

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



January 2016
Vol 16 No 1

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you all



BOXFORD STORES RE-OPENS AT LAST



approached Mr Mott with their ideas for how the shop could work, and on Saturday 21st November their plans came to fruition with the opening of the store.

The store will be run as a delicatessen and farm shop managed by Neil Cottrell, owner of The Village Deli in Bures and with Robin Windmill, a local egg producer, helping with the buying and sourcing. Boxford Stores will also sell newspapers, magazines and stationery not forgetting the post office under the control temporary Post Master, Richard Haining which is due to go under a modernisation programme by the Post Office Counters Ltd.

Left, The official opening of Boxford Stores with a delivery made by a Suffolk Punch horse with George Pratt in the cart and Chris Pratt guiding Vice Roy the Horse. photo David Lamming

The future of the Grade II-listed Boxford Stores, which has a recorded trading history dating back to 1420, was thrown into doubt after the owner, Catherine Lee, died and there was little interest from buyers prepared to take the shop on as a going concern.

However the post office was kept running largely as a result of efforts by the Boxford Community Council and substantial donations from the villagers of Boxford, Edwardstone and Groton. Then in May this year, the shop and adjoining house in Swan Street were bought by Lawrence Mott, who owns Motts Body Repair Specialists in Stoke By Nayland.

After an anxious period when prospective tenants withdrew their offers, following a major advertising campaign and an opportunity for villagers to make it known what they wanted of the store, two local businessmen,

Box River News

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e.mail: ed.kench@btinternet.com

Final date for reserved copy for the February 2016 Issue is:

January 15th at noon



Friday 18 December 8.00 £15

African Jazz Quintet

Frank Williams brilliant band with its roots in South African township music will keep your moving parts moving! Frank Williams sax, Winston Delandro guitar, Alastair Gavin piano, Michael Bailey bass, drums to be announced.

Frank Williams, who leads from the tenor sax, has been bringing his African Jazz Quintet to Fleece Jazz since 1993, with performances that sold out in advance

Wednesday 30 December 8.00 £16

Alan Barnes Quintet

Multi award winning Alan Barnes plays hard urban post-bop with passion and energy with this stellar quintet Alan Barnes reeds, Robert Fowler saxes, David Newton piano, Dave Green bass, Matt Home drums

World class reeds player, inspirational band leader, composer, arranger, master of the humorous quip, educator, music businessman and potential Eurostar ticket inspector (see David Newton's website), Alan Barnes is always at his most exuberant leading his own band.

Friday 1 January 8.00 £15

Horn Factory

East Anglia's premier big band will give 2016 a flying start: 18 brilliant musicians. Bob Airzee PERCUSSION & MD

Friday 8 January 8.00 £18

Fletches Brew

Prised away from near residency at Ronnie Scott's to deliver funky jazz originals and Metheny, Brecker and Weather Report classics: last year's gig of the season. Mark Fletcher DRUMS Freddie Gavita TRUMPET Jim Watson PIANO/KEYS

Friday 15 January 8.00 £15

THEO TRAVIS QUARTET

Hi octave, innovative jazz, continually evolving with underlying prog rock and ambient influences creating a rare, fine English psychedelic jazz. i n MOJO Theo Travis REEDS/FLUTE Pete Whittaker HAMMOND ORGAN Mike Outram GUITAR Nic France DRUMS

Friday 22 January 8.00 £15

ALEX MERRITT QUARTET featuring John Turville

Alex has something special and original! - Mike Gibbs. Close empathy creates an exciting foundation for musical interaction. Alex Merritt TENOR John Turville PIANO Sam Lasserson BASS Jeff Williams DRUMS

Friday 29 January 8.00 £18

DEREK NASH ACOUSTIC QUARTET

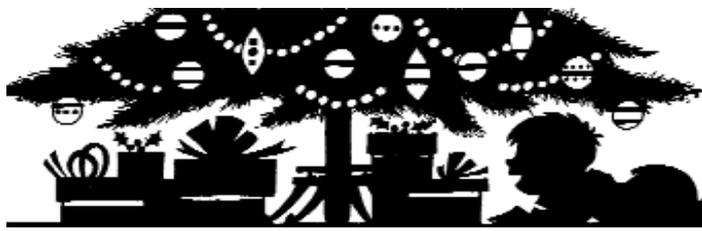
From blue note to bossa, lyrical melodies and infectious rhythm.

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A CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear friends,

I stood at the gate of the year....

Many of you will recognise these words, which come from the famous poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, where the poet contemplates a new year ahead, and all that it may bring.



One of my favourite artists is Winifred Nicholson. Her luminous paintings lead you right into them, either through a window or a gate. Winifred, though, was not just a painter; she was a contemplative and a mystic. And so her paintings lead you into so much more, into the mystery that is hinted at beyond them

As we all come to the gate of another year, what lies beyond may excite or worry us, it may lift our spirits or depress them.

Much will depend on how the year past has been for us. It may have been a year of sadness, in which illness or the death of someone we love has filled our minds. It may have been a year of happiness, with the birth of a child, an engagement, a new and more fulfilling job. It may have been a year of opportunities – or of missed opportunities.

Whatever that year contained, the reality is that, however much it shaped us, and continues to shape us, the event itself, happy or sad, is now in the past. What matters now, is what we do with those experiences.

That of course, is part of the mystery, which only the year ahead will unfold. But what is sure, is that all those experiences can be touched by God's love. A phrase I love, in the Bible, in which God is speaking to his people says this: "Behold I make all things new? Do you not perceive it?" It is that renewing, transforming touch of God, which, if we open ourselves to perceive it, can take our saddest experiences and bring from them a depth of meaning and understanding of ourselves and others which we will gain in no other way. The same touch can take our happiest experiences and turn them from something transitory to something shining, transcendent, even eternal.

I came across the following poem, by Malcom Guite, heralding the New Year. In it, the poet describes how the same church bells toll for the sadnesses within us, and in our world, but also extend to each of us the invitation to hope and to rejoice.

I include it here, firstly to conclude my thoughts and carry my love and prayers to you all for the New Year, but also, secondly, in dedication to Richard Gates. Sadly, we lose him from Boxford Post Office, but not from our communities, since we thankfully retain him as our benefice bell and tower captain. In this role, he will continue to ring and toll for us, with his dedicated teams, on those happy and sad occasions which may lie in the year ahead – all of which, if only we will perceive it, will be encompassed within, and touched by, the loving and renewing hands of our God.

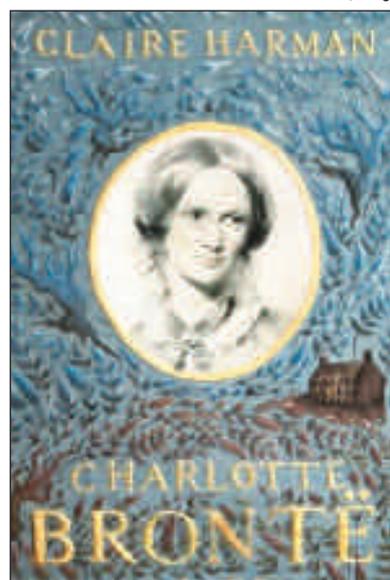
New Year's Day: Church Bells

Not the bleak speak of mobile messages,
The soft chime of synthesized reminders,
Not texts, not pagers, data packages,
Not satnavs or locators ever find us
As surely, soundly, deeply as these bells
That sound and find and call us all at once.
"Ears of my ears" can hear, my body feels
This call to prayer that is itself a dance.
So ring them out in joy and jubilation,
Sound them in sorrow tolling for the lost,
O let them wake the Church and rouse the nation,
A sleeping lion stirred to life at last,
Begin again they sing, again begin,
A ring and rhythm answered from within.

Blessings, *Revd Judith*.

THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ

Charlotte Brontë: A Life, by Claire Harman:



Next year will be the 200th anniversary of Charlotte Brontë's birth, as good a reason as any for a "new" biography of one of English literature's most iconic writers. But how "new" is Harman's account? Without any previously undiscovered material to reveal, such as letters or diaries, a biographer must choose carefully where to place his or her emphasis. But with a life as well documented as Brontë's, are there any stones left unturned?

Perhaps it doesn't matter so much if not: literary biographies have tailed off over the past few years, they don't sell in huge numbers unless they cover the major literary figures.

Harman's biography is a highly pleasurable read because she focuses on those elements of Brontë's story that make us gasp: the horrible early deaths of her mother and her elder sisters, Maria and Elisabeth; the elements from life that appear in the novels (especially *Jane Eyre*), such as Cowan Bridge School which becomes the horrendous Lowood; the intense creativity of the remaining Brontë siblings; the passionate unrequited love for Constantin Heger, her tutor in Brussels; the deaths of Branwell, Emily, and Anne in terrifyingly quick succession; Charlotte's own early death, while pregnant and married to Arthur Nicholls.

Anyone who has read a biography of the Brontës – and there have been several in recent years, those by Lyndall Gordon and Lucasta Miller especially well done – will know these events very well. Harman brings an added empathy to her portrayal of Charlotte, though, a painful understanding of the often humiliating experience that her love for Heger put her through. She also emphasises the sisters' own belief in their unsuitability for marriage and children (no matter how much Charlotte and Anne, at least, may have wanted those things).

Read more

More controversially, perhaps, Harman stresses the sisters' physical unattractiveness, their oddness, their lack of social skills, as though to explain their genius. *Jane Eyre's* plainness mirrors Charlotte's own feelings about her looks; Harman reminds us more than once that as an adult, she had few of her own teeth left.

Harman possibly feels that this is a necessary corrective to George Richmond's highly romanticised 1850 portrait of Charlotte, which is the one we think of when we wonder what she looked like. Many who met her, such as Thackeray (himself no oil painting) commented on her looks and manner ("a little bit of a creature ... buried in the country and eating up her own heart there"). Harman is highly effective at making us weep for Charlotte and all her suffering. But, as she says herself on one occasion, perhaps a little more of *Jane Eyre's* spirit and feistiness could have come through, too.

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CRAFT AFTERNOON AT BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL



Thirteen children and 13 adults attended the Christmas craft afternoon at Boxford Village Hall on 22nd November, when the children (and some of the adults!) made a variety of table decorations, 'art' Christmas cards, 'felt and bead' tree decorations, and peppermint creams and Christmas biscuits. Many thanks to all who helped make this an enjoyable afternoon.



Photo's David Lamming



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Scholarship Day 9th February 2016

Tuesday 8th March 7.00 pm
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BOXFORD CHARITIES BENEFIT FROM COURT LODGE

Four local charities have benefitted in the last month from the sterling charity work by Court Knoll Lodge based in Boxford.

The charities were presented with their cheques by Immediate Past Master Mike Rumsey, the recipients were:

- **The Tom Bowdidge Foundation - £500**



The Tom Bowdidge Foundation is a charitable foundation, founded on 28th February 2014 and launched by his parents, Richard and Nikki on the 20th birthday anniversary of Tom Bowdidge. Tom died of a desmoplastic small round cell tumour and extensive peritoneal disease in October 2013, at the age of 19. The Foundation is headquartered in Colchester and its goal is to raise funds to support research projects and to provide physical and emotional support to teenagers and young people with cancer.

- **Canine Partners-£500** Founded 25 years ago, Canine Partners successfully train assistance dogs and match them with those in need.

- **Boxford Village Hall-£500** Boxford Village Hall provides a well-used and needed facility in the heart of the village. Currently hosting Boxford over 60's club and the Gardening Society to name but a few.

- **St Mary's Parish Church, Boxford-£500** St Mary's are currently raising money for new seating.

Mike Rumsey, Immediate Past Master said "We all take great pride in being part of the Court Knoll Lodge and part of that is being located in the beautiful village of Boxford, Suffolk. All four charities are part of our local community and do splendid work." Court Knoll Lodge is part of the Suffolk Freemasons and meets on a Tuesday at the Village Hall, seven times per year. The Lodge has 31 members and is part of the Suffolk Freemasons Province.

This is the third time that Court Knoll has donated to village funds and is always happy to be involved where they can.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Court Knoll Lodge please email Kirit Bedia at kirit.bedia@ecsolutions.co.uk as we would welcome new members from the village and surrounding areas.

Please email any village sponsorship or funding request to Jonathan Neill, Charity Steward jon@sportsafeuk.com

A RECORD BREAKING WIN FOR SAM



The annual Falling Leaves Hill Climb time trial, superbly organised by the Cycle Club of Sudbury is always a popular event. This year was no exception, attracting a record number of competitors and it seemed a record numbers of enthusiastic, pom-pom holding, flag waving and bell ringing spectators!

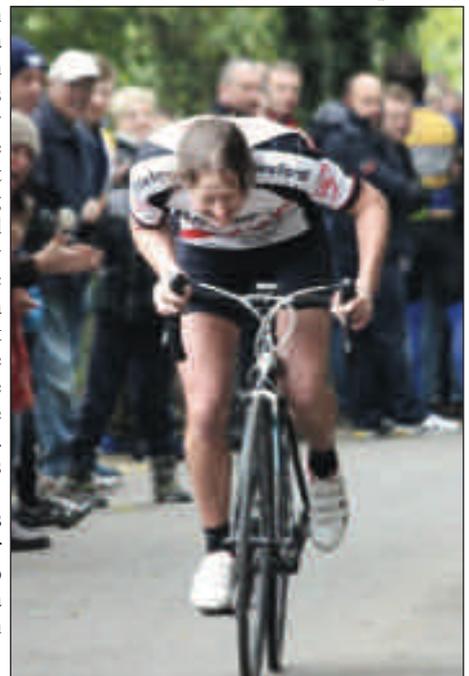
It is fair to say that Boxford took the hill by storm - with a massive crowd of BBC members cheering on Joe Leney, Ben Sayles, Jeff Wilson (riding for Sudbury), Matthew Shinn and Sam Segger who all took on the challenge of the hill climb.

