

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



March 2017
Vol 17 No3

PETER HIBBEN'S VALENTINE DISCO



On Saturday 11th February Boxford Village Hall was filled with 150 people including Peter, Marion and their families to raise funds for dear Peter. Having suffered a life changing stroke in June it was time to give something back to the man who has given so much of his time to Boxford and its residents. The evening started with a delicious two course meal served by Sylvie Tait, Jackie Iliffe, Matt & Becky Daniels and Nick & Becks. It was then time to introduce our compère Nurse Gladys Edanielle (AKA Dan Swansborough) who got the audience parting with their money bidding for a Audi TT for the weekend, Falconry Experience, Original Oil Painting, 4 Ball Golf day, Family Photo Shoot and a meal voucher. The total raised from the auction was £705. We then went onto drawing the raffle comprising of 39 prizes donated by all local businesses and many more individuals and businesses. The raffle amount raised was £880 solely sold by Eileen Norman before and during the event. What an amazing feat. The rest of the evening was dancing to Cloud 9 Roadshow who kindly waived their fee to entertain us so thank you to Lee & Mark. The bar proved to a busy one and thanks go to Robert, Shaun and Stuart for their hard work raising £1085 towards the total. Apart from the above people mentioned I must also thank Michael Norman, David & Jacky House and Chris Tait.

When I came up with this idea I didn't realise just how much would be raised so I would like to thank everybody who came to the disco or who has donated time, money or prizes to achieve this fabulous amount for Peter the total sum of £6290.00

It just leaves me to say that hopefully this money will help Peter continue on his road to recovery. Peter you truly deserve this and it is Boxford's way of saying thank you for all you have done over many years.

Veronica Hobbs

MAJOR EXPANSION AT GOODLANDS



Above is a site drawing for Outline Planning Application at Goodlands. This was open for discussion at the village hall on Monday 20th. The link to this application is planning.babergh.gov.uk/online-applications/weeklylistResults.do?action=firstPage. This does not always work but you can Google Babergh Planning...view an existing application....weekly listsweek commencing 30/1/2017....Boxford. Application ref is B/17/00091.

Remember

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Just go to <http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/box-river-news> and scroll down to the latest BRN icon. The Newsletter is usually available about one day after the published press date.
ed.kench@btinternet.com

Box River News

Eddie Kench, Kiln Cottage, Stone Street, Boxford CO10 5NR

Telephone: 01787 211507 e.mail:
ed.kench@btinternet.com

Final date for reserved copy for the April 2017 Issue is:

March 15th at noon

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FUN & GAMES NIGHT 2017



Once again, a terrific evening of Fun and Games was had at the Village Hall. Disappointingly, we only had 10 teams this year instead of the 16 we have had in previous years, but nevertheless a great time was had by all and enabled the Community Council to make a worthwhile profit for organisations in the villages. The format was changed as there were fewer teams and this was met with approval from the participants, many of whom have supported us year after year. Our thanks must go to the volunteers who helped us set up, run and take down the event - we couldn't do it without them, though we could still do with more!

FleeceJazz

at Stoke by Nayland Hotel

Friday 3 March 8.00 £15

Josh Kemp Hammond Organ Band

Josh's tenor playing demonstrates that he is a jazz-man through and through. "A mix of Stan Getzian breeziness and Coltrane's imploring cry." - The Guardian

Josh Kemp sax, Ross Stanley organ, Steve Fishwick trumpet, Tristan Maillot drums

Josh first performed locally as a child, giving an impressive performance, sitting in with his father's band, at Sudbury's Quay Jazz Club. He has matured into one of London's finest tenor Saxophonists He read philosophy at Oxford, and won scholarships to study Jazz at London's Guildhall and Trinity Schools of music. Josh is an active member of the E17 jazz collective.

"Josh Kemp embodied the spirit that sustains jazz no matter which way the weather vane of vogue is pointing." "Kemp's playing recalls the soulful fluidity of Hank Mobley" - Jazzwise

Friday 10 March 8.00 £15

Sam Crockatt Quartet

The Sam Crockatt Quartet has received massive interest since winning the Parliamentary Jazz Award for best album. Sam has quickly built a reputation as a hugely talented musician with a robust and characterful voice on the tenor sax.

Ivo Neame is a musician of immense talent with an astute musical intelligence and a natural improvisatory flair. He is one of the busiest and most in-demand players on the UK scene.

Oli Hayhurst is a long-standing member of the quartet. He has a beautiful, warm tone and plays melodically, underpinned by a driving rhythmic feel.

Jon Scott has developed a reputation as a creative and flexible player on the UK jazz scene, while building up his international connections, playing extensively throughout Europe

Friday 24 March 8.00 £18

Tim Kliphuis

Widely regarded as Stéphane Grappelli's heir, Tim breathes new life into existing styles with a high-energy blend of classical, gypsy jazz and folk music. An accessible innovator.

Tim Kliphuis violin, Nigel Clark guitar, Roy Percy bass
Tim Kliphuis has been hailed as a contemporary improvising "Paganini". He has shared the stage with Richard Galliano, Frankie Gavin, Les Paul and many gypsy jazz groups including The Rosenberg Trio. He has a busy international schedule including work with The Netherlands and Tallin Chamber Orchestras and The Hague Philharmonic, is an in-demand educator at competitions, masterclasses and conservatoires and is the author of best-selling book "Gypsy Jazz Violin"

Friday 31 March 8.00 £18

John East Project

John East on vocals and Hammond makes a welcome return to the Fleece and brings with him a stellar line-up.

John East Hammond organ and vocals, Mark Fletcher drums, Neville Malcom bass, Carl Orr guitar, Scott Baylis trumpet flugel and piano, Daniel Hewson trombone, Dave Lewis tenor sax.
The John East Project led by vocalist and organ player John East was formed five years ago and is a regular and popular feature at the 606 Club in Chelsea and elsewhere. John has played the Hammond for many years working with musicians such as John Etheridge, Phil Robson and Katie Kissoon.

To buy tickets for any gig, obtain further information or add your name to the mailing list please telephone the BOX OFFICE:

01787 211865

All cheques (with S.A.E. please) to:

Jazz at the Fleece, 18 The Causeway, Boxford, Suffolk CO10 5JR

THIS MONTHS LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear friends,

"I can resist everything.....except temptation!"

For all of us who have struggled against temptations – whether great or small - this famous quip from Oscar Wilde's play "Lady Windermere's fan" has more than a grain of truth in it. And it's something the advertising industry knows so well, luring us to give in to the endless barrage of temptations to treat ourselves. Why not buy yourself a pricey perfume "because you're worth it", or go up a gear and indulge in an expensive car, because perhaps then you will become the suave and sophisticated man driving it in the advert?

Then there is the temptation to overeat, which, judging by rising levels of obesity, many in our nation struggle to resist. We are faced with such a vast choice of food and sweet things all around us that it can be difficult to "Tame that inner octopus", as one website graphically puts it, complete with this wonderful image! Stress, boredom, an inner emptiness can make us all reach for that next biscuit, bag of crisps, chocolate, pint of beer or glass of wine, at some time or the other.



Of course for those really struggling with obesity, serious addictions or addictive behaviours, temptation is no laughing matter. I recently read the "Outrun" by Amy Liptrot which charts the desperate insidious and relentless cravings of a young alcoholic woman. Over time, we watch as she gradually

develops an amazing inner strength, enabling her finally to overcome the temptations, her path to inner peace paved by a return to the wild, empty and haunting landscapes of her beloved island of Orkney.

