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**WINTER 2021**

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## The Season's greetings to you all!



I hope you like what you see in **The Crewkerne Flyer** for Winter 2021. We have some interesting articles for you to read.

**The Rotary Club of Crewkerne** bring you news on **Page 14**, including information on their annual pop-up shop.

Then on **Page 20, Crewkerne in Bloom** announce their “outstanding success” at the South West in Bloom Awards. On **Page 28, Crewkerne U3A** are recruiting.

**Film Crew** are back! See their cinema dates for 2022 on **Page 30**. On **Page 32, the Rotary Club of Crewkerne District** announce the route for their Santa float during December. We are privileged to have been given access to photos of work by local signwriter Alan Rudkin. His career spanned 50 years, and we feature some of his work on **Pages 36 and 37**.

Then on **Page 38, Crewkerne Lions** bring you a round-up on their activities and **Crewkerne Museum** have their news on **Page 42**.

Finally on **Page 46** our regular contributor, retired baker **David Bryant** shares more of his photos of **Old Crewkerne**.

Please send us your feedback and ideas for future articles.

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas, and healthy New Year.

*Anthony Buckle* Editor and Managing Director.

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Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Mob: 07854 377649 Email: crewkerne@theantiquetourist.com



*“Some festive displays around  
Crewkerne this season”*

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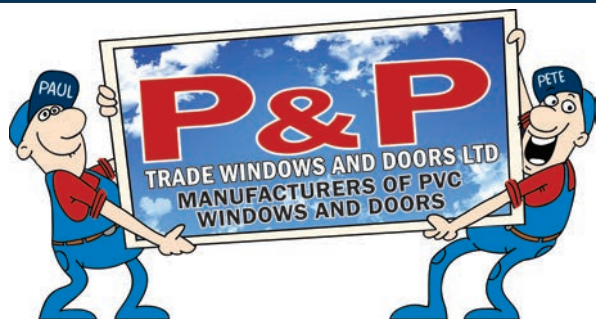
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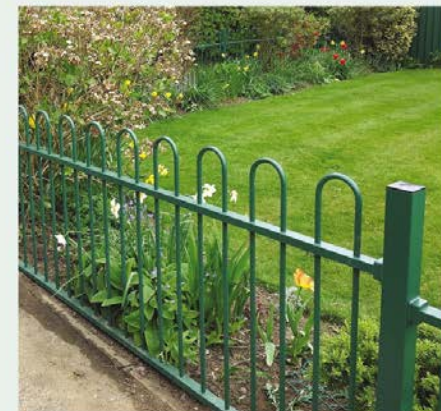
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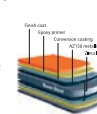


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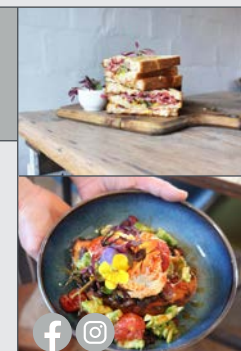
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to name a few plus numerous young people for charity or educational activities.

If you are interested in learning more, in widening your contacts, in giving or returning your time or expertise to the community in and around Crewkerne, please do not hesitate to contact our Secretary **Iain Rowland** on **01460 78951; Mobile 07968 3232998;**

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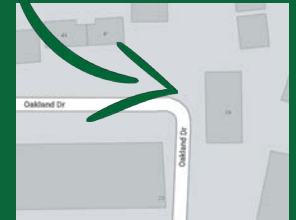
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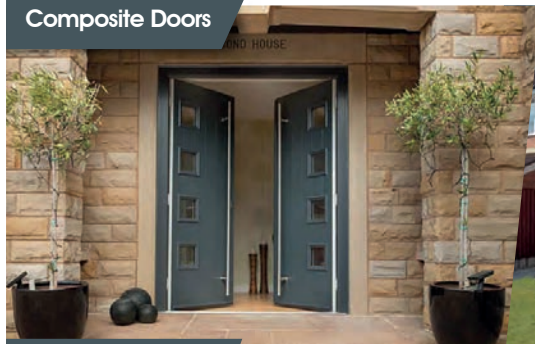
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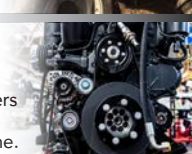
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# Crewkerne in Bloom!

The big news – for the few who missed it! – is that **Crewkerne** achieved **outstanding success at the 2021 South West in Bloom Awards**, winning **Gold in the Champion of Champions** section, a trophy and a wonderful clutch of **It's Your Neighbourhood** triumphs.

Sincere thanks to all our brilliant volunteer Bloomers, kind sponsors and enthusiastic supporters.

We were particularly delighted that volunteer John Davies was recognised for his remarkable work and presented with the **Community Champion Award**. He also accepted the **Serco Cup** which was awarded to **Severalls Memorial Gardens** – where he is a leading light – for **Best Community Initiative**.