Favourable conditions meant that generally times were quick this year. 67 out of 78 entrants competed, with a good number of entrants in the youth and women's categories. The Boxford riders all competed admirably. Joe Leney was the fastest Boxford rider up the hill in a time of 50.2 seconds coming in 14th overall and 8th in his age category. Ben Sayles was the next quickest with a time of 51.1 - 18th overall and 11th in his age category. Matthew Shinn was next fastest Boxford man up the hill with a time of 56.7 - 32nd overall and 8th in the vets. Jeff Wilson also competed, under Sudbury colours on this occasion, and came in with a time of 63.4 - 42nd overall and 15th in the vets.

Stealing the show again this year was Sam Segger who blasted up the hill in a brilliant time of 54.7 - giving her 28th overall, but more importantly

1st place in the women category - winning by a massive 10 seconds from her nearest rival! This amazing time not only won her the title, for the second year running, but broke the existing women's course record by 1.9 seconds, held by none other than Olympic gold medalist Victoria Pembleton! It was great to see Sam lift the women's trophy that the BBC had donated to the competition last year. Massive congratulations Sam!

The competition was won by a junior rider Fabian Horrocks who climbed the hill at over a 21mph average speed in 43.9 seconds!



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New Year Beauty Bonanza!



January, for most of us, means giving up something we enjoy. Be it smoking, drinking, chocolate... it's sure to be hard work.

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- Medical Microdermabrasion for skin brightening and treating open pores
- Chemical Medical Peels for skin resurfacing and treating pigmentation/sun damage
- Emsculpt/Proton Radio Frequency Fractional Skin Resurfacing for skin lifting, toning and lightening
- IPL Permanent Laser Hair Reduction
- Beauty therapy treatments

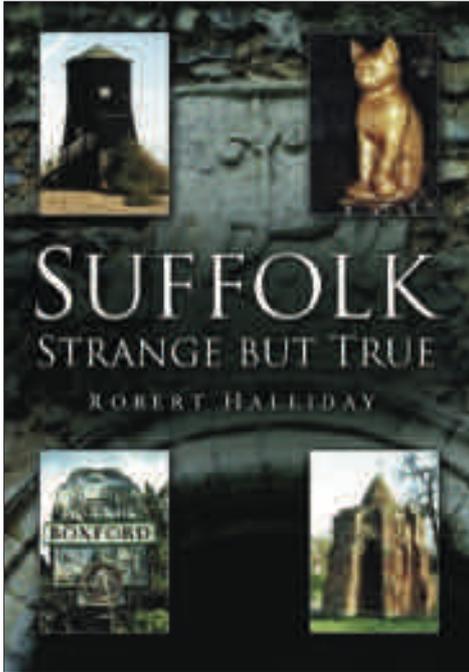
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SUFFOLK GHOSTS AND HAUNTINGS

A Talk by Robert Halliday



Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome Robert Halliday to the Parish Room where, on a stormy and windy night, 34 brave (and ghoulish?) souls came along to hear about the paranormal activity recorded in Suffolk; they were not to be disappointed, especially when near the end of Robert's presentation, his projector appeared to change the pictures on our screen all by itself. Thankfully there was a quite harmless explanation, but it certainly got the attention of our audience.

Robert began his talk by describing his own personal paranormal

experiences, which though benign were certainly fascinating; he described what he saw, on two separate occasions on the north (or evil) side of St Andrew's church in Walberswick - a blue person shaped and sized object which sadly disappeared before he could get close enough to see it properly. He did however examine the part of the graveyard where it was, finding the immediate area cold and damp, despite the evening being warm and dry - scary; he subsequently came back some time later for a proper examination, staying four hours but without any sight of the object.

He then shifted to some of the many (and repeated) records of unexplained activity in Suffolk, keeping the audience alert to the end.

Sutherland House in Southwold Is the site of many sightings of a phantom lady who in the C17th was working in the house waiting for the return of Lord Sandwich, the man she loved, from a sea battle with the Dutch. Sadly he was killed and on the anniversary of his death on 28th May, footsteps and the sound of doors opening and closing by themselves may be heard; she may also on occasion be spied in an upstairs window dressed in C17th attire. Happily subsequent owners of the property are not spooked by such goings on.

The most haunted house in England - Borley Rectory in Sudbury

The large Gothic-style Rectory was built in 1862 for the rector of Borley and his family. It gained fame as "the most haunted house in England", was badly damaged by fire in 1939 and subsequently demolished in 1944.

The rectory was alleged to be haunted since it was built, and such reports multiplied in 1929 after the Daily Mirror published an account of a visit to the rectory by paranormal researcher Harry Price, who wrote two books supporting claims of paranormal activity.

The Brown Monk of Bury The old Abbey Gateway in Bury is one of many locations where witnesses have seen apparitions of monks, who in the 1960s were dubbed Brown Monks by locals, despite the monks of the Benedictine Abbey wearing black habits. Abbeygate Street itself has seen many monk sightings, whilst cellars in the old Suffolk Hotel building in Buttergate are said to be haunted by Brown Monks.

The Mill Hotel Sudbury Many inns and pubs claim to be haunted with the ghosts of animals long dead manifesting themselves as live. At the Mill Hotel, the ghost is a mummified cat, found many years before the building became a hotel and then sold to a nearby shop. This shop suffered many disasters before finally burning down, though somehow the mummified cat survived the conflagration. Thereafter the cat was held responsible for the mayhem and returned to the Mill Hotel when everything returned happily to normal. Bricked up to bring good luck to the original mill building, the mummified cat was rediscovered in 1971 when the mill was converted to a hotel. In 1999 it was again removed, and over the next few weeks the Road outside the exploded, the manager's office flooded several times and the person who had removed the cat met with an accident. All returned to normal once the cat was returned.

Our next event will be on 16th December at 7.30 in The Parish Room Little Waldingfield, when David Steward will talk and walk us around Hampton Court Palace and gardens, showing us what Cardinal Wolsey started and Henry VIII continued (after he "acquired it").

We look forward to welcoming guests new and old for what is sure to be a quite fascinating evenings entertainment and a wonderful story of a building that celebrated its 500th anniversary last year. Andy Sheppard

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THE NAMES ON OUR WAR MEMORIALS *Rufus Sweetman*



I always have made a point of reading to myself the names appearing on the Roll of Honour in any church that we visit. It is, in a way, a private act of gratitude for those who gave up their own lives in the service of their Country. However, the many events, both nationally and locally,

that took place in August 2014, associated with centennial commemoration of the start of the First World War in 1914, led me to look anew at the War Memorials in the villages of the Box River Benefice. In addition, the excellent series of articles by Tina Loose, published in the Box River News during 2014, placed the events of the War in a local context and made many connections to familiar names and places.

Commemoration of past events is all about dates, particularly so when it is a significant anniversary such as 100 years. Of the five War Memorials in our villages only that at Little Waldingfield includes the date of the death of the individuals named, and even there it is only the year. This led me to begin some research to try and put an actual date of death to all of the 91 men commemorated on the five Memorials. There is much information available on various web sites, including the Roll of Honour (www.roll-of-honour.com), the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (www.cwgc.org), Forces War Records (www.forces-war-records.co.uk), and there are useful local publications such as the commendable Little Waldingfield Our Village History from 1840 to 2014, published by the Little Waldingfield History Society.

During this work the idea gradually formed in my mind that it would be fitting to remember each individual as near as possible to the one hundredth anniversary of their death in the church of the village where their name is recorded on the War Memorial. So, after discussing this thought with Revd. Judith we are putting the following arrangements in place.

Each church has at least one 09:30 or 11:00 service each month, and at the service nearest each of the anniversaries in the month, Revd. Judith will include in her prayers, by name, those who died. In addition, we will put in each church a folder, into which will be placed at the time, a copy of the official Commonwealth War Graves Commission Certificate which states the individual's name, rank, service number, the battalion and regiment in which they served, their age where known, and the location of their grave where known. It may also include some very brief biographical details.

However, we have, of course, missed the anniversaries of those who died in 1914 and 1915, 18 in all. Since the next anniversary is not until February 1916, during the month of January Revd. Judith will remember those 18 souls in the appropriate service and church. Thereafter, this pattern of remembrance will repeat through the following years until all the names have been recalled in prayer and their Certificates have been set alongside their fellow villagers in the folders.

Despite the amount of information that is available, and quite extensive research on my own part including via the two main genealogical web sites, Find My Past (www.findmypast.co.uk), and Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk), I am still unable to establish the dates of death for 10 of those named on the Memorials, even though I may have been able to positively identify them in the 1911 Census returns. They are as follows (the names as appearing on the Memorials):

Boxford

• Harold Brett • Charles L Munson • Charles Smith • Lionel H Smith

Edwardstone

• Frederick Grainger • Leslie Williams

Newton

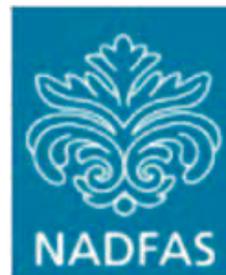
• Henry J Fuller • MAC Gardiner • George E Peggs • Alfred Willis

If there are people reading this article who can help fill in these gaps with any information about these men, please do get in touch. It would be good to know that all of those from our villages who gave up their lives for our tomorrows in that dreadful War will have been fittingly recalled in prayer over the coming four years. However, if at the end of 2018 there are still some whose dates of death remain unconfirmed, they will be included with the very last name on our list, Charles Herbert Sparrow, of Brook Hall, Boxford, who died so far from home on 6th January 1919 in Egypt.

Lastly, just out of interest, does anyone know why the framed manuscript Roll of Honour in Newton church has different names and spellings for some individuals as compared to the War Memorial and does not include five of the names which appear on the Memorial?

In the first instance, please contact Revd. Judith, by email or letter only please, and she will pass on any information directly to me.

SOUTH SUFFOLK DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY



South Suffolk DFAS was founded in 1986 and has been a dynamic, welcoming society ever since. We offer a diverse lecture programme covering all aspects of the arts each year to members and their guests and always a warm welcome. Our members come from all over South Suffolk. We currently meet at The Quay Theatre in Sudbury on the third Tuesday afternoon from September to June. The one exception to this being December when we usually hold a Festive Lunch.

To give you a flavour of our programme here are some of the titles from recent past lectures: Prague, City of the Winter Queen; Wassily Kandinsky and Laura Ashley's Influence In The 1970s. Our lectures for 2016 include Suffolk Churches & St Edmund, Temples, Tombs & Treasures : in search of the Queen of Sheba, and The Day Parliament Burned Down. We offer various visits during the year when members are given the opportunity to gain experience of places not always open to the general public. We also hold Special Interest Mornings & Days when topics are investigated more deeply with lecturers. Our next is in March – The Constable Lectures. We hope this may have whetted your appetite to come and meet us and learn more about us.

Visit our website www.southsuffolksdfas.org.uk to see if there is a lecture coming up that appeals to you. We usually ask for a donation of £5 for guests, but if you bring the voucher below with you, you will be offered free entry to a lecture. You are even welcome to bring a friend too! (Two for the price of one !)

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

**ADMIT ONE PERSON TO
SOUTH SUFFOLK DFAS LECTURE
Valid until June 2016**



NEEDS



**If you are between
18 and 70 plus
we need you to join
our dedicated team of
First Responders
Phone Vic on
01787 210504**



Suffolk Cruise Bereavement Care

We are a charity set up to help bereaved people in understand their grief and cope with their loss. We provide information, one to one support and offer advice, counselling and support groups. We also have a seasonal Children & Young People Team.

If you would like to volunteer to support bereaved people, help us on our Area Committee or with projects and fundraising please contact us.

For help or information please telephone your local branch:

Ipswich 01473 20888 North Suffolk & Great Yarmouth 01488 722294
 Suffolk Coast 01984 870000 West Suffolk 01984 703674

Further information can be found at www.suffolk.org.uk, www.suffolkcruise.co.uk or email suffolk@cruise.org.uk

If not happy contacting with any volunteer we will be happy to help, at a time when it is convenient and at their expense

FOB'S CHRISTMAS FAIR



The Friends of Boxford School held their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday 28th November. A slightly more modest fair than there has been in past years but this one concentrated on things for the children to do, make and enjoy and included making Snowmen (see above pic) nail painting, tattoos for the boys, raffles and a disco which seemed to be most popular Rob came out of retirement to man one of the stall and it was lovely to see staff dressed as Elves and Fairies in and around the event.

ITworx

My name is Ian Fovargue and I operate a computer repair, advice and technical support business. Based in Boxford, Suffolk.

Computers and the Internet are now a part of our everyday lives. It is said that having internet access is as important as having electricity or water. I'm not sure I quite agree with that philosophy but yes it's becoming more and more difficult to pay bills, get information and communicate quickly without having an internet connection, and either a computer, tablet or smartphone.



When I set up my part time business 5 years ago I soon realised that many people were struggling to make technology work for them and were frustrated with the technical support they received when problems occurred.

I visit people in their own homes and over the years I have built up a large customer portfolio. My services include the repair of computers (mac or pc), virus removal, upgrades, tuition, advice, wireless networking and setup of new equipment. Through personal recommendations my business has grown from strength to strength.

In January 2016 I will be operating "ITworx" as a full time job. This will enable me to visit customers, at times that fit in with their needs, during the day or early evening.

If you need help or advice then give me a call. I can visit you at home with prices starting at £35 for the first hour.

Phone: 01787 210031 or 07866 015953

Email : itworxnow@hotmail.com Web : www.itworxnow.co.uk

ANNUAL PUMPKIN COMPETITION



At the pumpkin competition held at the Groton Fox and Hounds on the 30th October the winning pumpkins weight was 206lbs and was grown by Gordon Williams.