In the media, both local and national, hardly a day goes by without the exposing of both ordinary and high profile people who been unable to resist temptation. Their resulting downfall - whether through the heartbreak of an affair, corruption in business, the hand in the till or the betrayal of a relationship of trust – is pitiful, sometimes shocking, to witness. Perhaps, before we judge others too quickly, though, there is a place for remembering that phrase, "There but for the grace of God go I". Hopefully, for many in our villages, such scenarios as these are, and will remain, outside our experience. I suspect, though, that there are many more subtle temptations to which it is too easy to succumb. Email and social media offer their own temptations - to respond too quickly and without due thought and care; to dash off a cruel or sarcastic or rude email or tweet; to post or share unfounded or uncertain news or gossip. In our daily encounters and conversations, subtle temptations lie in wait: to say something that shows we are better informed than our listener or to avoid really hearing and properly responding to what someone is trying to say to us. Then in a hundred different small ways, every day, there are temptations to take the easier course, to do what suits us, what requires the least effort or change on our part, but which, if we had resisted, and done or said what we should, would have made the life of someone else so much easier, more comfortable, happier, more hopeful.

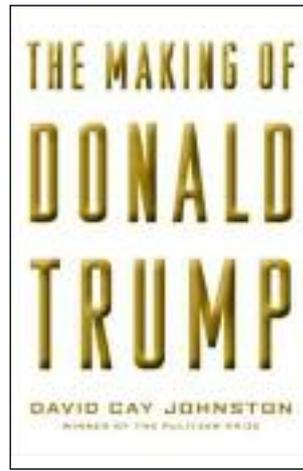
On March 1st, the church season of Lent begins, marking and reflecting on Jesus' time in the wilderness. It was here that he had to face up to his own demons: the temptation to turn away from doing the right



thing, the temptation to pursue power, rather embracing vulnerability; the temptation to seek the limelight, rather than walking the path of humility to the cross. We are told that, in all things, in all aspects of life, Jesus was tempted just as we are, yet always resisted, through remaining close to God. That means he understands the temptations we face in our lives. We are also told that, because he still walks beside us today, by his strong spirit inspiring us, God can enable us to resist and to overcome. Blessings, Revd Judith

THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ

The Making of Donald Trump by David Cay Johnston



The Making of Donald Trump grew out of my frustration at the utter failure of my peers in US journalism to tell voters about his profitable, lifelong embrace of mobsters, violent felons, Russian oligarchs and the man who supplied his helicopters (Joseph Weichselbaum, a drug trafficker to whom Trump remained loyal despite his indictment).

Concerned that Trump might win, I tried to alert people to what a fraud Trump is. His June 2015 announcement that he would run for president was itself a fraud – the applause that interrupted him 43 times was provided by paid actors.

Then Melville House came to me in late May 2016. This book, my sixth, was my

attempt to get journalists to report the copious hard facts. They'd failed to examine the abundant official record on Trump for three main reasons: one, Trump's outlandish style made him cheap and easy news; two, digging through old records and understanding them takes time and skill; and three, Trump threatened to sue everyone, including me, who mentioned his lifelong criminal ties. At the end of my book, I provided 44 pages of source notes and my personal email address so any doubting readers could get in touch. No one has shown any error.

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Trump's election campaign was ironic: he ran as the champion of working people when he has an awful approach to economics. I've chronicled it for decades, including a trilogy of books that focus on taking from the many to enrich the few: Perfectly Legal (taxes), Free Lunch (subsidies for Trump and other rich people), and The Fine Print (monopolies).

I first met Trump in 1988: I was working for The Philadelphia Inquirer, investigating New Jersey's claim that regulation kept organised crime and vice out of Atlantic City casinos. I thought he was a modern PT Barnum, the 19th-century American seller of hoaxes like the FeeJee Mermaid. Trump would later become a major figure in my 1992 book Temples of Chance, which looked at how business moguls took over the casino business from the mafia. As part of that, I exposed how New Jersey regulators had created the appearance of regulation by going after cocktail waitresses and blackjack dealers, while turning a blind eye to serious misconduct serious misconduct by the casino owners. Later on, director Tim Burton hired me to outline a movie adaptation of Temples of Chance – but Trump killed it with litigation threats. (I would still love to see it on the silver screen, given Burton's incisive eye for the absurd.)

Competitors, casino regulators and Trump's own people told me he knew nothing of the casino business. Really? To test this, I interviewed him, making a false statement about craps. Trump incorporated my false statement into his answer – and did so again with three other questions containing false facts, which made me realise: he was just a conman.

As for the Trump presidency: be worried, be very worried. Trump is ignorant, ruthless, power-mad, loves money and has an insatiable need for public adoration. Let's hope we all get out of this without Trump fulfilling his statements about starting wars and using nuclear weapons –

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Sunday 26th March

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1940s DISCO

Friday 9th June 7:30pm

Sunday 18th June

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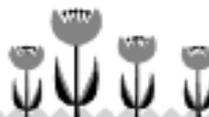
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WHAT DID YOUR GRANDFATHER DO IN THE WAR

A Talk by David Empson

Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome David to the Parish Room last night to tell members about the history of medals. Bringing with him five tables worth of medals and memorabilia from his 45 years of collecting, he brought incredible passion, humility and warmth to a subject so dear to many - it really was a tour de force.

We heard that medals, or military decorations, began in earnest after the battle of Waterloo, which was the first award issued to all ranks and set a precedent for the future issue of campaign medals. The medal was awarded to all those who served at the battles of Ligny, Quatre Bras and Waterloo on 16th-18th June 1815. Some 36,000 medals were issued, including 6,000 to the Cavalry, 4,000 to the Guards, 16,000 to the Line Regiments and 5,000 to the Artillery.



Above: Pip, Squeak and Wilfred

David then told us a range of Service Medals were available for men and women (nurses) who saw military service in the Great War; they were not Campaign Medals, as these weren't issued in the first world war, but were awarded to all those who met the criteria.

We heard there were four main medals:

- The 1914 Star

Issued to British forces who served in France or Belgium from 5 August 1914 (declaration of war) to midnight 22 November 1914 (end of the First Battle of Ypres). Primarily awarded to the 'Old Contemptibles', who were the professional pre-war soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force. Approximately 378,000 1914 Stars were issued.

- The 1914-15 Star

This bronze medal is very similar to the 1914 Star but has the dates 1914-15 in the centre of the star. Issued to a much wider range of recipients, including all who served in any theatre of war outside the UK between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915, except those eligible for the 1914 Star. An estimated 2.4 million 1914-15 Stars were issued.

Neither the 1914 Star nor the 1914-15 Star were awarded alone. The recipient would also have received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

- British War Medal 1914-18

A silver medal (1 ounce solid silver) awarded to officers and men of the British and Imperial Forces who either entered a theatre of war or served overseas between 5 August 1914 and 11 November 1918 inclusive - later extended to services in Russia, Siberia and some other areas in 1919 and 1920. Approximately 6.4 million medals were issued, giving a graphic indication of the scale of the First World War.

- Allied Victory Medal

The Allies issued their own bronze victory medals with similar design, equivalent wording and identical ribbon. To qualify, individuals had to have entered a theatre of war, not just served overseas. Approximately 5.7 million Victory Medals were issued.