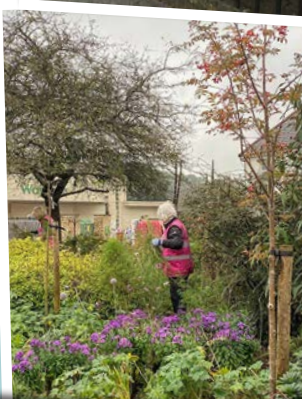
In the **It's Your Neighbourhood** section, **Level 5 Outstanding** was awarded to **The Friends of Crewkerne Station; Lyewater Community Allotments** and to **Severalls Memorial Gardens**. **Level 4 Thriving** was awarded to **Pillbox 22**.

South West in Bloom is one of 18 regional competitions that makes up Britain in Bloom, the biggest horticultural campaign in Europe. Crewkerne's achievement is particularly impressive because the South West covers such a large area.

As well as admiring the town's great plantsmanship, the judges were also impressed by Crewkerne's community spirit. CiB has lots of new ideas and projects for next year but that means **we need lots of new volunteers!** Join our working parties, help behind the scenes, start an It's Your Neighbourhood group. Get in touch and we'll find the perfect niche for you.

Rounding off our busy year, the popular annual sale of hyacinths started at the November Farmers' Market and continues at the Rotary Christmas Shop. Three to a pot, in pink, blue or white, they are priced at £4.

And talking of pots, do look out for the **festive bells that are replacing the hanging baskets**. Thanks to everyone who donated unwanted pots and to Creative Crewkerne.



For further information, to Volunteer or become a Friend, contact 01460 72665 or [hello@crewkerneinbloom.org](mailto:hello@crewkerneinbloom.org)

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| 21. Elswood Cleaning Supplies  | 38. Mercato Italiano          | 55. Old Dairy Farm Shop and Café |
| 22. Eternal Kitchens           | 39. Misterton Garage          | 56. The Admiral Hood             |
| 23. Greenlink                  | 40. Monks Yard                | 57. The Fleur De Lis             |
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| 25. Helliard and Son Laundry   | 42. MST Group                 | 59. The Phelps Arms              |
| 26. H.R. Hodge                 | 43. My Bestie Pet shop        | 60. The Squirrel Inn             |
| 27. Hollies Unisex Salon       | 44. Newchester Farmhouse B&B  | 61. The Window Man               |
| 28. Howdens, Yeovil            | 45. NM Graphics               | 62. Trotters Butchers            |
| 29. Humpits                    | 46. North Perrott Farm Shop   | 63. Wayford Vineyard             |
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# Retired Local Signwriter

Retired local signwriter Alan Rudkin contacted The Crewkerne Flyer, offering a few photos of his signwriting over the years. Alan had spotted our article regarding the RW Hodges sign in our last edition. Alan had made and lettered this for Hodges.

Alan was a very popular and prolific signwriter, first from his studio in Hewish, then later from his farm at Oathill. Alan is happily retired at Oathill with his wife Jane. Did I say retired? Just another commission was completed by Alan earlier this year!

Alan moved to Winsham from Woking in 1953, with his signwriter father Charles Henry Rudkin. Alan studied at Holyrood School, and then Taunton Art College, before taking a 5 year apprenticeship with his father. Then in 1966 Alan took over the business.

Shop signs, vans, lorries, buses, banners; all part of a days work for Alan, and Jane who often helped out on bigger projects.

A major breakthrough came after John Taylor opened Cricket St Thomas Estate to the public. Alan soon became "resident" signwriter, working long hours on all the signage necessary for the walled garden, wildlife park, carparks, heavy horse centre, and then of course Crinkly Bottom!

John Taylor fell foul of the authorities when he affixed a sign "Twinned with Crinkly Bottom" to the Cricket St Thomas road signs on the A30. Naturally this too had been crafted by Alan Rudkin.



(ALAN H. RUDKIN)

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Dovelyn Hire. Small plant and tool hire. Started by Jeremy Bliss, his son Jonathan, and Richard Wilyman. They initially traded from East Street (The Men's Shed) then moved to Cropmead. Photo circa 1988.



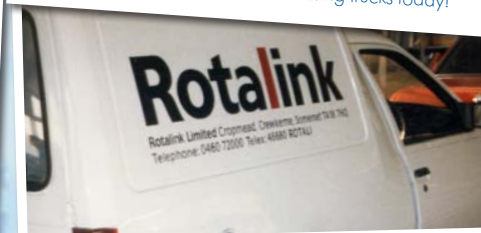
Elsa Benattar opened a ground-breaking arts and craft shop with tearoom in the mid 90s at Queen Anne Buildings, 31, Market Square, Crewkerne. Formerly Stoodley & Son Furnishers, and now No 31 Hair Salon



DAF tractor unit of Frank and Michelle Chown. Octaganarian Frank is still driving trucks today!



Restored Fordson E83W van, lettered for Crewkerne Furniture Emporium 1976 - 2000.



A Bedford van for Rotalink, Cropmead, Crewkerne. Circa 1990.

There will be more photos of Alan Rudkin's sign writing in The Crewkerne Flyer Spring 2022.



# CREWKERNE LIONS CLUB CIO

When you say to someone, "I am a Lion", what goes through their head? That I am a rugby player? I am a chocolate bar? Or perhaps just a large pussy cat.