The above photo shows Riley Williams with the trophy. Money raised at the event for Cancer Research came to £340.00 pounds. Thank you all who gave money to grow the pumpkins and for Steve for letting us hold the weigh in at The Fox

There will be another pumpkin competition next year. Pips will be on sale mid February to March so come and have a go.

An advertisement for Todds Removals. The top part shows a woman loading boxes onto a red truck. Below this is a blue banner with the text 'Moving?' and 'Call us on 01787 377489'. To the right is the company logo 'Todds Removals' and 'In Town Storage'. Below the banner is a list of services: 'Removals', 'Storage', 'Home or Business', 'Packing materials', 'Packing service', and 'UK, Europe and beyond'. At the bottom right is the name 'Carol Vaughan' and the website 'www.todds-removals.co.uk'. There are also two small logos at the bottom right.

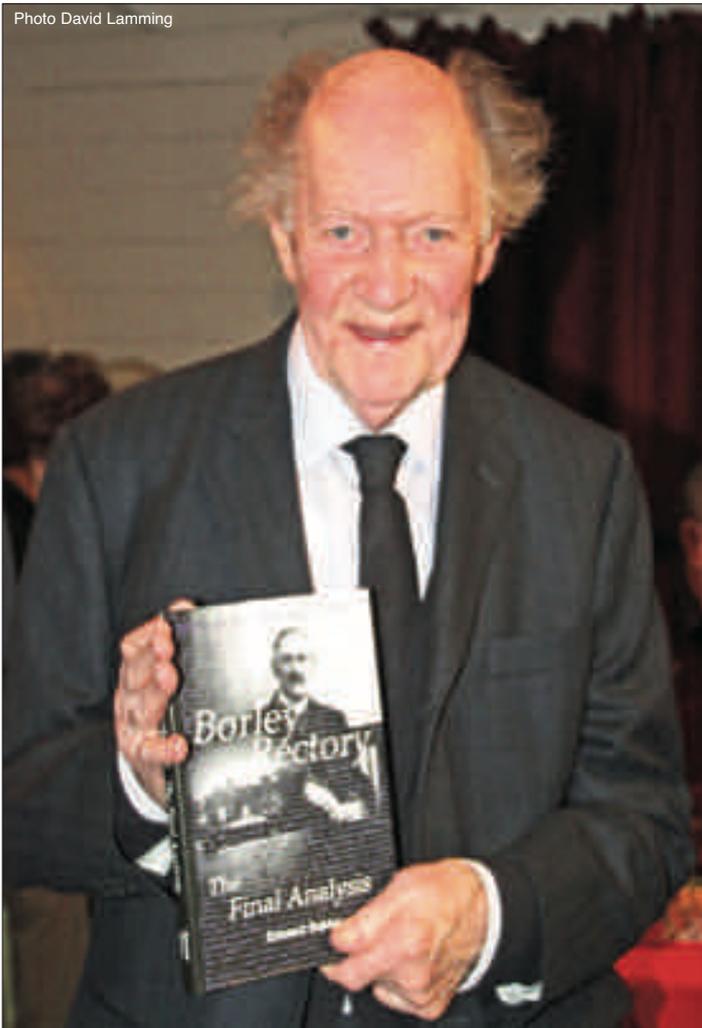
GROTON'S CHEESE AND WINE PARTY



Saturday, December 5th 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall
There was a full house at the annual Groton Cheese and Wine Party, probably the best attended Cheese and Wine I have ever been to at Groton.

As well as all the usual attractions, excellent food, bar, raffle there was a new feature "Buy-A-Bauble" and a talk by Edward Babbs, author of 'Borley Rectory, the Final Analysis', which was on sale at £10.00 with all proceeds going to the roof fund. All proceeds from the event went to St. Bartholomew's Church, which was targeted by lead thieves recently. It goes without saying that the food prepared by the hard working team was of a very high standard and very plentiful.

Photo David Lamming



WANTED

I am looking to find some land to buy. I would like 5 - 6 acres close to Edwardstone. Either paddock or farm land that could be cultivated and also for grazing my horses on.
please call me on 07939563282.



The Bell Inn

The Sreet, Kersey, Suffolk, IP7 6DY

Tel: 01473 823229

Carol Singing at the Bell on Tuesday 22nd December

We would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

We are still taking bookings for our Christmas and New Years menu. Please call or view our website for details.

We still have a few tables left for New Year's Eve.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Our New Years Eve Theme is Glamour and our menu is on our website www.kerseybell.co.uk

OPEN ALL DAY EVERY DAY

John & Judith welcome you to

The Fleece

Serving Great Beer & Fantastic Food

Be here for the **New Years Eve** Fleece Party

- Free Disco
- Free entry
- Free Buffet

(donations to the Air Ambulance Service)

There's no better place to see in
The New Year!

Burns Night Supper

Jan 23rd

A delicious 4 course meal for just £25 per person including Whisky.

We are even having a real **Scottish Piper** heralding the arrival of the Haggis

Tickets selling fast! Book now on... 01787 211183

Festive opening times...

- Christmas Eve: all day
- Christmas Day: 12-3pm
- Boxing Day: 12-3pm and 6-11pm (no food Xmas Day or Boxing Day)
- Sunday 27th Dec: 12-11pm (Sunday lunch as normal)

Happy Christmas to all of our customers - from the Fleece Team

Open Mic night -
Every 4th Weds
Everyone welcome to play or just listen.

Fantastic Food
We have fantastic special food nights, including curry night Fridays. See our website for full details or Call us now on 01787 211183 to book.

Weekly Pub Quiz - Every Sunday 8.30pm

Join in our weekly quiz nights. Test your knowledge against the best of Bosford

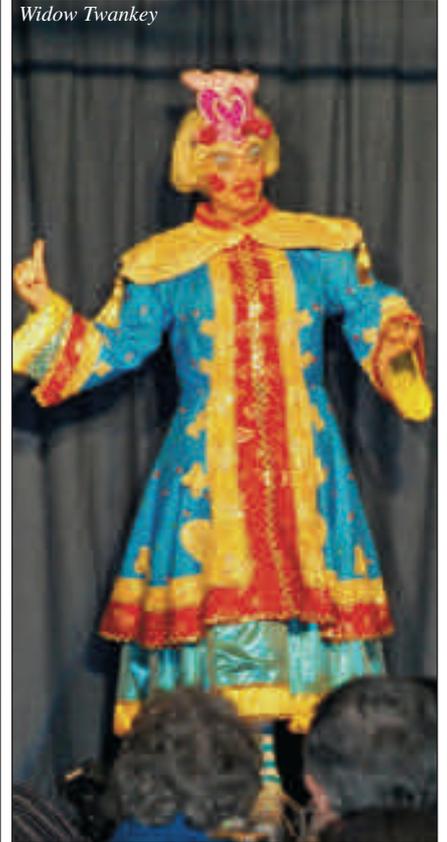
www.bosfordfleece.com - bosfordfleece@outlook.com - 01787 211183

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS CRACKER FROM THE BOXFORD DRAMA GROUP

The marriage of Aladdin and the Princess



Widow Twankey



Allegedly this Aladdin was a traditional take on the original Aladdin story and featured all of the usual Characters from the Gene to the Princess but of course this had the usual Boxford twist with a Scottish Widow Twankey and a pet green dragon called Puff, all tremendously good fun!

Widow Twankey played absolutely brilliantly by Nick Elliott, was in the best panto traditions, cheeky, sarcastic and self-mocking with all of his near-the-knuckle but harmless jokes, Probably the best Panto dame I can remember. Sadly this may have been Nicks final performance in Boxford who with the strain of commuting to London and rehearsals has been finding it a drain on his energy and time.

Boxfords panto stalwart Monica Murphy playing Abanazar was as brilliant as ever and at her nastiest, but you could sympathise with her having to put up with the stupid antics of Meeno-Brainee and Oso-Dim (Coralie Marshall and Elaine Carpenter) who never failed to get a laugh. Then of course there was the Emperor (Mike Keith) who had fed all his courtiers to the Dragons and needed to marry his daughter Princess

Bigdroopydrawers (Bronwen Cotterell) to a Noble Man but none would have her. He also needed a new housekeeper!!

The rest of the cast gave a storming performance including Frances Korabik as Aladdin and David Phillips as the genie of the lamp who tended to fill the stage with his presence, and not forgetting the Narrator played by Jane Elliot whose asides and hurry ups helped to speed the Panto along with never a dull moment.

A special word for Joe Barrett who wrote and directed the Panto and The Musical direction of Ward Baker who also composed the music as well as playing it. He was ably assisted by Gareth Price as choir master and as a team they were brilliant. Lighting, Sound and Special effects were slick and professional as always.

At the interval we were treated to a full Christmas Dinner with Turkey, sausages and stuffing accompanied by roast potatoes, carrots and Sprouts followed by Mince pies and cream, delicious.

Can not wait until March when to BDG will be performing 'Quartet'

Abanazar confronts Oso-Dim and Meeno-Brainee



MILDEN SINGERS CLASSICAL MIX



Milden Singers Classical Mix didn't disappoint providing a diverse mix of songs from Pop to Opera.

Yet again both performances were sold out and there wasn't a dry eye in the house when young Theo Pache joined the singers for Pie Jesu from Requiem. £1011 was raised from the concerts and a donation has been made to Starlight Children's Charity, who grant wishes for seriously or terminally ill children.

Milden Singers is now an all female choir and they are looking for more ladies to join them, the ability to read music is not needed just an enjoyment of singing. Rehearsals are already underway on Monday evenings at Milden Pavilion for their next concerts of songs from the 70's and 80's on 6th and 7th May.

For more information call Pearl on 01449 741876

NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Headway Suffolk

Headway Suffolk is a local charity that offers rehabilitation, support and care to people with an acquired brain injury, stroke or other neurological condition. This is carried out at our hubs around Suffolk and in people's homes and community. The Charity has had a very successful year and is looking forward to an exciting 2016.

To help us with this we are currently recruiting high calibre staff who want to work for a vibrant organisation who offer good terms and conditions, offer training and career ladder. We have a number of DVD clips on our recruitment page which tell the stories of some of our staff and the duties that they perform at Headway. Some speak of the career progression that they have enjoyed.

"We do not race from one client to another but tend to spend several hours working with one person. May be giving them care but also following a leisure activity, going to the cinema or helping them to return to work" said rehabilitation assistant Sam.

If you would like to find out more about our work please visit our web site www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk or contact me on 01473 712225

Calais Street Poppy Day Collection

Poppy day collections in Calais Street exceeded £100, a great effort

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL would again remind horseriders not to ride on footpaths, which are being badly cut up by horses' hooves following the wet weather.

GROTON AND EDWARDSTONE - BIN COLLECTION CALENDARS

Babergh District Council will not be delivering printed copies to households this year. Copies can be downloaded from their website www.babergh.gov.uk, or copies can be posted following a request by phone (01449 778678) or email (recycling@babermidsuffolk.gov.uk). Hard copies can also be collected from Anita Robinson, Clerk to Groton and Edwardstone Parish Councils at Logan Cottage, Groton Street, Groton CO10 5EE.

SHOEBOX APPEAL 2015

Another successful campaign again this year. 213 boxes went from the village to the warehouse in Halstead - our best year. Thank you to all who contributed in so many ways. We checked and packed 10,000 boxes into the lorry on the 4th December bound for the children in Bosnia who will have a treat this Christmas thanks to your generosity.

We have received a letter of appreciation from Samaritan's Purse to thank Boxford village for the donation of £583.80 raised at Barbara and Bernard's cream tea afternoon. A copy of this is in Mary's house window. Please keep knitting for next year - Ann has easy knitting patterns if you want to join in.

ROGERS FARM:

SOLAR FARM APPEAL TO BE REDETERMINED

The appeal by Sun and Soil Ltd, a solar energy company, against Babergh council's decision in February 2014 to refuse planning permission for a solar farm on a 64-acre field (the size of 37 football pitches) at Rogers Farm, Newton, is to be redetermined. On 25 March 2015 a government inspector, John Braithwaite, dismissed the appeal, finding that the harm to amenity and the landscape, and to the setting of Rogers Farmhouse and the grade 1 listed Edwardstone church, coupled with the loss of "best and most versatile" agricultural land, "significantly and demonstrably" outweighed the environmental benefits of the scheme. However, following a legal challenge by Sun and Soil in the High Court, Mr Braithwaite's decision has been quashed on the ground that he failed adequately to address the company's claim that there was no other suitable lower grade agricultural land in the Babergh district where the solar farm could be sited.

Both the Communities Secretary, Greg Clark, and Babergh DC conceded that the inspector had erred and that his decision should be quashed, but the formal order of the High Court, although dated 1 October 2015, was only made public at the end of November. A different inspector will now be appointed to decide the appeal. An announcement about this, and whether the appeal will be decided, as before, on the basis of written representations or following a public inquiry, should be made shortly. Either way, local people will have a fresh opportunity to submit their views.

It does not follow that Sun and Soil will now get the planning permission they seek, only that what they say about the lack of an alternative site for the solar farm must be taken into account in deciding the overall planning balance. It could well be that the appeal is again dismissed.

David Lamming

GROTON WINTHROP MULBERRY TRUST

Croft Report 2012-2015

'The Croft'; as it is known, matures and thrives year by year. The trees that have been planted take shape and improve the vista. The wild flowers spread, making a walk on the Croft a delight, well used by the local community.