As David pointed out, apart from the 1914 Star, these medals are not rare, with most men receiving three medals and a minority two. The issue of these service medals, in the 1920's, coincided with a comic strip in the Daily Mirror newspaper featuring Pip the dog, Squeak the penguin and Wilfred the rabbit, and soon thereafter the 1914 or 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal were nicknamed 'Pip, Squeak and Wilfred'. When just the British War and Victory Medals were worn together, they became known as 'Mutt and Jeff', after another pair of cartoon characters.

We then heard about the Memorial Plaques issued after the war to the next of kin of all British and Empire service personnel killed as a result of the war. They were large, made of bronze and became popularly

known as the 'Death Plaque', 'Dead Mans Penny' or 'Widow's Penny'. Issuance continued into the 1930s to commemorate those who died as a consequence of the war, and some 1.35 million plaques were issued, using a total of 450 tons of bronze. A memorial scroll and a message from the king accompanied each plaque.

At this point David observed that if politicians collected medals (he only knows of one MP who does - Nigel Farage), there would likely be many less armed conflicts because they would be more aware of the outcomes in terms of human death and suffering - an interesting viewpoint that has a great deal of merit.

He then gave some advice to those present interested in researching family histories:

- Don't give up;
- First check identity carefully;
- Regimental diaries are important, but regimental histories are usually not;
- Medal cards are important;
- Dog tags are most interesting and useful;
- Make use of well known on line historical websites.

After many questions, we gave David a break by bringing out the refreshments and drinks to nicely cap off a truly memorable evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The Great Detective – Sherlock Holmes.

Many of us will have intensely loved or hated the most recent Sherlock BBC1 Series with Benedict Cumberbatch taking the lead role. It was very like Marmite. Some will have enjoyed the weird interpretation of the stories and take on the characters, while others much prefer the traditional portrayal.

David Jones of Groton is the Membership Secretary of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London. He has given many talks nationally. He is looking forward to sharing his passion for and knowledge of the history and development of this much loved detective with his own community.

This Sherlock Society has a world following with 1500 members with the most unlikely being in Siberia! Sherlock first appeared in print in 1887. Even if you are not a Sherlock fan, I am sure you will find this interesting so do come along at 7.30 pm to the School Hall on Saturday 29th April. Non-members are welcome and pay £2 at the door.

TALLULAH TAMBERINE MAGIC!



Three years ago my husband and I dreamt of a change in lifestyle, wishing to leave our busy built up commuter town and move to somewhere more rural and laid back. Having decided to take the leap we finally found our dream house, a beautiful old cottage with a large garden, well stocked with fruit trees and various berries. Whilst the house needed much renovation, we also expanded the garden to include new fruits and vegetables to keep us busy whilst we were not with paint brush in hand.

Having worked in London all my life, I longed for a job that would be more rewarding and enjoyable. Something that would not require me to leave my wonderful surroundings each day. I've

always had a keen interest in cooking, particularly baking and it seemed natural to start using the ingredients from our garden, together with locally made jams and eggs, incorporating them into tasty and unusual cakes and loaves.

Soon I was supplying my cakes to local coffee shops and tea rooms and that's how 'Tallulah Tamberine's Treats' was created and how the London life was subsequently left behind! (Tallulah Tamberine was my father's nickname for me as a small child) Since then, the business has grown and expanded, and I now also make and supply fondant celebration and wedding cakes to order. The joy of being given a brief for a cake and being able to design and let my imagination run wild gives me no end of pleasure and fulfilment, seeing the delight in a client's face at their finished cake. With every new order comes something different to make or perfect. It's a wonderful feeling to play a part in a happy occasion, be it a wedding cake, baby shower, christening or birthday cake. All are special, and whenever possible incorporating local ingredients, and I make sure every cake has that Tallulah Tamberine magic!

If you would like to know more and see some of my cakes, I invite you to view my Facebook page www.facebook.com/tallulahamberinestreats If you wish to discuss an upcoming celebration or event you can contact me, Nicky Cooley on 07787124837 or Nicky@tallulahamberinestreats.co.uk

3PR GETTING UP TO STRENGTH



Dan Swansborough and Trudi Wilde (above) have qualified to become first responders for Boxford and neighbouring parishes. Dan and Trudi received their badges at the annual 3PR dinner held at the Stoke by Nayland Hotel on Sunday 31st January.

On a serious note to make everyone aware, all responders can be identified by their high viz jackets, also they carry ID tags at all times if in doubt please ask them and they will be please to produce them for you. There was an incident recently were someone said they were a first responder but were unknown to any of the group. Also at the same luncheon, Peter Hibben was apponted Life Vice President of the 3PR responders group for all the years of hard work and dedication to the first responders unit not forgetting the many other organisations in the three villages that Peter has been a member of

It has been decided that 3PR should publish each month the number of hours on duty together with the number of call outs
The January figures of the hours and call outs for the month were collectively 595hr and 26 call outs .

Villagers must understand that you can not phone a responder directly in a medical emergency you must always phone 999 for help as the responders are the people who will be advised by the ambulance service first. If you do call a respomder first all you are going to do is delay attendance



Boxford Bounty Winners Nov Dec 2016

The Boxford Bounty would like to thank members of the community for drawing the following numbers at the Box River News Deliverers' and Boxford Bounty Collectors' social evening on 15 Dec 16.

£180.00	MRS	SAM	STONE	CLOSE COTTAGE
£75.00	MRS	J	WAGLAND	THE CAUSEWAY
£30.00	MR	J	WAGLAND	THE CAUSEWAY
£15.00		PALLA	STACEY	FITZGERALD MEADOW

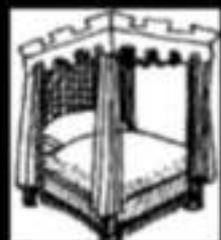
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NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

FIREWORKS 2017

This year's Fireworks evening will be on Saturday 28th October, with the lantern making happening at The Spinney during the week before - half term week.

PLAYING FIELDS 50th ANNIVERSARY

We are planning a village party on the Playing Fields on Saturday July 29th to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the village purchasing the Playing Field. It will be along the lines of a Street Party with stalls, games, sporting events and music in the evening. Plans are still in progress, but we can confirm that in the evening, local band Reno & Rome and The Beavers will be playing. More information will follow soon.

Boxford Stores and Post Office

Boxford Stores and Post Office are now offering a newspaper delivery service 7 days a week to Boxford, Groton, Edwardstone, Milden, Kersey, Calais Street, White Street Green and all surrounding areas.

This is something that was requested when asked what villagers would like the shop to provide.

We are also now stocking our own label products of biscuits, jams, chutney and much more.

The Boxford Village Hall website

The Boxford Village Hall website as it stands will cease to exist as of Feb 10th a new section has been added to the BoxfordSuffolk.com website to replace it. So from now on the address for downloading the **Box River News** will be: www.boxfordsuffolk.com/box-river-news

Little Waldingfield Parish Room

Following a survey into the damp problems in this little 113yo building we have had a chemical damp proof course treatment carried out and some repointing. We, the trustees, are very grateful to Councillor Colin Spence and Suffolk CC for a most generous contribution towards the considerable expense of this work. RGM

Little Waldingfield Litterpick

Little Waldingfield Litterpick - Saturday March 18th from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 Midday.