Actually, I am a member of a group of diverse people who want to make a difference to the lives of others by helping support individuals and groups within our community, local, nationally and internationally.

The motto of Lions is "We Serve". Crewkerne Lions have been serving the local community for the past 40 years.

We have supported many youth groups such as the Duke of Edinburgh group at Wadham School; put sets of the "Wild Tribe Heroes" environmental books in all the local primary schools, run a Peace Poster competition, helped pay for scouts and guides going to camp or Jamborees and helped send individuals on educational trips.

The Lions put the first 24/7 defibrillator in the town and have provided equipment for both the local surgeries.

Lions across the world have 7 main service areas: Diabetes (the fastest growing health issue of our time outside Covid); Hunger; Environment; Vision; Childhood Cancer; Youth and Disaster Relief.

This Christmas, once again we will be providing hampers for elderly people who will be spending Christmas alone with perhaps no visitors except a carer. Many people spend their lives wondering if they have made a difference. Lions don't have that problem.



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Henhayes Centre 01460 74111



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# CREWKERNE MUSEUM & HERITAGE CENTRE

Crewkerne & District Museum has seen a lot of activity during the Autumn. Visiting groups have enjoyed Guided Walks around the town and the museum. Local schoolchildren from Merriott and Haselbury Plucknett had hands-on experiences to enhance their learning about their history topic "In living memory".

We have been pleased to welcome local people to the museum, some enjoying discovering the stories of the area during the past and others finding out about where they live. We will be open to the public from the beginning of January 2022 for research as long as you book an appointment through

the website or email. Due to the good response to all day Saturday opening times we have decided to open on Saturdays only from January to Easter. So, if you are in town on a Saturday in the New Year and would like to look around the museum, we will be open 10am-4pm.

If you belong to a group don't forget one of your meetings could be at the museum, either for a tour of the collection or a Guided Walk around the town. Coffee, tea and cake an optional extra! Contact us by email to arrange a visit. The Museum and Heritage Centre will be closed during December Following "Art in the Museum" in November.

[www.crewkernemuseum.co.uk](http://www.crewkernemuseum.co.uk)

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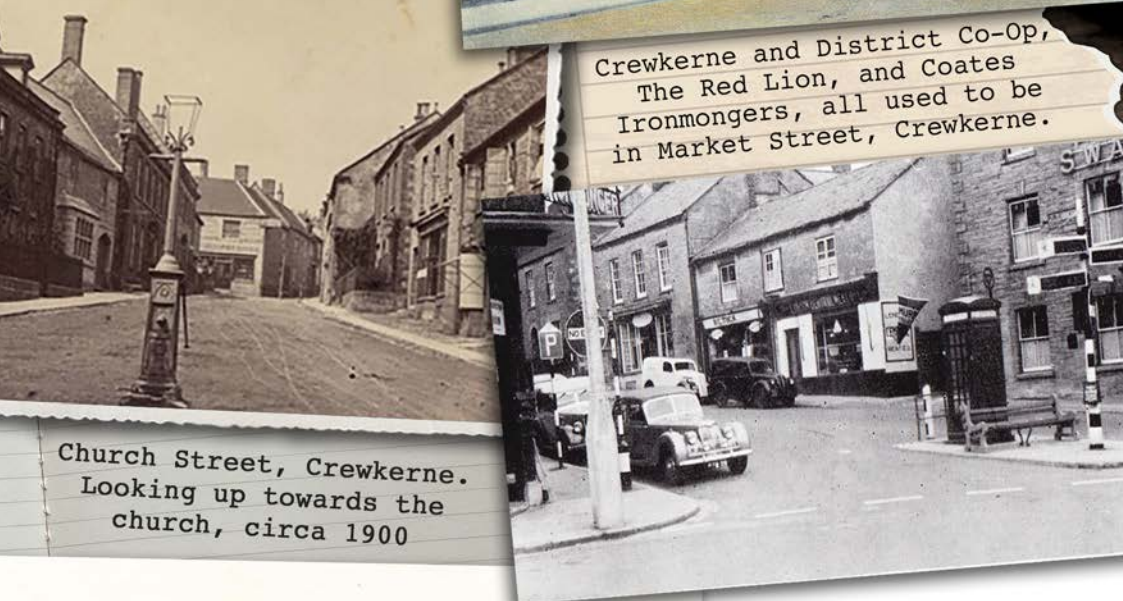
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# "OLD" CREWKERNE

Photos kindly supplied  
by David Bryant.



A view from the bottom of the footpath leading down from East Street into Blacknell Lane, circa 1900. The houses in Mount Pleasant are visible in the background. Bincombe Beeches didn't exist then.

Church Street from Market Street, 1950's. Showing the phonebox on the island. The centre shop in the background (with 2 Ford vans outside) is PC Tuck Electrical. Peter Tuck's son Cedric is landlord of The White Swan at Misterton.

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|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |
|   | 3 | 9 |   |   | 1 |   |   | 7 |
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| 2 | 5 | 6 |   | 8 |   |   |   |   |
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Level: Easy

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Start time: \_\_\_\_\_

Time to solve: \_\_\_\_\_

## SUDOKU 2

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