The Highlights of the past three years have been:

1. The joint venture with Suffolk Wild Life Trust to install an owl box. It is hoped that one of the local barn owls will use it as its roost.
2. Also in conjunction with Suffolk Wild Life Trust and SESAW, a local animal rehoming centre, three hedgehogs were overwintered by Jeremy Osborne and Francis Mecklenburg. They were released in the spring of 2015, we wait and see if they thrive.
3. On the 24 June 2015 the new American Ambassador to the UK, Matthew Barzun, visited the Croft. The event was marked by the planting of an English Oak Tree.

Other activities undertaken include:

The creation of a bluebell glade: A decision was made to create a glade in the area of woodland in the north west corner of the Croft. This was a result of the repeated cut back of the trees under the power lines, by National Grid contractors, making the area appear unsightly. James Bowdidge is donating 100 English Bluebell bulbs, that will be planted later this season in the glade that has been created.

A tree survey: Andrew Gentle of Suffolk Tree Services inspected the trees on the Croft in the spring of 2015. He advised that the trees all appeared to be thriving, including the recently planted Elms.

The promotion of wild flower habitat: Areas of Rattle have been planted beside the central footpath, to promote the growth of more native wild flowers.

Ongoing repairs include the repair of two of the benches and fencing. Shingle has been laid by two of the gates to improve accessibility in the winter months.

To conclude our funds are in a healthy state, due to the minimal expenditure on maintenance and repairs thanks to the generous donations of time, materials and equipment of the Trustees and local residents. In particular our thanks go to Jeremy Osborne who weekly maintains the walk ways, as well as Trevor Street and Ben Taylor who have annually maintained the hedges and cut the meadow grass.

Thanks also go to Anne Becker for the beautiful photographs of wild flowers and owls on the Croft.

Bob Bowdidge - Chairman Groton Winthrop Mulberry Trust

Suffolk Family Carers

Suffolk Family Carers is a Suffolk wide organisation which aims to offer support and information to anyone caring for a friend, family member or neighbour with any kind of illness, disability or frailty. If you offer support, help or encouragement to a friend or family member who is unwell then you are a Family Carer and are able to access our free Caring With Confidence courses. These courses provide information and tips on ways to confidently care for your friend or loved one. A variety of topics are covered such as effective communication to get your needs met, ways to manage your emotions and take better care of yourself, balancing caring with other commitments you may have, and looking at day to day challenges. We also have a wealth of resources which may help with a variety of issues and concerns you face within your caring role. If you care for someone with Dementia you could also access our Caring for Dementia with Confidence course which is specifically designed for those caring for someone with Dementia or memory loss. These sessions are not only a great way to gain useful information but also give you the opportunity to meet others in a similar situation. Family Carers who have attended the sessions have said they have found it useful for a variety of reasons such as "feeling that I am not alone", gaining "friendship and knowledge" and knowing "that there is help out there". These sessions run regularly so to find out more about either Caring with Confidence or Caring for Dementia with Confidence please contact us on 01473 835446 or cwc@suffolkfamilycarers.org.

Reception 01473 835400 Website www.suffolkfamilycarers.org

New Year Wishes.

Boxford Parish Council wish to thank Sara Cooke now looking after the jubilee Garden, and Howard Watts & Debbie Rule for their time given caring for the greensward, thank you from us all.

Wot's On

Sounds of the Past OPEN DAYS

The new museum of sound and broadcasting with live performances. Something for all the family, 1st Sunday Every Month all year. 10.30am to 4.00pm at The Old Chapel, Monks Leigh, Refreshments available. Donations to Prostate Action and MacMillan Nurses For more info telephone Paul Goodchild 01787 372478

Newton Village Hall Events REGULAR EVENTS: h JANUARY 2016

Tuesday 5th 2.00 pm Fireside Club – tba
Saturday 9th 10.00 am Newton Green Trust coffee morning
Wednesday 13th 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting

REGULAR EVENTS

Monday mornings (term time only): Yoga class (phone Sophia on 313662 for details)

Monday evenings: (6.00 pm) Trayfit high intensity exercise class (call Tracy 07772 575325)

Monday and Thursday evenings: Western Partner Dance Club (call Chris 371006)

Tuesday evenings: JT Steppers Line Dance Club (call Jean on 377434)

Friday afternoons: Art and Craft club (call Anne on 312346)

Friday evenings: Sudbury and District Wargames Club (call Brian on 312160)

Yoga classes

Running Thursday mornings 9.00-10.00am and evenings from 5.45-6.45pm at Boxford Village Hall.

Come and enjoy an hour of stretching and relaxation. All levels welcome.

To book a place call Marianne Marshall (trained Alexander Technique teacher and British Wheel of Yoga) 01787 210323 or email mariannemarshall@fastmail.fm.



BOXFORD DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS

Quartet

at Boxford Village Hall

March 17th, 18th & 19th
at 7.30pm
Tickets £13.00 (including supper)
from Boxford Post Office

LICENCED BAR • RAFFLE

BOXFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

FUN & GAMES NIGHT

Saturday 30th January 2016
7.30pm for 8.00pm prompt start!

BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL
£60 per team - Max. 8 in a team

Contact Stephanie Atkins 01787 21044
Mark Miller 01787 211596
mark.miller@talktalk.net

BoxfordCommunityCentre@gmail.com
www.boxford.vill.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 104887



CHARLOTTE RAMPLING
 IN THE COURTESAN
45 YEARS
 THE GREAT BRITISH STARLET

Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 22nd January
 Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029
 All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm



Boxford
Carols 'round
the tree
 Mon, 21st Dec.
 8.00 p.m. Carols

Mince Pies Roasted Chestnuts
 Mulled Wine Singing

'round the tree
 at The Hart

BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 www.boxford.me.uk
 THE SOYFORD WHITE HART



Greetings from Santa.co.uk

Personalised letters from the big man in the North Pole delivered straight to your little ones!

Simply tell us a few details about the recipient and we'll ask Santa to send them a special letter in time for Christmas. As Santa LOVES giving presents, he'll also send them a super activity pack which includes a brilliant maze, a fun colouring-in picture, a bamboozling word search and an official good-behaviour certificate!

There are 4 Christmassy letter designs to choose from and it takes less than 2 minutes to order.

Just visit our website:
www.GreetingsFromSanta.co.uk

Wot's On

Monks Eleigh Whist Drives 2016

Come and join a group who play whist every third Monday of the month (apart from December when it's the second!) in Monks Eleigh Village Hall. We play 12 hands, homemade refreshments are provided and we have a raffle.

We aim to have a social game of cards and a fun evening so beginners to experienced players are welcome.

Dates:

- Monday January 18th
- Monday February 15th
- Monday March 21st

Contact Angela Forrest on 01449 740414 for further details.

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place on the FIRST Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm in Boxford Village Hall and guests (£5 each) are very welcome. See this months ad. Just turn up. .

Little Waldingfield Parish Room

The 13th February 2016 is the date of our next Quiz Night. As always, the cost is £8.50pp for tables of four to include an excellent two course meal and there will be the licenced bar. Please ring Sue on 247173 to book you place and let her know if you have any dietary requirements.

Courses for Family Carers, Find out more for free!

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place on the FIRST Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm in Boxford Village Hall and guests (£5 each) are very welcome. See this months ad. Just turn up.

ART SALE

There will be a sale of art works that were part of Philip Ingram's collection. Some are his own lovely drawings and paintings, and some he had acquired.

They are reasonably priced, and will be on sale in Mary's House - 5 Swan Street, Boxford -from Monday 18th January 2016, for about a week. Mary's will be open all day, with a late opening on Monday 18th until 8.0pm.

Do come and browse and purchase as you would like. He was a talented man, as well as being much loved by many of us, and Mary's had a particular place in his life. The proceeds raised will be shared between the upkeep of Mary's, and some resources for the Rev Judith to use with families.

We are very grateful to Philip's daughter, Catherine, for giving us this opportunity.

Dates for Innocence and Experience (see ad)

Week 1	January 18	Songs of Innocence and Experience	Blake
Week 2	January 25*	The Lyrical Ballads	Wordsworth
Week 3	February 8*	Silas Marner	George Eliot
Week 4	February 15*	Silas Marner	George Eliot
Week 5	February 29*	The Winter's Tale	Shakespeare
Week 6	March 7*	The Winter's Tale	Shakespeare
Week 7	March 14	The Turn of the Screw	Henry James
Week 8	March 21	Arcadia	Tom

James Cartlidge MP Constituency Surgery.

29th January 2016 in Glemsford 1-3pm.

Please ring 020 7219 4875 or email helen.harris@parliament.uk for an appointment to talk to your MP.

Boxford Study Centre Literature Group

An 8 week course on Monday afternoons 3.30-5.30pm
Meeting in Grotton Village Hall, CO10 5EL
Starting on Monday 18th January 2016

Tutor: Hugh Black-Hawkins,
Chairman of the T.S.Eliot Society

INNOCENCE AND EXPERIENCE

Innocence can suggest weakness but also goodness and hope. Experience equates with age, innocence with youth. Experience is necessary protection in a world where innocence can be dangerously vulnerable. Innocence is not guilty. Experience suggests strength but also cynicism and worldliness.

We shall explore these themes through poems by William Blake and Wordsworth, Shakespeare's "Winter's Tale", George Eliot's "Silas Marner", Henry James' "The Turn of the Screw" and Tom Stoppard's play "Arcadia."

Course Fee: £70 for the complete course, payable on the first or second meeting. Newcomers to these classes are very welcome.

Further information from:

Mrs Elaine Todd, Mount Farm Cottage, Edwardstone, Sudbury CO10 5PY.
Telephone: 01787 210344

Please contact Elaine as soon as possible if you are interested in attending.



LEAVENHEATH CINEMA SATURDAY 9TH JANUARY
Tickets Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266)
£3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person

Remember

The Box River News can be seen in full colour by downloading from the internet. Go to boxfordvillagehall.co.uk and click on the BRN icon. The Newsletter is usually available about two days after the published press date.

Wot's On

Little Waldingfield History Society

Programme of Events - 2016

All talks will be at the Parish Room in Church Road, Little Waldingfield, commencing at 7.30 pm sharp.

Please book & pay in advance to guarantee your place, as seats are limited.

Booking Secretary: Diana Langford, Pitt Cottage

Phone: 01787 248298

Tickets, Members £2.00 Non Members £4.00

113th January, Fiona Raymond

Member only event.

Fiona and her brother Guy will speak about their late painter father Clive Madgwick.

17th February, Robert Leader *In search of Secret Suffolk*

Illustrated with over 100 images it covers the heritage and history of Suffolk. Focusing on abbeys, castles, guildhalls & stately homes, the talk follows the course of major rivers to build a comprehensive picture of Suffolk as a whole.

16th March, John Newman *Recent excavations at Sutton Hoo.*

20th April, Pip Wright *Plague in the 17th century.*

Plague was the most feared disease of the 17th century since its reappearance in western Europe in the 1340s - the Black Death. Come and hear Pip give an impression of the effects on the population of the time - grim but fascinating.

18th May, Marcia Whiting

The life of Sir Alfred James Munnings KCVO PRA, one of England's finest painter of horses, first world war artist and an outspoken critic of Modernism, including his associations with Sudbury and the Gainsborough Museum.

22nd June, Jenny Antill

The Bronze Horseman, a tale of St. Petersburg.

This extensively illustrated talk tells the history of the city as reflected in two iconic artworks - a bronze statue of Peter in Senate Square & the poem about the statue 'The Bronze Horseman' by Alexander Pushkin, the 19th C 'Russian Shakespeare'. We will all learn about madness, obsession, murder, exile, revolution and floods.

FUN & GAMES NIGHT

BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL. We will once again be holding our Annual Fun & Games Night in Boxford Village Hall on Saturday 30 January 2016. Teams of 8 contestants will battle through the various indoor games and quizzes to claim the prestigious title. A fun night is promised for all with a licensed bar, raffle and refreshments. The evening will commence at 7.30 with registration and the first round of games at 7.50 promptly. Ticket prices are £60 per team. We have a limit of 16 teams so if you don't want to be disappointed please contact Stephanie Atkins on 01787 210444 or Mark Miller on 01787 211596, or alternatively e-mail Mark on Mark.Miller@talktalk.net We would like to get all teams listed before Christmas and, if you are not in a team but would like to help, please also let us know. It is never too early to book your place, so book it now!

QUARTET

17, 18, 19th March 2016

Set in a retirement home for elderly musicians and singers. This is a very moving and beautiful play by Ronald Harwood.

The story revolves around the relationships of four opera singers who have known each other for years, but now find themselves in the winter of their lives.

Cissy, Reginald and Wilfred are comfortable in their relationships in the home but that is about to be changed by the arrival of Jean.

Jean in her time was a world famous opera singer who outshone the other three. She was also very briefly married to Reginald, who has never overcome the breakdown in that relationship.

Can the four of them overcome their prejudices and sing, Rigoletto, again at the annual celebration of Verdi's birth?

For once Boxford Drama group have been able to correctly cast to the age profile.

Join us in March for a moving, funny and captivating play.

HELP

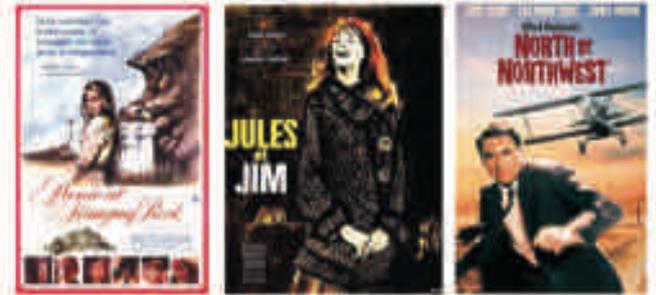
We need a Japanese type screen for the final act of this play, and hope there is someone out there who can help. If you have one that we could borrow from 12th - 20th March please ring David 01787 211951.