If you are available for this most worthwhile service, please congregate at the School House in Church Road (just down from the Parish Room) by 10.00, where litterpicks, bags and hi-vis vests will be available. Please also wear stout shoes and gloves because undergrowth can be prickly. We look forward to seeing many old and new friends.

PRIMROSE WOOD NEWS.



A lovely sunny afternoon brought out some of the Primrose Wood volunteers with their tools, enthusiasm and know-how. Five of Boxford's seniors, with more than 370 years between them, set about dismantling the decaying seat around the Millennium Tree. This is a rare Black Poplar, a declining species which is rarely found and grows in isolation. It grows best in boggy conditions, alongside ditches and on flood plains, so its home on this marsh is perfect. It was planted in 1998 deep in the marsh as a thin branch from a tree in The Spinney and is now a fine looking tree. Black poplar is the food plant for the caterpillars of many beautiful moths and the catkins provide an early source of pollen and nectar for bees and other insects, while the seeds are eaten by birds.

In 1998 villagers built a hexagonal seat around the Black Poplar for people to rest on while walking round Primrose Wood. Time and the weather have finally caused it to disintegrate and become unsafe. Today saw it demolished (not without considerable effort) and given a new life nearby as a wood pile home for insects and small creatures.

We have recently raised a suitable sum for purchasing a new seat that will withstand the wet marshy conditions of the riverside. We are now awaiting suitable weather to install a new and attractive hexagonal seat made from dense, long-lasting plastic (recycled milk bottles) around this lovely tree.

We would like to thank Court Knoll Masonic Lodge, two Boxford families and Boxford Community Council for their donations, so making this project possible. We hope to follow it soon with further seating on the hill above the water meadows. Why not take time out and enjoy a walk through this lovely reserve in the Box River Valley. Instructions for reaching it directly via Swan Street and Goodlands are on the Primrose Wood notice board beside the bus shelter in Broad Street. There is also now dedicated parking for cars at the entrance to Goodlands from Daking Avenue giving direct access to the meadow that leads down to the bridge and wood.

Tina Loose



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Start's 8 pm*

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Sunday March 26th 2017

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**BOXFORD GARDENS OPEN
20th ANNIVERSARY YEAR
SUNDAY, 4th JUNE, 2017**

After six successful years at the helm, Angela Tolputt has decided to step down as organiser of the Gardens Open.

Linda Blake and Sara Mattocks have offered to take over and are making an appeal to all villagers to open their gardens to visitors in this special year.

CALLING ALL GARDENERS

Whatever the size and type of your garden, 'wild or tamed', large or small, why not share it with the community and take part in an enjoyable and rewarding day.

Please get in touch with Linda or Sara for a chat and further details.

Linda 01787 211461 email
lindablake754@gmail.com
Sara email smattocks55@gmail.com

GROTON VILLAGE HALL, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
PRESENTS



**QUIZ AND
CURRY
EVENING**

At
Groton Village Hall

On Friday 7th April 2017 7.30 for 7.45 Start

£12.00 per head (entry plus choice of curry & dessert)

Teams of four

B.Y.O. Bar

Raffle

Phone Joanna: 210619 or Jayne: 211360 to book your place



**MILDEN PAVILION
FUN QUIZ NIGHT**

With Fish & Chip Supper

(Alternatives available from The Codfather Sudbury)

Saturday 22nd April

Licensed Bar open 7.30pm

Food at 8pm, with Quiz to follow

Teams of up to 6

No Team? We can find a team for you to join

£10 per person

in aid of Mildren Pavilion a Registered Charity

Please call Pearl on

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Or email

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Linda Rice on Boxford (01787) 210850

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE!

Wot's On

LWHS Programme of Events - 2017

15th March

Henry Adams Cupper by Geoffrey Robinson.
A Suffolk Pioneer, a transatlantic journey into the unknown.

19th April

Connections between Suffolk and India by Ashley Cooper.
Ashley is a brilliant speaker and this talk will be full of surprises.

17th May

The Life and Art of Thomas Gainsborough by Mark Bills.
Mark is a director of Gainsborough's House, so who better to speak to us.

14th June

The life and times of Joan of Arc by Joy Bounds.
Joy is a local writer who focuses on women's issues and history who has published widely. This talk is based on "Far From Home" - her novel about Joan of Arc.

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES

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)

MILDEN PAVILION FUN QUIZ NIGHT

Sat 22nd April

With Fish & Chip Supper. Licensed Bar open 7.30pm Food at 8pm, with Quiz to follow. Teams of up to 6, No Team? We can find a team for you to join.

£10 per person at and in aid of Milden Pavilion. Please call Pearl on 01449 741876 Or email Justine589@btinternet.com

Boxford Drama Group

They're back for a third outing at Boxford Village Hall!! After the success of their last two hilarious productions – The Haunted Through Lounge and Recessed Dining Nook at Farndale Castle and Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery - the ladies are serving up Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait, a deliciously funny French farce set in a Paris apartment.

However, right from the outset it appears that the Ladies from the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society are up against it, as one of the cast has walked out over an altercation concerning a packet of biscuits! Luckily Minnie, usually the Wardrobe Mistress, has kindly stepped in to fill the role – what could possibly go wrong??

Suffice it to say mayhem and chaos ensues amongst the rest of the cast who are already struggling with multiple roles, questionable foreign accents, falling scenery and missing props. If you're up for a hilarious evening of utter pandemonium and total confusion then don't miss this delightfully daft and ludicrously absurd play.

It's just silly!

Boxford Drama Group presents the hilarious comedy Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait written by David McGillivray & Walter Zerlin Jnr, at Boxford Village Hall on 30th, 31st March and 1st April 2017. Tickets are available from Boxford Post Office.

SESAW FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Easter Fair, 11am 1st April, Village Hall, Rectory Road, Whatfield, IP6 7QU. Egg-cellent choice of gifts and goodies.

Spring Fair, 10-3pm 23rd April, The Old School, Long Melford, CO10 9DX. Huge selection for all the family and the pets. Tables still available, £10 each, phone 01206 263269 to book.

ADULT ENTRY 50p, RAFFLE, REFRESHMENTS, FREE PARKING AT BOTH EVENTS

All proceeds to Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Reg. Charity

Leavenheath Village Hall Digital Cinema

Tickets £3.50 per adult, £2.00 per young person
Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) for tickets
Arrive 7.00pm starts 7.30pm

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GARDENING SOCIETY
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meetings

Tuesday 7th March 7.30pm
at Boxford Village Hall

Box River Lectures

The Wool Trade of East Anglia



The wool trade was the backbone of England's medieval economy. 'No form of manufacturing had a greater impact upon the economy and society of medieval Europe than did those industries producing wool'. Predominant in this trade was East Anglia, whose famous 'wool churches' are testament to its wealth and success.

Valina Bowman-Burns MA, from the Essex Records Office, has researched the wool trade and clothing of early modern England extensively. This Spring she will be giving us five lectures on the industrial and social history of East Anglia's wool trade, from its early development to its decline.

At Groton Village Hall on Tuesdays at 2:30pm (except for 14 March – 5pm start)

28 February	The processes - how wool is made
7 March	Money, wages, boom and bust
14 March (5pm start)	Why people wear clothes
21 March	Health and clothing
28 March	Clothing and fashion

£8 per single lecture or £35 for all five – just pay at the door.
Tea and biscuits included

New members are always welcome at Box River Lectures!

Wot's On

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 marianmarshall@fastmail.fm.

