	Helen Collis	07799 415595
			0//77 413375
CITIZENS ADVICE BU Cranleigh	Mon. Tues. Thurs. 10	00 400 pm	0844 848 7969
VILLAGE WEBSITE	non. rues. murs. 10	.00 - 1.00 pm	
VILLAGE VVEBSITE			www.alfold.org