Spring Series of 10 Lectures
at Stoke-by-Nayland Village Hall
Starting Thursday 21st January 2016, 7.30 pm



WORLD CINEMA CLASSICS

With James Clarke



This is a 10 week course that will take us through a number of landmark films in the development of cinema, including films from the UK, Italy, France, Germany, India and Japan. Each film will be explored in terms of how it was created, what its achievements are and what its legacy has been.

James has a BA (Hons) Film and Literature from the University of Warwick and a Postgraduate Diploma from the University of Bristol in Film and Television Production. Over a ten year period he has taught film studies at a number of universities as well as delivering talks to the British Council, the British Library and other organisations. He has also written a number of books on the same subjects.

Fees: Adult £48 (includes all the events)

Try the first session (free)

For further information please contact Sue Whalley

Phone: 01787 210345 or email

whalley@boxfordcc.co.uk

Future Dates

2016: 21st April 2016

SUMMER SCHOOL: 28th July 2016

Boxford WI

Well here we are in 2016 and looking forward to the year ahead. Our WI was very busy during the festive season starting with Christmas lunch at the Fleece, our thanks to Judith, John and all the staff for a superb meal and excellent service. Our Christmas party in the village hall was great fun as we all got creative making crackers. Sally had prepared a Christmas quiz which we all enjoyed and Diane B won the hamper in our raffle, proceeds of which are going to ACWW. The very next day we hosted the Three Valleys Group Carol Service in St Mary's Church. We were delighted that our Federation Chairman, Elizabeth Lansman together with members from many groups in Suffolk West were able to attend. It was a very uplifting and joyous occasion and special thanks to the Reverend Judith for taking the service. Thank you to Richard and his team for pealing the bells, to Patrick for the wonderful organ music, to all the Ladies who gave readings and to our Boxford WI members for preparing cakes, biscuits and mince pies. Last but not least many thanks to our very own Brenda and Diane B for making numerous cups of tea and coffee as well as washing up all the cups, saucers and plates! There was also the Christmas tree festival at St Mary's for which our members made some delightful decorations. This was followed by a trip to the pantomime the Snow Queen at the Quay Theatre in Sudbury. In 2016 we have many things to look forward to including our 10 years celebration in June! We have some interesting Speakers arranged as well as a number of walks throughout the Year.

FUTURE MEETINGS

3rd February	Fun Dancing	Village Hall 2pm
11th February	Craft Club - Paper craft	Mary's House 2pm
24th February	Book Club	Mary's House 3 pm
2nd March	Talking Textiles	Village Hall 2pm
10th March	Craft Club - Glass painting	Kersey Mill 2pm
6th April	A Turkish wedding	Village Hall 2pm
14th April	Sudbury Guided Walk	time to be confirmed
27th April	Book Club	Mary's House 2pm

Forthcoming Events Diary

December

21 Carols Around the Tree BCC White Hart 8.00pm

January

5 Show time for plants Boxford Gardening Society Boxford Village Hall 7.30pm

6 Beetle Drive Boxford WI Boxford Village Hall 2pm

14 Adult Colouring Boxford WI Mary's House 2pm

18 for 7 days Art Sale Mary's House

30 Fun and Games Night Boxford Community Council Boxford Village Hall 7.30pm

February

2 The Glory of Dhalias Boxford Gardening Society Boxford Village Hall 7.30pm

3 Boxford WI Fun Dancing Village Hall 2pm

11 Boxford WI Craft Club – Paper craft Mary's House 2pm

13 Quiz Night Little Waldingfield Parish Room 7.30pm

17 In Search of Secret Suffolk Little Waldingfield History Society Parish Rooms 7.30pm

24 Boxford WI Book Club Mary's House 3 pm

March

1 Hardey Exotics Boxford Gardening Society Boxford Village Hall 7.30pm

2 Boxford WI Talking Textiles Village Hall 2pm

10 Boxford WI Craft Club – Glass painting Kersey Mill 2pm

16 John Newman Recent excavations at Sutton Hoo., Ltl Waldingfield Hist Soc Parish Room 7.30pm

17/18/19 Quartet Boxford Drama Group Boxford Village Hall 7.30pm

April

6 Boxford WI A Turkish wedding Village Hall 2pm

First and Third Monday each month Boxford Parish Council Meetings in Bell House, Stone Street St, Boxford 7.30pm



NOW OPEN!

Open Mic Night - Held on the last Sunday of every month - starting Jan 2016

Buy two glasses of wine and receive the rest of the bottle for FREE!

Book a table for 4+ and receive 1 FREE bottle of wine!

10% Senior Citizen Discount

10% Off of your food bill when you dine in the restaurant
one of our January sales deals - offer only applies during January 2016

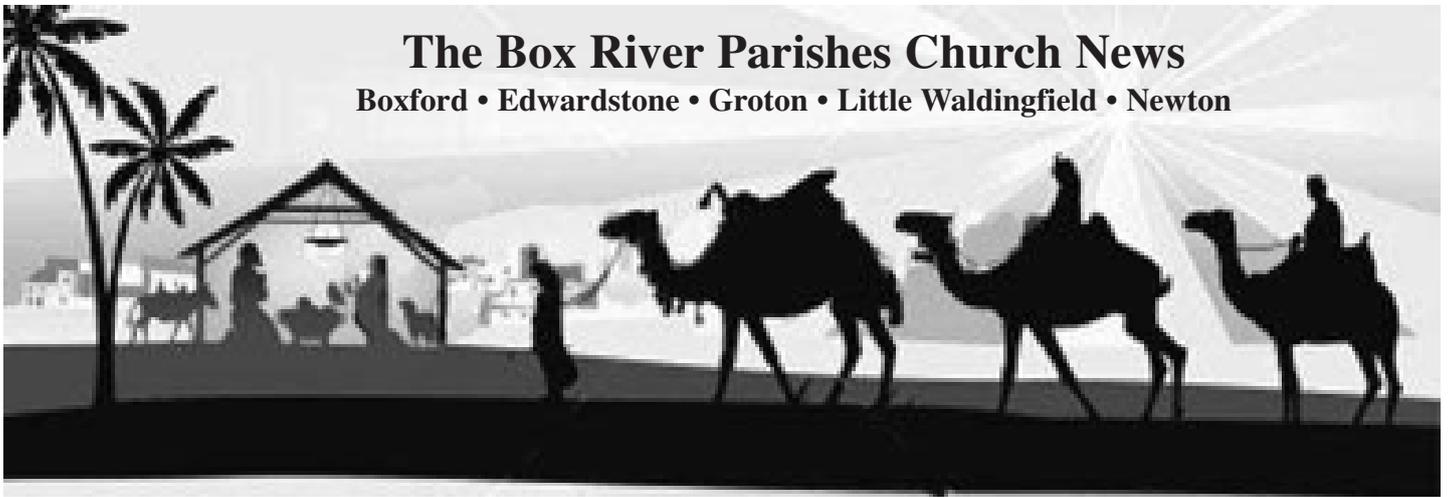
Buy two main dishes for only £11! - see menu for details

Free pool on Sundays!



The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton



BENEFACTICE NEWS

MINISTRY TEAM: The next meeting of the ministry team is on Wednesday 13th January 2016, 7.30 pm at Mary's House.

GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

GENERAL SYNOD

The 10th General Synod of the Church of England—the Church's 'Parliament'—was formally opened by the Queen in London on 24 November 2015, following a service in Westminster Abbey. The photograph shows the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, welcoming the Queen at the inauguration ceremony. For a report on the synod meeting, go to the diocesan website, www.cofesuffolk.org>Governance>GeneralSynod. David Lamming, a member of the synod, is also willing to give information.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SUDBURY AND DISTRICT

'Churches together' prayer breakfasts: Saturdays 8.00 am to 9.30 am. CTiS&D prayer breakfasts in January, to which all are welcome, will be held at the following venues:

- 9th** Glensford Methodist Church.
- 16th** St Gregory's Church Hall, Prince Street, Sudbury.
- 23rd** All Saints' Church Hall, Sudbury.
- 30th** Cornard Christian Fellowship, Broom Street, Great Cornard.

Visit the Churches Together website for CTiS&D news and for details of forthcoming events: www.churchestogetherinsudbury.org.uk.

100 YEARS, 100 TREASURES: A celebration of Suffolk Churches. Copies of the book, produced to celebrate the centenary of our diocese in 2014, are still available to purchase, price £5.00. The book would make a good Christmas present (or stocking filler): 'Church crawlers,' perhaps, could buy one to keep in their car! Contact David Lamming: Tel 210360; e-mail djlamming@hotmail.com.



THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwardens:

*Ruth Kingsbury, Rose Cottage,
Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone tel.211236
Peter Patrick, Amberley,
White Street Green. tel 210346*

Christmas & New Year Blessings: Let's go on a Journey !

A journey of faith and discovery awaits every one of us at this time of year. And it would seem that the danger and trauma often involved in making a journey is still as sharp and potentially dangerous even in today's sophisticated world as it was for Joseph and Mary! Travelling today is full of risk! and sadly fear and trepidation has crept into our potential travelling plans as the world comes under attack from others who do not value the sanctity of life and the freedom of movement which we have become accustomed to. Joseph and Mary were at a very difficult time in their personal lives were forced to make a journey by others. A journey which was to lead them both into glory but also into great uncertainty. A journey filled with the joy of the Christmas story but also a journey which had to take them away from family, from their home and eventually from their own country in order to keep their child free from harm.

Many today are being compelled to go on a journey like that of Joseph and Mary, but this time it is one which they are seeking to attempt in order to seek a better and safer life for their families. Refugees have dominated the press for many months and we have been appalled at the struggles they have had to undertake to seek to find just a glimpse of acceptance and welcome from the people they seek to make their home with. How best should we respond?. The Innkeeper was too full to take Mary and Joseph in that night but did at least give them some temporary shelter. Our world is a very different one from the place where Jesus was born and the sense of welcome and hospitality which was part of the society in which he lived is so far away from the individualized society we now find ourselves in. We cannot open our homes to strangers, we cannot place our own families at risk simply by taking people in, and even if we did, this would be temporary and temporary is not what Refugees need. We need our government to use our resources effectively to help in positive ways to keep people safe and to welcome them and to provide permanent solutions for their well-being not temporary ones. So our Christmas & New Year thoughts should be one of prayerful reflection: as we remember the journey of the Joseph and Mary, let us also remember the current journeys of today's refugees and to hold them all in our prayers so that the Christmas Joy of peace and love for the world may truly be both ours and theirs.

CAFÉ CHURCH Sunday 3rd January at 11.00am – An informal service with good coffee& pastries all are very welcome

How to help with fundraising. When ordering on line from your favourite retailers please go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Register & nominate St. Mary's Church, Boxford to receive donations, then go to your online store. The store-eg Amazon makes a donation to the church (about 1.5% of what is spent. You don't pay anything extra though!.

The Bible Study Group – meets at 7.30pm on 2nd & 4th Monday each month at 47 Swan Street

Copy Date for Church News in the February 2016 Box River News:

Please, NO LATER THAN 13th January 2016

Failure to meet the date will mean your copy may not be included

Thank you. Eddie Kench. 01787 211507

email address: ed.kench@btinternet.com



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:
Vacant

On Wednesday 11th November the Rev. Judith took the annual Remembrance Day Service at the Edwardstone War Memorial. The wreath was laid by Percy Fletcher.

Rota

17th January 9.30 Holy Communion

Sidesman/ Coffee David Saddleton/Maureen Cooling

Flowers Ineke Morris

Cleaning: Emma Driscoll & Anita Steel

Rota:

Sidesman
Jan 3 Mrs Gardiner & Mr Powell
Jan 10 Visiting
Jan 17 Visiting
Jan 24 Visiting
Jan 31 Visiting

Flowers
Mrs Duffy
Mrs Ewen
Mrs Squirrel
Mrs Eddington
Mrs Gregor-Smith



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwarden:
Christine Cornell,

“Opus”, Sudbury Road, Newton, Tel: 370331

22nd November: Our service was taken by Revd Judith and as our Churchwarden was away, Lisa Robertson took over the duties. Thank you to her and all who helped.

29th November: The Benefice Service was led by Revd Judith, and the theme for her address was very apt. Revd Judith had attended a big service in Westminster Cathedral and all were waiting for the arrival of the special one, namely the Queen. This was compared to the anticipation and waiting for the special one at Christmas. At this first Sunday in Advent we may all think of what it means to us to wait for the coming of Christmas and its message. It was great to welcome so many friends from the other villages which helped to swell the numbers of our depleted congregation, due to illness or being away. Thank you to all who stepped in and helped in many ways.

On behalf of All Saints', we thank Sue Knight for her great work as Editor of the Church News. Very Best Wishes to Sue and her husband Howard as they move to a new home.

From All Saints' Newton we wish our all friends from the Benefice a Peaceful and Happy New Year and look forwards to meeting again in 2016.



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens: Jayne Foster:
Poplar Farm, Goslings Green.. 211360
Sue Knight:
Cotlee, The Street, Groton; tel 210785

FROM THE REGISTERS:

FUNERAL AND BURIAL IN THE CHURCHYARD: On 7th December 2015 – Sally Hunt, aged 81 years.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS, MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES

Groton's Carol Service this year, to be followed by mulled wines and mince pies, is on Monday 21st December 2015, 7.00 pm in Groton Church. Do join us!

PCC MEETING: The PCC will meet at Mary's House at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 12th January 2016. Items for the agenda should be communicated to the secretary, David Lamming (tel: 01787 210360; e-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com) by Sunday 3rd January 2016.

NEW PCC TREASURER WANTED: Simon Marchant is standing down as Groton's PCC treasurer at the end of the year. If you think you know of someone who might be willing to replace Simon (or, maybe, to offer yourself!), or just to ask what the job involves, please contact David Lamming on 01787 210360; e-mail djlamming@hotmail.com.