Stoke-by-Nayland WEA

Stoke-by-Nayland WEA is holding its AGM on Thursday 6th April 2017 in Stoke-by-Nayland Village Hall at 7.30 pm. This will be followed by a presentation entitled

'Submarines' with Richard Channon

Richard will tell us how a submarine works, give a potted history of the development of the submarine, tell us something about the ocean environment, and an account of operations over the past century.

He joined Dartmouth in May 1956 and left the Navy in September 1990. He started with submarines in 1961, passed the CO's Qualifying Course in 1969, following which he commanded HMS Olympus. Thereafter he had a variety of sea and shore jobs, most of them submarine-associated, including command of HMS Churchill and Captain of the 2nd Submarine Squadron in Plymouth. After leaving the Navy he was Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights until retiring in 2002

All past, present and future members welcome to this FREE lecture and complimentary coffee

For further details please contact Sue Whiteley on - 01787 210945 or email - whiteleysa@hotmail.co.uk

Leavenheath Village Hall Digital Cinema

Tickets £3.50 per adult, £2.00 per young person
Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) for tickets
Arrive 7.00pm starts 7.30pm

Boxford Drama Group presents those lovely Farndale ladies in



Boxford Village Hall

30th, 31st March and 1st April at 7.30pm

Tickets £13.00 includes supper. On sale from Saturday 25th February at Boxford Post Office

Licensed bar and raffle each night



STOKE BY NAYLAND
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GOLF MEMBERSHIP OPEN WEEKEND!
Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th April from 10am - 3pm

One great club with TWO championship courses and outstanding facilities in stunning Constable Country!

***No joining fees - save £199! 14 months for the price of 12!**

*Benefits if you join during the Open Weekend

Members enjoy fantastic benefits and discounts across the Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Golf & Spa complex - see website for details!

- **GIVE GOLF A GO:** FREE Golf Clinic at the Driving Range - both Saturday and Sunday - for total beginners or those just getting into the game! Clinics start at 10am & 12 noon on both days.
- **GOT THE BUG:** Enjoy **COMPLIMENTARY** 9-holes of golf on Sunday 9th April from 10am - for confident players only.
- **TOTALLY ADDICTED:** We offer very competitive 5 and 7 Day Category rates for a range of age groups.
- **BRAND NEW:** Two exciting **NEW** Membership categories launched - Starter Academy and Rover

To register for free Clinic and 9 holes please email golfcoaching@stokebynayland.com or call 01206 265812

Visit www.stokebynayland.com/membership for the Open Weekend & Membership details



For a chat about membership please call Mary Seward on 01206 265841 or email mary.seward@stokegolfandleisure.com

Stoke by Nayland Golf Club, Keepers Lane, Leavenheath, Colchester, CO6 4PZ

Forthcoming Events Diary

February

28 through 28 March Box River Lectures 'The Wool Trade' Groton Village Hall 2.30pm

March

1 Boxford WI	Dementia	Boxford Village Hall	2.00pm
7 Boxford Gardening Society	The Story of Tulips	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm
8 Boxford WI	Craft Club Snail Finishing	Mary's House	2.00pm
15 Little Waldingfield History Soc	Henry Adams Cupper by Geoffrey Robinson	Parish Rooms	7.30pm
30 Boxford WI	Lunch Club		tba
30 Little Waldingfield	Lent Lunch	Newman's Hall	12.00 to 2.00pm
30/31 & 1st April	'Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait' BDG	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm

April

7 Quiz and Curry	Groton Hall Mgt Committee	Groton Village Hall	7.30pm
11 Little Waldingfield PCC	AGM	Parish Room - all welcome	7.00pm
19 Little Waldingfield History Soc	Connections between Suffolk and India by Ashley Cooper	Parish Rooms	7.30pm
22 Fun Quiz Night	Milden Pavilion	Milden Pavilion	7.30pm

June

4 Boxford Gardens Opean

8 Little Waldingfield Concert by Landermason, Folk/jazz duo St. Lawrence Church

July

15 Little Waldingfield Village Yard Sale, Refreshments in Parish Room

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



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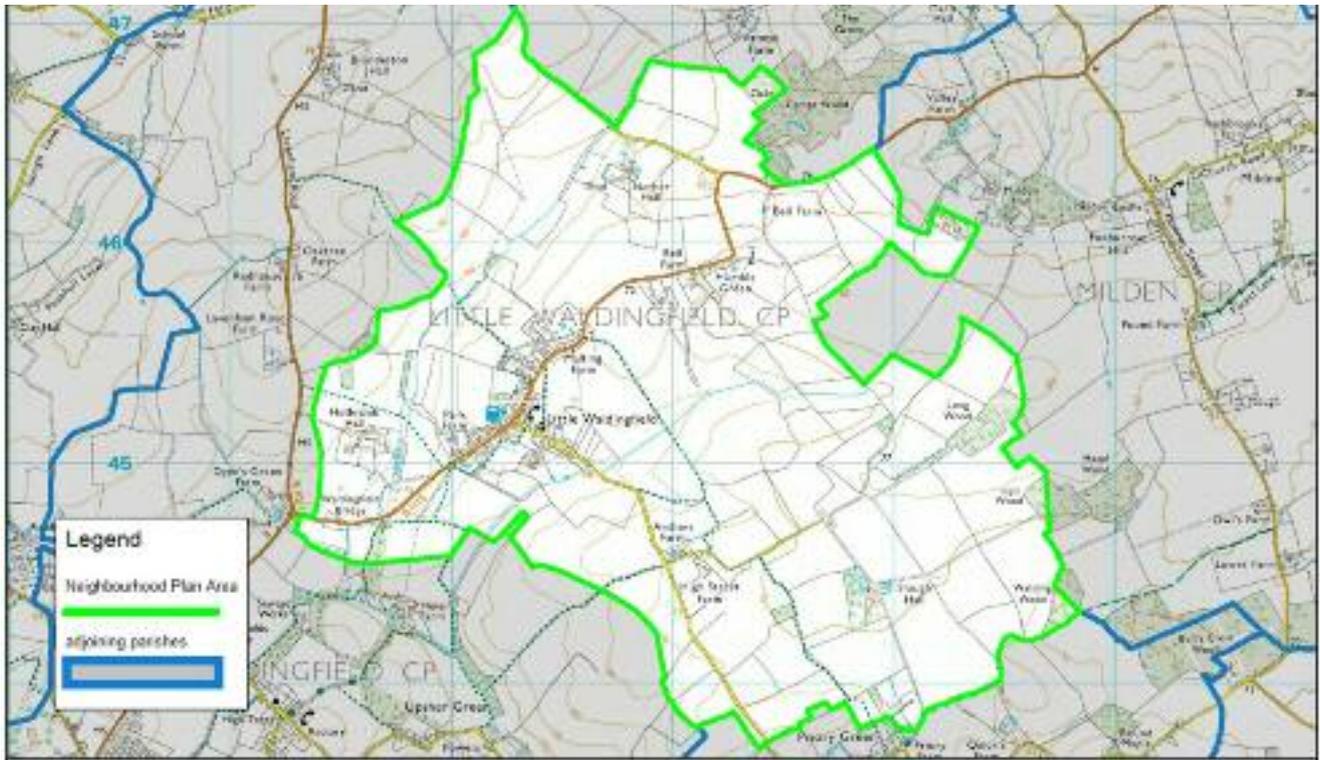


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LITTLE WALDINGFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - AREA DESIGNATION



Little Woldingfield Neighbourhood Plan - Area Designation

As part of the next stage in the progression of the Little Woldingfield Neighbourhood Plan (NP), the Parish Council decided at its last meeting to apply to Babergh District Council to designate the whole of the Parish Council geographical area as the formal NP Area.

The District Council has now received the designation application and has commenced formal consultation in relation to the areal extent of the NP. Details of the consultation process are set out below and Parishioners and others are invited to make any representations they see fit as to the appropriateness, or otherwise, of the area proposed.

The background to the NP process is set out on the Little Woldingfield website and future updates on the progress of the NP will also be posted there.
 Little Woldingfield Parish Council 10th February 2017



Public Notice

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012

Babergh District Council has received an application from Little Woldingfield Parish Council (the 'Qualifying Body') to designate a Neighbourhood Plan Area. If the application is successful, it will enable the Parish Council to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for Little Woldingfield.

Neighbourhood planning allows communities to develop their own planning policies. Once completed (it may take 18-24 months) to produce the NDP will become part of planning framework for the area and be used by the District Council when determining planning applications.

Why are we consulting? - As the first formal stage in preparing a NDP, the District Council must consult on this application for a period of at least four weeks, at the end of which it will consider any comments received prior to determining whether the area is appropriate or not. A Decision Notice will be published on the Council website.

How to respond - The Area Designation Application and proposed Map have been published on the Council website (see link below). Paper copies can be made available on request.

Web link: <http://www.babergh.gov.uk/1200/NeighbourhoodNP>

Please note -

- At this stage, we are only consulting on the area being proposed by the Parish Council. If, for example, there are a group of properties that are located by the boundary you may consider that they should be included or excluded from the area.
- This is **not** the time to submit any detailed or specific comments in relation to other planning issues in the parish.
- Your comments will be placed on a public file and may be reproduced in writing or on our website.

All comments must be received before the end of statutory period of consultation - which is 4:00pm on Friday 16 March 2017

- Comments should be sent by e-mail to: communityplanning@babergh.gov.uk
- Comments may also be submitted by post marked - FAO Mr Paul Bryant, Business Support Officer - Community Planning, Mid Suffolk District Council, High Street, Needham Market, IPSWICH, IP5 0DL

If you have any other questions about the Little Woldingfield NDP, or wish to get involved in the process, please contact the parish council directly.

Dated: 10 February 2017



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Night of music, food and
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By a auction of some
great donations from
surrounding businesses



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at the Fleece
£25.00 ph inc
A 3 course meal.

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The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton

Priest in Charge:

The Revd Judith Sweetman
The Rectory, School Hill, Boxford CO10 5JT
Tel: 01787 210091; e-mail: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com

The Revd Judith's day off is normally Friday but this may vary according to circumstances

NSM:

The Revd David Abel, 13 Church Street, Boxford CO10 5DU
Tel: 211765; e-mail: davidabel19@hotmail.com

Reader:

Christopher Kingsbury, Rose Cottage, Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone CO10 5PD
Tel: 211236; Fax: 211238; e-mail: ChrisKingsC@aol.com

Lay Elder:

David Lamming, 20 Holbrook Barn Road, Boxford CO10 5HU
Tel: 210360; Fax: 329770; 07968 791135; e-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com

Please let any of the above or a Churchwarden know if you would like a home visit, home communion or a hospital visit, or of any cases of sickness or otherwise where they might be of assistance.

Benefice house:

Mary's House, 5 Swan Street, Boxford CO10 5NZ.

For much more information about the five parishes in our Benefice please go to our Church Near You web site at www.achurchnearyou.com.

BENEFICE NEWS

Each year every church holds a series of three connected meetings which take place consecutively. First is the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) the sole purpose of which is to elect churchwardens for the coming year. This is a joint meeting of all residents living in the ecclesiastical parish registered on the civil electoral roll and all of those on the electoral roll of the ecclesiastical parish, which can include people who live outside the parish. This meeting is then followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). This is the meeting that elects representatives to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the coming year. The PCC will present its report and accounts for 2016 and there is an opportunity at the meeting to ask questions or raise any matter of parochial or general church interest. Only those whose names are on the church electoral roll are entitled to attend and vote at this meeting. Do come to this important meeting in the life of the church and have your say. A copy of the accounts and the annual report will be on display on the church noticeboard at least a week before the meeting. The APCM is then followed by a short PCC Meeting at which will be appointed by election the PCC officers and the members of the Standing Committee for the coming year.

Please see the news items for the individual parishes for the dates, venues and times of these meetings.

DEANERY NEWS

Deanery Synod The synod meets next on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Church, Bures.

John Bell, the well-known hymn writer and member of the Iona Community, is to visit St Mary's Church, Hadleigh on the weekend of 20th/21st May 2017. He will be leading three workshops: (1) The Bible as the People's Book (Saturday morning, 10 am to 1 pm); (2) Why do God's people sing? (Saturday afternoon, 2 pm to 4 pm); and (3) Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs - A Big Sing (Sunday afternoon, 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm). Tickets for each session will be £5 and will be available from the beginning of March. Applications can be made to Trish Pitt on 01473 828393 or trish17@sky.com and David & Wendy Atkins on 01473 822535 or atkins.d@hotmail.co.uk. It truly is an event for everyone – even for those who feel they can't sing. It is an opportunity not to be missed. (John will also be preaching at the 10.45 am service at Hadleigh on the Sunday morning.)

Diocesan Synod

The spring meeting of the diocesan synod is on Saturday 11th March 2017 at the St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Bishops Martin and Mike will join the synod at the end of their pilgrimage walk from Dunwich to Bury St Edmunds, starting from the beach at Dunwich at 9.00 am on 1st March. Go to the diocesan website for further information: www.cofesuffolk.org.

Annual 'Justice' Service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

On **Sunday 12th March 2017** the regular service of Choral Evensong at **3.30 pm** will be a special service for Her Majesty's Courts of Justice in Suffolk.

Copy Date for Church News in the April Box River News:

Please, NO LATER THAN 12th March 2017

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

Thank you. Rev'd Judith. 01787 210091

email address: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com

THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwarden:

Peter Dilnot

Assistant Churchwarden:

Michael Gray

Mobile: 07931 043926

Email: boxford.warden@btinternet.com



Cafe Church at St Mary's Boxford on **Sunday 5th March at 11.00 am**. Everyone is very welcome to this informal service with coffee and pastries and lots of craft activities for young and old alike!

Mothering Sunday this year is on **Sunday March 26th**. We will have a family service at **11.00 am**, at St. Mary's Boxford, with flowers for our mums! Everyone is very welcome.

Some Mothering Sunday "facts":- Mothering Sunday was originally a time when people returned to the church, in which they were baptised or where they attended services when they were children.

This meant that families were reunited as adults returned to the towns and villages where they grew up. In time, it became customary for young people who were working as servants in large houses, to be given a holiday on Mothering Sunday. They could use this day to visit their own mother and often took a gift of food or hand-me-down clothing from their employers to her. In turn, this moved towards the modern holiday, on which people still visit and take gifts to their mothers.

Traditionally, people observed a fast during Lent. Lent is the period from Ash Wednesday until Good Friday. During the Lent fast, people did not eat from sweet, rich foods or meat. However, the fast was lifted slightly on Mothering Sunday and many people prepared a Simnel cake to eat with their family on this day.