LEAD THEFT UPDATE:

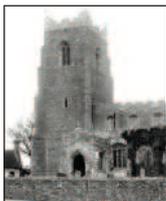
Further to the note in the December BRN, the Government's Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund has now re opened and the PCC will be making an application early in the new year for a share of the £25m. We shall have to wait until after applications close on 26th February before we learn whether our application, which will be considered on its merits along with all other applications received by that date, has been successful. Perhaps, though, we can reasonably expect favourable treatment after the Culture department used (without seeking permission!) a photograph of Groton's north aisle roof (minus its lead) in a power-point slide, "What we fund," at a recent seminar in Thetford.

Rota:

Sidesman: Mrs Foster

Cleaning: Mrs V Riddleston

Flowers: Mrs V Riddleston



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens
Vacant

Our Reflective Service was attended by a small but appreciative group. We enjoyed the readings and music in preparation for Advent, and of course tea and chocolate cake.

On 29 November Mollie Anne Edgeley was baptised in our church. It was a lovely warm family occasion. Nancy Roser played for us and Revd Judith welcomed Mollie into our congregation.

Our carols round the village will be sung on 17 December. We meet at 6pm at The Swan. Song sheets are provided, and we shall no doubt be met with some refreshment on our way!

22 December Carol Service in the church. All are most welcome. Come and sing, and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies.

Have a very happy Christmas.

Box River Benefice

Café Church



An informal time of worship
With fresh coffee and pastries!

Boxford Church
Sunday 3rd January
11.00 am

Come and enjoy
our comfortable new chairs!

Box River Benefice The Church At Worship January 2016

SPECIAL SERVICES TO WATCH OUT FOR THIS MONTH

** 3rd January: Café Church; 10th January: Plough Sunday**
** 31st January: Five Villages Service **

Village Daily Prayers Each week, in the five churches: informal, friendly service, 30-40 minutes, with Revd Judith. We pray for those who are ill, concerns of the villages, and for the wider world. Do join us! Please let Revd Judith know of any people or situations for prayer: Confidential messages can be left on tel. 210091 or emailed: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com. **The winter months' rota is:** Tuesday 9.00 Edwardstone, Wednesday 9.00 Groton; 16.00 Little Waldingfield at Newman's Hall; Thursday 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford.

Sunday 3rd	Epiphany		(W)
Boxford	8.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Lt Waldingfield	9.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Café Church: the three kings visit Jesus	Revd Judith
Boxford	18.30	Evensong	Christopher Kingsbury
Wednesday 6th			
Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
Thursday 7th			
Lt Waldingfield	19.00	Holy Communion – Newmans Hall (Reserved Sacrament)	Lay Team
Sunday 10th	Epiphany 1, The Baptism of Christ, Plough Sunday		(W)
Newton	9.30	Plough Sunday Service	Minister tbc
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Wednesday 13th			
Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
Sunday 17th	Epiphany 2		(W)
Edwardstone	09.30	Morning Worship	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Groton	13.30	Christening of Adelaide Heath	Revd Judith
Wednesday 20th			
Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
Thursday 21st			
Lt Waldingfield	19.00	Compline	Lay Team
Sunday 24th	Epiphany 3 Septuagesima		(W)
Groton	09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Newton	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Matins	Christopher Kingsbury
Wednesday 27th			
Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
Sunday 31st	Epiphany 4 Sexagesima		(W)
Boxford	10.00	Five Villages Service with Holy Communion	Revd Judith



Photo's David Lamming



Having spent two of the last three Christmases in Portugal, this year we will be enjoying a small family Christmas in Suffolk. I hope the term "enjoy" turns out to be accurate. Christmas seems to become more challenging each year. Cards and gifts appear in the shops ever earlier. Advertisements promoting spending at Christmas dominate the television screen. And there is the constant need to revise a Christmas card list which seems to grow each year and determine how best to satisfy the expectations of family on food and celebrations.

It therefore came as something of a surprise to learn that, in the United States, spending at Halloween has now overtaken the sums expended by

families at Christmas. What a contrast between these two occasions – the one celebrating the birth of the Saviour of the world, the other a feast of the macabre and, arguably, all that is evil. Perhaps, in a secular society, this is what we should come to expect.

Of course, Halloween is a manufactured event, driven by those who wish to persuade us to buy masks, cards, treats and, naturally, tricks. And it is really an American import. As a child growing up in the east end of London, I have no recollection of trick and treating taking place in our neighbourhood. For that matter, it is only comparatively recently that small children have started to knock on our front door to demand recompense for being out in the dark of mid autumn in bizarre costumes.

I have nothing against Halloween – it strikes me that it is not taken too seriously and has, so far as I am concerned, no deeper meaning that should demand those with religious convictions take exception to it – but the sheer commercialisation surrounding the end of October is, to me, unpalatable.

You could say the same of Christmas, where the story at the heart of the celebration has been buried beneath an avalanche of materialism. I used to enjoy giving and receiving presents, but in these days of plenty, where many of the potential presents have been created solely for the purpose of making money for the manufacturer, this Christmas exchange of gifts has lost its allure.

I know I could be accused of a "Bah! Humbug!" approach to the festive season, but it all seems too artificial these days. Contrast what happens here with our experience in Portugal. True, presents are exchanged and families gather around the dining table to celebrate what I consider the most important event in the Christian calendar, but the holiday is short, with work resuming as normal on Boxing Day – a holiday most on the continent simply do not recognize.

Here in the UK, business all but shuts down for two weeks over the Christmas and New Year holidays. It is an excuse for excess and prolonged idleness – not that taking a holiday is a bad thing. Rather, it is the expectation that no work will be expected until early January that is the problem. It hardly adds to our productivity as a nation, which sadly trails that of many of our developed competitor countries. And poor shop workers, amongst the lowest paid in our community, are unable to take advantage of this cultural imperative of ours.

Still, I shall be pleased to be at home and in the bosom of our family this Christmas. I have, though, put out a request to keep presents few and relevant. Accumulating more clutter is hardly appropriate when you are trying to de-clutter – something that is hard enough as it is when faced with the all the possessions acquired over half a century or more. I shall put my concerns over the commercialisation of Christmas aside and endeavour to enjoy myself. I hope all our readers will, too.

Brian Tora is a local writer and broadcaster

Boxford Community Council
BOXFORD TEA TOWELS
 What would be a better Christmas gift or accompaniment to a gift than a Boxford Tea Towel.
 These are nicely manufactured from top quality linen and printed with scenes from Boxford village together with the Boxford village sign.
 They sell at £3.50 each or 3 for £10 and are on sale at **Boxford Post office**.
 Proceeds from the sales go to Boxford Community Council and ultimately back into the local community via grants

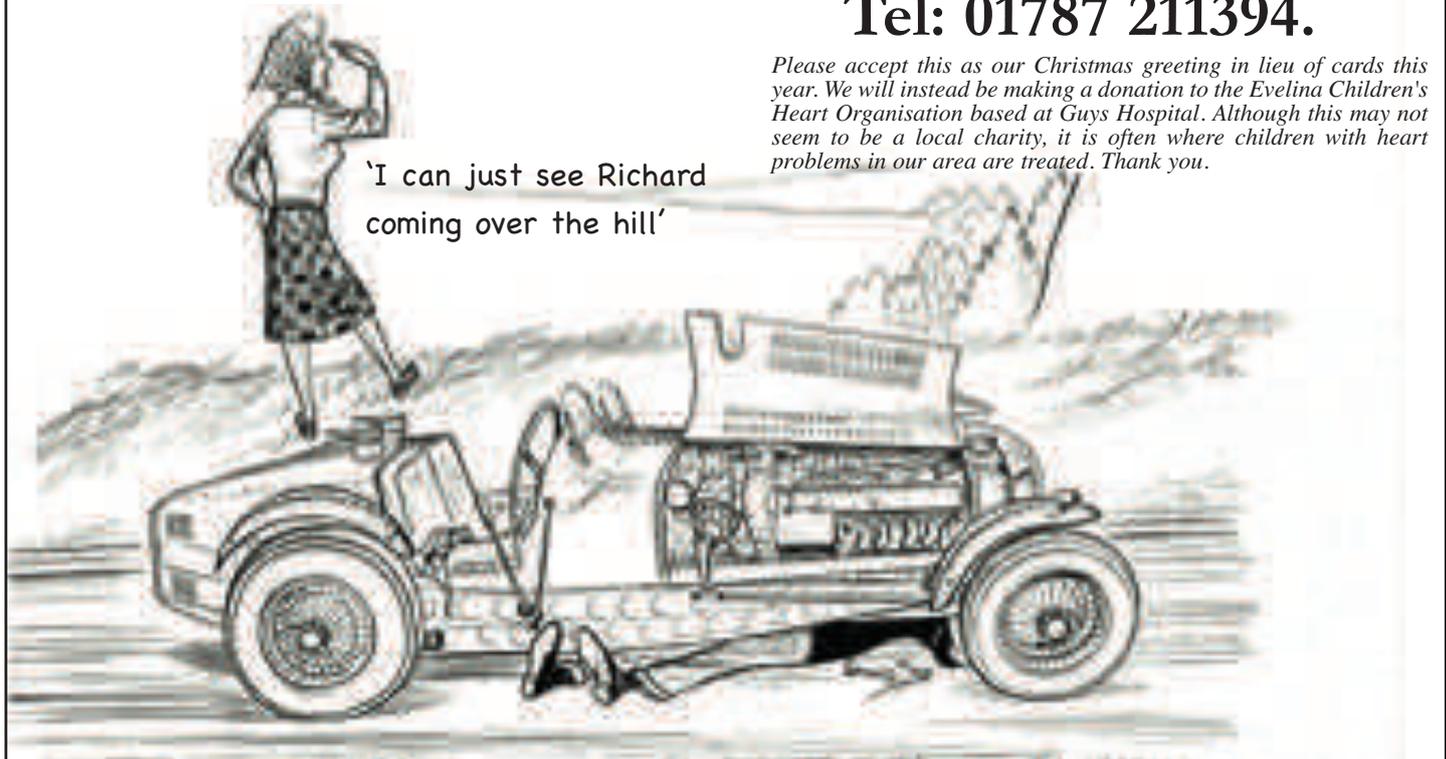
Richard, Joy, Michael Martin & Andy wish all their customers, past and present

a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year

MATTOCK MOTORS LTD
Tel: 01787 211394.

Please accept this as our Christmas greeting in lieu of cards this year. We will instead be making a donation to the Evelina Children's Heart Organisation based at Guys Hospital. Although this may not seem to be a local charity, it is often where children with heart problems in our area are treated. Thank you.

'I can just see Richard coming over the hill'



EMERGENCY SERVICES AND THE MOBILE MAST

Further to the Letters regarding the mobile phone mast from 'Your Humble Wordsmith' and John Ward, that were in the December BRN, we wish to fully support their comments. As a struggling First responder Group it is vital that every possible call is received by our on-duty responder.

With the building of new housing in the village most of which will fall within the 'poor reception' area, even more people will be out of touch should they need to use their mobiles if nothing is done to improve reception.

A typical scenario could be a heart attack in the centre of the village. Without a mobile signal what would you do ?? Unable to make an emergency call on your mobile you would need to leave the patient lying on the ground while you dash about trying to get to a public phone (if its working) or a private house. All this time the patient is lying there deteriorating. This could so easily happen !!

With a stronger mobile signal the emergency services could be alerted and an ambulance, paramedic or first responder could be on-scene within 1 to 8 minutes.

There is a defibrillator for public use in the archway of the Fleece Hotel with access by a keypad the code for which is supplied by ambulance control from the 999 call. Ambulance control will stay on the line and talk you through the process, however this is only possible if you get a strong signal.

The benefits of a good mobile signal are obvious, not only for our service but for all other emergency services. Newcomers to the village will expect full mobile telephone coverage, and existing mobile users should be strongly campaigning for the installation of a mobile phone mast compatible to all providers as soon as possible despite the recent rejection.

Have you thought of becoming a first responder ?? With the influx of the new housing, the village population will increase and more first responders will be needed. If you are between 18 and 70 years of age, a vehicle owner and interested in trying it out, give Peter or Vic a ring on 210819 or 210504 for more details. We operate as fully as possible but our service would definitely improve with the facility of a good mobile signal.

We are more than willing to visit any group of any size to give a demonstration of basic Life Support and Defibrillator use.

Peter Hibben – Boxford Group Coordinator

Vic Rice – Boxford Group President



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 Romantic Candlelit Dinner | Valentine's Disco | Romantic Spa & Dining Break

Romantic Candlelit Dinner – just £39pp
 per person on Friday 13th, Saturday 14th or Sunday 15th February
 for a bespoke 3-course Valentine's dinner glass of champagne
 with no spend and a special gift for your Valentine.

Valentine's Disco, Saturday 13th February – just £24.95pp
 Enjoy celebrating Valentine's Day in a unique way! Get friends, family
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Find out more about our Romantic Spa Break (from £130pp)
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www.stokebynayland.com

Call 01206 262836, email sales@stokebynayland.com or visit our website to make your Valentine's plans!

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Gardening in January

Harry Buckledee

Prepare a cropping plan without delay for the coming season. The most important rule in planning a vegetable plot layout is the rotation of crops, in other words, grow each vegetable in a different place to which it was grown last year. The only exception to this is the onion, which will succeed on the same ground for several years but there is no real advantage in this unless you want to grow onions for exhibition. It takes several years to build up the levels of fertility needed to grow exhibition onions, so exhibitors tend to stick to the same plot.

Some wise gardeners keep a record of what they do in the garden, of the results they got and where they went wrong, thus not relying entirely on memory alone. If you are anything like me, this is to be recommended.

Order seeds and seed potatoes right away. Seedsmen get busy towards the end of February - March and you may not get your seeds when you need them. Seed potatoes need to be purchased early to allow time to sprout them. Delay too long and you may find your favourite variety sold out.

Lime is necessary for vegetable growing but should not be over done, aim to lime about a third of a plot each year - preferably the part which is to grow brassicas. Lime is best applied in the form of hydrated lime at about four ounces per square yard. Do not apply lime at the same time as manure as a chemical reaction is set up and the nitrogen in the manure is lost in the form of gas.

Give established rhubarb a sprinkling of sulphate of ammonia round the crowns at two ounces per square yard. This feeds the plants and encourages early growth. If you have any straw or straw manure place a three inch layer around the crowns to keep them warm. To encourage still earlier growth cover the plants with large upturned boxes or other light

proof receptacles. Thin out dead and diseased branches from established trees and shrubs. It may also be necessary to remove some of the over crowded branches to allow for good circulation of light and air which is essential for healthy growth. Winter prune wistaria by cutting back to within two buds of the old wood all previous years growth.

When you buy pots of herbs from supermarkets, pot them upright away into six inch pots and you will find they will keep producing over a much longer period.

Roses, deciduous trees, shrubs and hedging plants can be planted any time until end of March so long as the ground is not frozen or excessively wet.

Ventilate the Greenhouse and frames whenever possible to prevent mildew on plants over-wintering. Regularly remove all dead leaves and flowers and discard any leaves and cuttings which show signs of disease. Water carefully and do not splash the leaves or leave water lodging in the crowns of plants.

In January, your garden could need protecting from frosts, gale-force winds and heavy rain. Check stakes, ties, fleeces and other supports for damage and consider moving plants to sunnier positions to maximize light. Don't forget to keep feeding the birds, food is scarce for them over winter. You can also start planning next year's vegetable plot.

Top 14 jobs this month

- 1 Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch
- 2 Ventilate the greenhouse on sunny days
- 3 Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already
- 4 Repair and re-shape lawn edges
- 5 Inspect stored tubers of Dahlia, Begonia and Canna for rots or drying out
- 6 Prune apple and pear trees
- 7 Start forcing rhubarb
- 8 Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season
- 9 Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds
- 10 Prepare a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect them from peach leaf curl.
- 11 Protect early seed sowings from slugs.
- 12 Protect brassicas from pigeons.
- 13 Look out for grey mould and brassica downy mildew on brassicas.
- 14 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.

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Parish Council Matters

Present: Councillors Paul Presland (Chairman), Russell Bower, Sue Crawte, Lee Parker, Colin Poole, Rita Schwenk and Phil Taylor (arrived late).

Attending: Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor), D Crimmin (Clerk) and 2 residents.

Apologies for Absence: James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor) sent his apologies.

Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation: No interests were declared and no request for dispensation had been received.

Minutes of meeting held on the 30th September 2015: The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum: James Finch's submitted report was reviewed by councillors. The councillors requested the Clerk to contact James Finch to find out the meeting that NPC will be invited to attend in order to review the traffic data modelling for Chilton Woods and its impact upon the A134 and the A134 junction with Valley Road. The councillors would also like to understand from James, as soon as possible, the timeframe for the proposed works to cut back the hedge at the A134 / Valley Road junction to improve visibility for motorists.

Lee Parker updated councillors on the enforcement action being taken against the owner of the land west of Wyevalles.

Correspondence (Appendix A): Following a review of the Correspondence and the emails circulated the Clerk there was no further action requested of the Clerk.

Clerks Report (Appendix B): Following a review of the Clerk's Report:

- the Chairman confirmed that SALC did not find any issue with the gratuity included in the Clerk's contract of employment dated 25th May 2005 and that NPC would be able to pay this to him when he leaves the council

- the councillors discussed the Saracens Head and the proposed sale to the current tenant. The councillors considered that as their application for the pub to be listed as a Community Asset under the Community Right to Bid legislation has neither been approved by Babergh nor that right invoked, it should not affect any proposed sale at this time. Due to lack of notice of the impending sale for the item to be included in the meeting's agenda, the councillors were not able to consider whether the application should be withdrawn. The Clerk was requested to explain to BDC that NPC's application was not to hinder the sale of the premises as an operating pub and that this should be borne in mind as the current sale transaction with the tenant is executed.

Finance

a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in Appendix C, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget and the bank reconciliation against the bank statements.

b. The councillors reviewed Babergh's offer to fund an employee for 2.5 hours a week as a street cleaner. The councillors considered the merits of the scheme but felt that the additional administrative time and costs associated with another employee working for the council did not make financial sense at this stage and felt they could not proceed on this basis.

c. The councillors reviewed the Budget Proposal (Appendix D) and are minded to set an Expenditure Budget of £11,207.85 for 2016 / 2017.

d. The councillors reviewed the application for a grant towards NPC's costs in complying with the Transparency Code and resolved that the Clerk submit the application to SALC for consideration.

Planning

a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/15/01337 Whisper Wood, Sudbury Road - Proposed First Floor extension and resolved to support the application.

b. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/15/01080 Fairways, The Green - Proposed Change of Use of building from Use Class D1 to residential accommodation ancillary to Fairways and resolved to support the application.

c. No further planning application had been received since the agenda was posted.

Newtown Housing needs: Cllr Crawte presented a full analysis of the 85 householders responses to the Newton Housing Needs survey. With the response representing 40% of Newton's households the councillors were very pleased with this level of engagement by residents. With 21 residents also indicating that they would like to be kept informed of proposed developments this also demonstrated the residents support in further engagement. The councillors thanked Cllr Crawte for all the work undertaken to prepare the survey, designing the data collection model and the preparation of the presentation.

The councillors agreed that:

- The presentation should be placed on the website
- The Clerk informs the two developers that the data is available on the website and that a concise summary of the outcomes will be prepared by the 1st December
- NPC to facilitate, if requested, a meeting between potential developers and local residents interested in downsizing
- Lee Parker co-ordinates a meeting with Babergh in order to understand the requirements of Newton producing a neighbourhood plan or a village design statement.

Local Housing Needs Scheme: Hastoe have updated NPC that their discussions with a local landowner over land for the affordable housing scheme are nearing a conclusion.

Short Stay Stopping Sites for Gypsies and Travellers:

After reviewing the criteria for the Short Stay Stopping Sites the councillors could not identify any location in the parish that met the specification.

Fireworks: The councillors were very pleased with the outcome of the fireworks event with over 200 residents attending and they looked forward to seeing the final accounts reconciliation for the evening.

Playground and Asset Maintenance Programme: After reviewing the RoSPA report on the play equipment the councillors agreed to set up a working party following the January meeting in order to resolve the issues raised.

Village Cinema: Cllr Crawte updated councillors on the current costs for operating a village cinema. The councillors agreed to consult with the Newton Green Trust and the Village Hall Management Committee to see if there is a way to finance a pilot scheme during which three films would be shown at the Village Hall.

Christmas Tree: The councillors resolved that Cllr Taylor purchase an 18ft Christmas tree for £70 and that the Clerk purchase lights for the tree with a budget of £200. A further budget of £75 was allocated for any electrical works in order to bring the electricity supply to the tree. The Clerk gave Cllr Bower the template for the Risk Assessment for Christmas tree while on site.

Youth Council: Due to the fact that both eligible members of the Youth Council were now studying away from home, the Youth Council will be suspended until such a time that there is sufficient interest to fulfil a quorate council.

Village Hall and Trust representative updates:

The Trust has reviewed the village green ponds with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and a maintenance programme is being developed. A further schedule for the maintenance of the trees on Trust land is also being developed to improve visibility on the A134. Remedial works to the track across Little Green are being organised. The Village Hall Committee report showed that painting maintenance had been carried out in the hall and that bookings for the hall were good.

Meeting dates for 2016:

The councillors resolved that, as an experiment, NPC would meet on a monthly basis throughout 2016 on the following dates:

- 13th January • 10th February (provisional) • 9th March • 13th April (provisional)
- 11th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council • 15th June (provisional)
- 13th July • 3rd August (provisional) • 14th September
- 12th October (provisional) • 9th November • 14th December (provisional).

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 20th April 2016.

Questions to the Chair: No questions were raised.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 13th January 2016 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.27pm.

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

Meeting held on the 27th October

Present: Councillors Andy Sheppard (Chairman), Stewart Braybrook, Barbara Campbell, Jeremy Coomber, Matt Foster and Tim Sheppard.

Attending: Margaret Maybury (Babergh District Councillor), Dave Crimmin (Clerk) and 7 members of public.

Apologies for Absence: Colin Spence (Suffolk County Councillor) and Frank Lawrenson (Babergh District Councillor) sent their apologies.

Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation: None

Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd September 2015: The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum: Margaret Maybury updated councillors on Babergh's procurement strategy and the half year finances as well as her programme to align Suffolk and Devon services to residents. A resident raised concerns over the lack of an emergency call when a digger caught fire in her garden and of the subsequent unauthorised photography of the scene by Cllr Andy Sheppard, who was acting in his capacity to record village history. Another resident spoke of the bravery of an individual who took it upon himself to get the fire under control. The farming community are appealing to residents in Church Road to remember that the agricultural industry has existed in Little Waldingfield for many years and that consideration should be given when large agricultural machinery uses the road from July and November, by parking vehicles off road where possible.

Routine Correspondence : After the councillors reviewed the correspondence and the emails circulated by the Clerk it was agreed that no further action was required from the Clerk.

Clerk's Report: Following a review of the Clerk's report:

- it was agreed that the Clerk seek the replacement cost of the telephone box and the cost of including the replacement cost in the insurance cover.
- it was resolved that LWPC should proceed with the plan to take on the footpath cutting schedule from SCC in 2016 in consideration of the grant for £412. It was further resolved that D Gotts be awarded the contract for 6 cuts of the footpaths in 2016 at £75 per cut.

Finance:

a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in Appendix C, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting, the reconciliation of bank accounts against the bank statements, and the Statement of Accounts against the Budget.

b. The councillors reviewed the application for a grant towards LWPC's costs in complying with the Transparency Code and resolved that the Clerk submit the application to SALC for consideration.

Planning:

a. Two planning applications had been received since the agenda was posted. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/15/01273 Kiln Cottage, The Street - Application for Listed Building Consent - Erection of garden boundary wall and resolved to support the application. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/15/01272 Kiln Cottage, The Street - Erection of garden boundary wall and resolved to support the application.

b. The status of planning applications, enforcement and appeals previously reviewed by LWPC are as follows:

c. The councillors reviewed the option to look at the process to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and agreed that the Clerk arrange for BDC to come and

discuss the process with the councillors.

Highways and Footpaths: There were no issues raised.

Assets: No issues raised on the condition of the council's assets. The councillors agreed to review the options of placing 2 further dog bins at the junction of FP3 with Church Road and the junction of the Street and FP5 with local home owners

Welcome Card: The councillors agreed the draft format of the "Welcome to Little Waldingfield" card produced by Cllr Foster. Councillors to agree wording for card before Cllr Foster produces final A5 version.

Short Stay Stopping Sites for the Gypsy and Traveller community:

After reviewing the criteria for the Short Stay stopping sites the councillors could not identify any location in the parish that met the specification.

Community Caretaker Scheme: The councillors reviewed Babergh's offer to fund an employee for 2.5 hours a week as a street cleaner. The councillors considered the merits of the scheme but felt that the additional administrative time and costs associated with another employee working for the council did not make financial sense at this stage and felt they could not proceed on this basis. Margaret Maybury was requested by councillors to see if Babergh can reduce the

Policies and Procedures: The councillors reviewed the proposed Training & Development Policy, Equality Policy and the Procedure for Making a Freedom of Information request upon LWPC and resolved to adopt them as from the 27th 2016 Meeting Dates

The councillors agreed to the following schedule of meetings in 2016:

- 19th January • 15th March • 17th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
- 19th July • 20th September • 15th November

With the Annual Parish Meeting being held on Tuesday 26th April 2016.

Councillor Vacancy: No applications had been received for the vacancy on the council. It was agreed to have an open ended advert seeking candidates to apply.

Questions to the Chair: Cllr Andy Sheppard updated councillors on the recruitment process for a local area co-ordinator of the various care services and the community.

Next Meeting: The date of the next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday 1st

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EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council 16 November

Present: S Norman, C Britcher, M Childs, S Flack, P Clarke

In attendance: B Hurren (BDC); J Finch (SCC); A Robinson (Clerk); M Render; 1 member of the public

Presentation by Martin Render, Chairman of The Community Heartbeat Trust – he gave a detailed explanation of the options available for installing a defibrillator into the phone box, and the adoption of the box. It should last for at least 10 years and would cost between £1200 and £2000 depending on the specification chosen. Monthly checking of the system will be required and C Britcher volunteered to do this. Vandalism could be an issue, but the equipment can be covered either by the PC's own insurance or by the Trust's insurance. The electrodes would have to be replaced every 2 years or after each use, at a cost of £40, and the battery will need replacing about every 4 years at a cost of £200. It should be possible for BT to provide an emergency phone which would probably cost £340 plus token line rental of £1. The Council resolved to go ahead with the installation and M Render will contact the Clerk with further details and a request for information. The Clerk confirmed that over £2300 had been collected in memory of Jim Robinson and that this money would be used to cover the cost of the defibrillator.

Reports from - Suffolk County Council – J Finch had circulated his report prior to the meeting, covering the Suffolk Skills Show, improvements in Early Years school achievements, the school admissions policy consultation, a fund to help school projects to boost disadvantaged Suffolk students, and the search for Short Stay Stopping Sites for travellers. J Finch confirmed that although the funding is no longer available for a mobile phone mast for the area, work is being done to try to obtain funding elsewhere, with another site in mind. He confirmed that the broadband project was still ahead of schedule and most of Edwardstone should be covered by the last quarter of 2016. A voucher is available for a satellite support system which may assist local businesses in the meantime.