A Simnel cake is a light fruit cake covered with a layer of marzipan and with a layer of marzipan baked into the middle of the cake. Traditionally, Simnel cakes are decorated with 11 or 12 balls of marzipan, representing the 11 disciples and, sometimes, Jesus Christ. One legend says that the cake was named after Lambert Simnel who worked in the kitchens of Henry VII of England sometime around the year 1500.

The Annual Revision of the Church Electoral Roll for Boxford.

This will take place prior to the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, which is being held on **Sunday 2nd April** in the Church, starting at **5:00 pm**. Please see the Benefice News section for more details about the meeting. Refreshments will be available and the meeting will be followed by Choral Evensong at **6:30 pm**. The revised roll will be placed on the church notice board 2 weeks before the meeting. Those on the roll are entitled to attend the Annual Meeting and stand for election to the PCC. If you would like to add your name to the roll please see the Church Electoral Roll Officer, Mr Dennis Picton, or the Revd Judith. Please refer to notices in the Church and at services for dates for this revision.

Boxford Guides - A request from Eloise Bircher, Guide Leader. Please collect Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers and put them in the collecting box in church. Thank you.

The Bible Study Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday in the month at 7.30pm at Russets, 47 Swan Street. All are welcome at this hour of fellowship.



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:
Vacant

Lent Lunch See the item in the Groton news section for this shared event.

Garage Sale on *Saturday 6th May*. The idea is we can all do some clearing out of unwanted items, selling them from our own gardens or garages in aid of Edwardstone Church. Contact Bill Dastur 01787 210949

Concert in Edwardstone Church on Saturday 13th May at 6.00 pm

Organist Derek Grover and a small choir will be celebrating our very special Father Smith organ, through music mainly from the period of Bach, Handel and Purcell.

Watch these spaces for more details next month.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on *Thursday 27th April*. Please see the Benefice News section for more details about the meeting. The time and venue of the meeting will be published next month.

Rota

Sunday 19th March at 9.30 Morning Worship

Sidesman/Coffees Pam Dodd/Frances East

Flowers No flowers in Lent

Cleaning Caroline Williams and Melanie Childs



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens:
Vacant

Lent Lunch Groton and Edwardstone

Thursday March 23rd 12.00 noon onwards at Groton House. There will be a frugal Lent Lunch of soup, rolls etc. at Groton House. All are most welcome, and any donations received will be given to a charity. So please do plan your day to have lunch at Groton House on this date. We look forward to seeing you.

PCC Meeting Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 7.00 pm at Mary's House. Items for the agenda should be notified to the secretary, David Lamming, by Sunday 26th February. [E-mail djlamming@hotmail.com]

Electoral Roll Revision

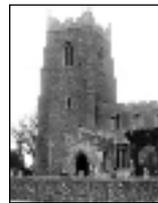
The annual revision of the church electoral roll is shortly to take place prior to the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Tuesday 4th April 2017**, which will be held in the Village Hall at 7:00 pm. Please see the Benefice News section for more details about the meeting. The revision period will be from **1st March to 18th March**. The revised roll will then be published by being exhibited on the church noticeboard from **19th March** until the date of the APCM. Forms must be returned to me by **18th March**. Anyone qualified for enrolment is encouraged to apply and to take a full part in the life of their local church.

The roll is important as it is those whose names are on the roll who are entitled to attend the APCM and stand for election to the PCC. This year, too, two people are to be elected to represent Groton on the Sudbury Deanery Synod for the next three years. If your name is not currently on the roll, but you would like to be on the roll and think you qualify for enrolment, please get in touch and ask me for an application form. Likewise, get in touch if you are unsure whether or not your name is on the roll and/or whether you qualify for enrolment. *David Lamming (Tel: 210360; e-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com).*

MARY'S HOUSE BOOKINGS

When making a booking, please ensure that a contact name and telephone number is entered clearly in the diary in respect of every booking (including church and PCC bookings), as we need to know who to contact in the event of any query over, or the need to change, a booking.

Please note that the suggested donation is £1.00 per head for a two-hour booking for all meetings. For inquiries about new bookings, please contact Pauline or David Lamming: telephone 01787 210360.



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens
Vacant

Rotas

5th March

12th March

19th March

26th March

Sidesmen

Mrs. Gardiner and Mr. Powell

No service

No service

No service

Flowers

Mrs. Squirrell

Mrs. Eddington

Mrs. Duffy

Mrs. Roser

Our Coffee Morning on 21st January, in aid of the Church Restoration Fund, was very successful. It was a warm and friendly gathering, with coffee and cakes, bring and buy, and a raffle presided over by Reverend Judith. We made £170.

Michael Langford's Memorial on 4th February was a poignant and moving occasion. Family, friends and villagers filled the church. We listened to the tributes and remembrances of his interesting life, and were conscious of the love and affection in which he was held by all who knew him.

On 5th February Reverend Judith celebrated Holy Communion with us. Her sermon was how Christ was presented at the Temple, and the joy of Simeon who had waited so long to see the Christ child. She also reminded us of Candlemas and how snowdrops, the first sign of Spring, had become a symbol of this day. Happily, Barry Squirrell's snowdrops were in bloom all along the churchyard wall.

The date of our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** is not yet fixed. More details will be published next month.

Some dates to remember

30th March Lent Lunch at Newman's Hall, **12.00 to 2.00 pm**

8th June Landeremason, a folk/jazz duo, will give a concert in St. Lawrence Church.

15th July Village Yard Sale with refreshments in the Parish Room.

9th & 10th September Flower Festival, St. Lawrence Church.



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwarden:

Christine Cornell,

"Opus", Sudbury Road, Newton, Tel; 370331

22nd January. Our Service of Holy Communion was celebrated by Revd. Judith. The reading was part of a letter from Paul to the Corinthians urging them not to quarrel amongst themselves but to be united. This seemed appropriate as it was World Religion Day. We were happy to welcome a young baby and his parents and new people who have moved to the village. Thank you to Nancy Roser for playing the organ and to all who helped in any way.

29th January. A special Service of Holy Communion was held for the Five Villages Service including the Blessing of the Plough and Recommissioning of Lay Elder David Lamming. After the Recommissioning we moved to the 14th Century Nave to gather by our very old Plough, decorated with wheat, corn and barley and a background painting by a young churchgoer from Boxford as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award. Revd. Judith used Rosemary to sprinkle with water a blessing on the Plough and we said God speed the Plough. This brought to mind our closeness to the land in this village with thanks to all who work it and to each of us as we prepare to plough our own furrow in this new year. Thank you to Nancy Roser for her organ playing and to kind members who helped with the refreshments.

Our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday 28th March at 7:00 pm** in the Church. Please see the Benefice News section for more details about the meeting.

26th February at 11.00am A Service of Holy Communion

March 2017**Services in the Box River Benefice****Village 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. 01787 210091 or emailed to: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com. The winter months rota is: **Tuesday** 9.00 Edwardstone; **Wednesday** 9.00 Groton, 16:00 Little Waldingfield (Newmans Hall); **Thursday** 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford.