Babergh District Council – B Hurren advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy is now in place. A bid has gone in for devolution from Suffolk and Norfolk. He discussed local housing needs and said that it had transpired that there were 9 people on the list for Edwardstone. The matter is to be put on the next agenda to consider whether a housing needs survey, possibly jointly with Groton, should be carried out. He confirmed that the Post Office in Boxford is now secure and the shop is to re-open in the next few days.

The Minutes of the Meeting of 21 September 2015 were approved and signed. Councillor vacancy – one member of the public attended and expressed an interest in being co-opted as a member of the Council. Others had expressed an interest in co-option and the Council resolved to speak to all interested parties before a decision is reached.

Highway and Footpath Matters - Footpath cutting – no current issues. The Chairman queried with B Hurren when the hedge at Mill Green would be cut. B Hurren will check. There is also an issue with the hedge at the bottom of Sherbourne Street becoming overgrown.

Potholes – work is due to be carried out on Groton Street in early December. There is flooding again near Edwardstone Hall and Temple Bar, which will be reported.

Planning Matters: Planning applications received – B/15/01401 – Borehouse Manor Farm, Groton Street CO10 5EE – Change of use from agricultural barn to dwelling house to include change of use of agricultural land to residential and erection of 2 bay cartlodge and store – no objections.

B/15/01532 – 5 The Winthrops, Edwardstone CO10 5QG – Reduce crown back to previous pruning points and lift crown to 4 metres of 1 oak tree and reduce the height by 30% of 1 holly tree covered by TPO ref WS44/A1 – no objections.

Planning decisions received – B/15/00859 – Sherbourne House Farm, Sherbourne Street CO10 – Installation of a 20m high lattice tower – withdrawn. Noted.

Financial Matters: The Statement of Finances & Order for Payments was approved.

Business Saver Account as at 30 October 2015 £2516.21

Business Current Account as at 30 October 2015 £5524.86

Total £8041.07

The financial risk assessment was carried out for 2015-16 and the Register of Assets checked.

Richard Norman had kindly offered to act as internal auditor for 2015-16 and this was approved.

The draft budget for 2015-16 was considered. It was resolved that there would be no need to increase the precept at this time but there may be a need going forward to take into account running costs of the defibrillator.

Donations and s137 payments – the Council resolved to make the following payments now with further payments to be considered at the March meeting: £300 to Edwardstone PCC, £375 to Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust and £350 to Edwardstone Village Hall.

Dates of the meetings for 2016 were agreed as 18 January, 21 March, 16 May, 18 July, 19 September and 21 November 2016, all at 730 pm in the Parish Hall.

For a full copy of the Minutes and further information please see the Parish Council's website at <http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/>



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HEART OP JAMES GOES FORTH

Two and a half years after undergoing heart surgery a schoolboy is hoping to achieve his aim of earning a living from golf.

Initially, James Cooper did not think he was physically fit enough to follow his father into the professional ranks of the game – but his hopes have been lifted after a summer of success. He has been part of the Newton Green Golf Club squad that has swept the board in Suffolk junior golf in recent months –and seen his own handicap plunge from 32 at the time of his operation to six.

By this time next year he hopes to be working part time with his dad Tim Cooper in the professional's shop at Newton as a retailing apprentice. He will also study for sports B-Tech qualification at school. Within three years he hopes to become a full Professional Golfers Association degree student. James, a 15-year-old pupil at Ormiston Academy, Sudbury, had a history of heart problems, although a heart murmur diagnosed at birth cleared up. However, in his teens he experienced breathing problems and he was found to have lesions on his aorta, which restricted the blood flow to his body. He was 13 at the time, and within a few weeks of undergoing open heart surgery won the club's junior shield.

James recalls: "The win gave me a tremendous boost. After previously struggling with my breathing everything just took off and I began to dream of following in my father's footsteps.

"The bench mark for becoming a scratch golfer is to half your handicap each year. I started this year on 14, and now it is six. Because my handicap has been coming down so quickly I have not actually won any competitions, but it has still been a memorable season.

"I have played for the club in the Suffolk Tolly Cobbold competition, and been part of team performances which have seen Newton win titles at county junior level, and go on to represent the county nationally."

James would like to clinch a place in Newton's successful Suffolk Hambro Cup team and follow in the footsteps of fellow juniors Jed Seeley, Harvey Watts and Connor Talbot, who were part of this year's winning side.

The club is currently running a junior recruitment drive offer, which includes a free set of clubs for all young starters, and the opportunity to be part of the county's most successful junior section.

Further details are available on 01787-377217



Readers Letters

Sir

I was somewhat surprised to learn according to the B.R.N that I had retired from the Post Office.

I do not feel that this report was factually accurate because I did not retire.

The truth of the matter is that on Friday October 30th Lawrence Mott handed me a letter the final sentence of which said "I am therefore giving you two weeks' notice as of today's date and the post office will be in contact in due course to deal with the transfer"

At a subsequent meeting held between Lawrence Mott, Bryn Hurren, Richard Haining and myself Mr. Mott did not wish to rescind the notice for me to quit as tenant, consequently Post Office Limited had to end my contract with them and so I ceased to be the post master on the 13th November.

Yours sincerely
Richard Gates.
Brick Kiln Hill

Sir

Von Wymark wishes all his Friends and Family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. He will not be sending Christmas Cards but will be making a donation to the Three Parishes Response Team instead.

All the best Von Wymark Hagmore Green

Sir

Molly Lawson

We would like to thank family and friends for their support, messages and cards after mums passing.

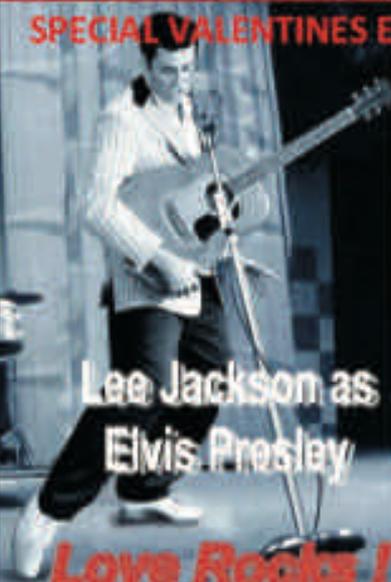
Thank you also to everyone who attended her funeral and gave donations, £404.10 was raised for St Elizabeth Hospice.

With thanks
Carl, Gina, Clinton and family

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Box River Benefice, Directory of Clubs & Organisations

Boxford Clubs & Organisations

1st Boxford Beaver Scouts
1st Boxford Brownies
1st Boxford Cub Scouts
1st Boxford Guides
1st Boxford Rainbows
1st Boxford Scout Group
1st Boxford Scouts
Vulpine Explorer Scout Unit
3 Parishes Response
Bellringers
Boxford Art Group
Boxford Bible Study Group
Boxford Bike Club
Boxford Bowls Club
Boxford Bounty
Boxford Car Community Scheme
Boxford Carpet Bowls
Boxford Community Council
Boxford Conservative Assoc
Boxford Drama Group
Boxford Fleece Jazz Workshop
Boxford Gardens Open
Boxford Gardening Society
Boxford Netball Club
Boxford Over 60s Club
Boxford Playing Fields
Boxford Playing Fields Pavilion
Boxford Rovers Football Club
Boxford School
Boxford Society
Boxford Spinney
Sunflower Child Care
Boxford Study Centre
Boxford Tennis Club
Boxford United Charities
Boxford Village Hall Bookings
Boxford WI
Boxford Youth Club
Box River News
CE Vol Con School & Nursery Unit
Community Police Officer
County Councillor
District Councillor
Edwardstone and Boxford CC
Fleece Jazz Club
Friends of Boxford School
Green Team
Local History Recorder
Mill Surgery
Babies and Toddlers Group
Parish Council
Parochial Church Council (Secretary)
Poppy Appeal
Primrose Wood
SESAW
Sponsored cycle ride
Village Hall Draw Tickets

Diana Taylor 210239
Moira Grant 211513
Adam Marshall 210323
Eloise Britcher 828710
Janice MacMillan 210565
Richard Gates 210432
Mark Miller 211596
Denzil Smith 210020
Vic Rice 210504
Richard Gates 210432
Sue Beven 210021
211077
Matthew Shinn 211296
Les Clark 210698
Mark Miller 211596
Sue Green 210603
Jean Saunders 210725
Ward Baker 210129
Peter Patrick 210346
Janice Macmillan 210565
David Mayhew 248585
Angela Tolputt 212264
Elizabeth Wagener 210223
Elaine Powling 211243
Shirley Watling 210024
Richard Gates 210432

Richard Robinson 211114
Toby Barkworth Knight 210332
Tina Loose 210538
Gordon Edgar 378983
Moira Grant 211513
Simon & Jo Marchant 210149
Yvonne Woodfield 210151
Guy Godfray (Clerk) 211378
Veronica Hobbs 211529
Annie Phillips 211729
Pauls Hoare 211033
Eddie Kench 211507
Bob Giles 210332
Babergh West 01473 613500
James Finch 01206 263649
Bryn Hurren 01787 210854
Iain Young (01787 210048
David Gasson 210796
Tina Impett.
Elaine Carpenter 210601
Philip Rich 212329
210558
Caroline Williams 210836 or Nicola Coote 371788
Debbie Hattrell 210943
Ruth Kingsbury 211236
Brian James 210814
Ian Lindsley 210520
Maggie 210888
Ruth Kingsbury 211236
210640

Newton Clubs & Organisations

Art Club
Line Dancing
Local History Recorder
Newton Fireside Club
Newton Golf Club
Newton Green Trust
Newton Keep Fit Club
Newton News Views & Coffee
Newton Village Hall
PCC
Police Liason Officer
Sponsored cycle ride
Surgeries

Anne Gardner 312346
Jean Tomkins 377343
Alan Vince 373963
Wendy Turner 372677
377217
Lee Parker 376073
Alan Vince 373963
Alan Vince 373963
Christine Cornell 370331
Chris Cornell 370331
Boxford Mill 210558
Meadow Lane 310000
Hardwicke House 370011
Siam 370444
Brian Lawson 312160

Edwardstone Clubs & Organisations

Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust
Edwardstone Parish Hall booking Secretary
Edwardstone Parish Hall chairman
Edwardstone United Charities
Edwardstone and Boxford CC
Local History Recorder
Parochial Church Council (Secretary)

Claire Mortime 210051
Fiona Raymond 210461
Daphne Clark 210698
Les Clark (Clerk) 210698
Tom Whymark 211375
Daphne Clark 210698
Ineke Morris 210761

Sponsored cycle ride
Edwardstone Parish Council

Mrs A Tribe 211526
Anita Robinson 211673

Groton Clubs & Organisations

Groton Educational Foundation
Groton Parish Council
Groton United Charities
Groton Village Hall Bookings
Local History Recorder
Sponsored cycle ride
Groton Parochial Church Council (secretary)
Groton Winthrop Mulberry trust

Anthea Scriven 01787 210263
Anita Robinson 211673
Jeremy Osborne 211960
Joanna Roberts 210619
Jeremy Osborne 211960
Colin Blackmore 211134
David Lamming 210360
R Bowdidge 01787-211553

Lt Waldingfield Clubs & Organisations

Gt Waldingfield WI
Little Waldingfield History Society
Lt Waldingfield Parish Council
Lt Waldingfield Parish Room
Little Waldingfield Playingfield Committee (Chair)
Little Waldingfield Charities
Local History Recorder
Sponsored cycle ride

Linda Lutz 378888
Andy Sheppard 247980
Mary Thorogood 247658
Sue Mitchell 247173
Charles Miller 249111
Sue Mitchell 247173
Sue Sheppard 247980
Barry Squirrel 247705

Milden Clubs & Organisations

Milden Cricket Club
Milden Pavilion and Playingfield

Richard Robinson 211114
Pearl 01449 741876

Directory of Benefice Web Sites

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Boxford: opsboxfordbures.com/
Boxford Bike Club: boxfordbikeclub.co.uk
Boxford Community Council: boxford.me.uk
Boxford Drama Group: boxforddramagroup.com
Boxford Gardening Society: boxfordgardeningsociety.one.suffolk.net
Boxford School: boxford.suffolk.dbprimary.com/
Boxford Spinney (Scouts): boxfordspinney.freeserve.co.uk/
Boxford Sunflower: boxfordsunflower.co.uk
Boxford Rovers Youth Football Club: boxfordroversyfc.co.uk
Boxford Rovers Youth: boxfordrovers.intheteam.com
Boxford Rovers FC (Men's teams) www.boxfordrovers.co
Boxford Village Hall: boxfordvillagehall.co.uk
Fleece Jazz: dovbear.co.uk/fleece/
Tornado Smith: thewallofdeath.co.uk/Tornado.htm
Edwardstone Cricket Club edwardstonecricketclub.com
Milden Cricket Club www.mildenc.co.uk

DOCTORS

Boxford Mill: hadleighhealth.co.uk/

PARISH COUNCILS

Newton Parish Council: newton.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/
Little Waldingfield Parish Council: littlewaldingfield.onesuffolk.net/
Groton Parish Council www.groton.suffolk.co.uk

PUBS

The Boxford Fleece: boxfordfleece.com/
The Boxford White Hart whitehartboxford.com
The Groton Fox: thefoxandhounds.webeden.co.uk/
The Edwardstone White Horse: edwardstonewhitehorse.co.uk
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GARDENING EQUIPMENT

Together with other equipment for the contractor or DIY

**ACCESS TOWERS:-
850 wide – 1450 wide**

SCAFFOLDING erected and hired (domestic, industrial or commercial)

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