Wednesday 1st**Ash Wednesday**

Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion - Mary's House (with imposition of ashes)	Revd Judith
	19.30	Holy Communion (with imposition of ashes)	Revd Judith and Christopher Kingsbury

Thursday 2nd

Lt Waldingfield	15.00	Holy Communion - Newmans Hall (Reserved Sacrament)	Lay Team
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Sunday 5th**Fist Sunday in Lent****(P)**

Please note: Boxford's 8am service moved to fourth Sunday – this month only

Lt Waldingfield	09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Cafe Church	Revd Judith
Boxford	18.30	Evensong	Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 8th

Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion - Mary's House	Revd David Abel
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Sunday 12th**Second Sunday in Lent****(P)**

Groton	09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith

Wednesday 15th

Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion - Mary's House	Revd Judith
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Thursday 16th

Lt Waldingfield	15.00	Compline - Newmans Hall	Lay Team
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Sunday 19th**Third Sunday in Lent****(P)**

Edwardstone	09.30	Morning Worship	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith

Wednesday 22nd

Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
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Sunday 26th**Mothering Sunday (Fourth Sunday in Lent)****(P)**

Boxford	08.00	Holy Communion * see note above on 5 th	Revd Judith
Newton	11.00	Mothering Sunday Service (Families welcome)	Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Mothering Sunday Service (Families welcome)	Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 29th

Boxford	10.30	Holy Communion Mary's House	Revd Judith
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Soap Box

Twenty five or so years ago I was part of a campaign to save our village pub. Greene King, which owned the Swan, had applied to de-licence it and convert the building to residential use. A vigorous fight ensued, which included the publication of a village newsletter – the Grapevine - edited and produced by Bill Philpot, which charted the progress of the battle and included some interesting items, not all of which were fully appreciated by local readers. Sadly I can only find two copies of this irreverent journal, which still make entertaining reading.

In the end we were victorious, with the pub owners agreeing to sell as freehold licenced premises. The first new owners were first time publicans who ushered in an interesting period for the Swan – but that's another story altogether. The point of reminiscing about the battle to save our Swan is that this hostelry, located in the heart of the village, has been put into administration and the landlords booted out.

The situation today is, of course, very different to a generation ago. Cheap booze in the supermarkets, coupled with tougher drink/driving laws and, it can be argued, the imposition of a smoking ban (which personally I welcomed), have led to the closure of literally thousands of country pubs. What the drinking public seeks from their local pub has also changed. Food is now a much more important component of the mix sought by pub goers.

But pubs can – and should, in my opinion – be at the heart of village life. There you can meet your neighbours, catch up on local gossip or refresh yourself with a meal when you really can't be bothered to cook at home. I've used our local pub as a rendezvous point for friends, perhaps when we are going out to a formal dinner later, and as a meeting place for local committees. I've even conducted an AGM in the dining room there. Pubs can be useful places for a village. Without one your options become severely constrained.

The fact remains, though, that the traditional village pub no longer has a place in our community. It needs to broaden its appeal if it is to survive. For many the food option has proved the lifesaver, though even that is more difficult in an environment where Wetherspoons and Greene King offer cheap value meals and special offers on drinks to go with them. Not every village can support a gastro-pub – and not every village wants one.

There are other options, though. Accommodation can also add to the attraction. It happens that the Swan has two letting bedrooms, though I suspect they may be in need of updating. Providing other facilities – like a shop or a post office – have in some cases ensured the survival of a country establishment. Offering a café, meeting rooms or even a lending library have all been put to good use in some areas. What works in one village may not be appropriate in another.

The bottom line is that if the pub isn't used, it will be lost. Our outgoing landlords were in their seventies, so could be forgiven for not being at the cutting edge of regeneration anywhere. Now we have a professional pub minding couple in charge. Rescuing and looking after pubs is what they do for a living, but their commitment is short lived. Once the pub is sold they will move on to another challenge in doubtless similar circumstances.

The problem comes in finding a buyer. Trade in the Swan has hardly been brisk in recent years. Any prospective purchaser may well look at the figures, take stock of the village support the pub receives, and decide it is too steep a hill to climb. Yet the previous landlords had built a thriving business based, it is true, on food to a great extent, before deciding they wanted an even bigger challenge. They made a success of that, too, and now live in France in semi-retirement.

The bottom line is that if we don't use the pub, we will lose it. I am a pubby person – and the pub is next door – so the Swan can expect my continued patronage. It happens that the landlords put in to maintain the trade – Alec and Dorothy – seem very pleasant, so it will be a pleasure to pass the time of day with them. And I plan to try out their food at an early opportunity. It is the rest of you I'd like to see supporting our last remaining hostelry. Let us not have to resort to publishing another Grapevine.

Brian Tora is a local writer and broadcaster.

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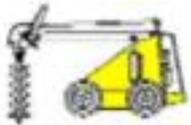
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GARDENING IN MARCH HARRY BUCKLEDEE

March can be a windy month and it will pay to examine all stakes and ties of fruit trees to make sure they are secure. This will also apply to any plant which is dependant on artificial support. Many people neglect to feed fruit trees which are as much in need of nutrients as anything else. Most common deficiency is potash and to a lesser extent nitrogen. A good general fertiliser can be made up of two parts Sulphate of Ammonia, One part superphosphate and three parts sulphate of potash and applied at about five ounces per square yard. The fertiliser should be spread over the ground as far out as the spread of branches. Many sowings of vegetables can be made out of doors as soon as the soil can be worked into a fine condition. Parsnips are the first that should be sown, the seeds are slow to germinate and the percentage rate of germination is low, so be generous with seed sowing. In fact it pays to be generous with all seed sowing, you can always thin out. Remember the old saying - sow one for the rook, one for the crow, one to rot and one to grow. With parsnips it is a good idea to make a thin sowing of radish in the drill to mark its position and to enable you to hoe between the rows before the parsnips appear. More broad beans can be sown now, if you have a small garden the dwarf variety the Sutton is a good cropper and takes up much less space than the taller varieties.

The water table is low and a few days of hot dry weather will soon cause plants to suffer. To retain moisture and to help plants through such conditions, now is the time to apply a mulch of peat, leaf-mould compost, bark or mushroom compost. Remove all weeds first and then apply the mulch two to four inches thick when the soil is still moist. Always use good compost for raising seedlings and for growing on, don't be tempted to try and get away with using garden soil or once used compost. Peat based compost are light, clean and easy to handle and, I find, better for most things than those that are soil based. Although plants raised in this sort of compost do have rather soft roots and this can be a problem if you have to plant them out on heavy clay soil as these soft roots are reluctant to leave the soil ball. If you have this type of soil to raise the plants in a half peat and half soil based mixture.

It is now time to prune established clematis to keep them tidy and within bounds. Early flowering varieties such as montana and alpina should be lightly pruned after flowering. Large flowered hybrids that flower early

in the summer should have young stem cut back by about a third. Late summer and autumn flowering varieties - those that flower July onwards should be hard pruned back to about one pair of buds 18 inches from ground level. After pruning, feed each plant with 4oz of a good general fertiliser and apply a good organic mulch to conserve moisture and shade for the roots.

Weather and soil conditions permitting at the end of the month, a start can be made on successive plantings of gladioli. Make plantings at two to three week intervals until the end of May to provide a continuous supply of blooms throughout the summer.

Spring usually arrives by mid-March and the frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

Top 10 jobs this month

- 1 Protect new spring shoots from slugs
- 2 Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
- 3 Plant summer-flowering bulbs
- 4 Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
- 5 Top dress containers with fresh compost
- 6 Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
- 7 Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
- 8 Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
- 9 Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
- 10 Prune bush and climbing roses

In the greenhouse

Pot on any Begonia, Gloxinia and Achimenes plants that you started off earlier in smaller pots, but which are now large enough to re-pot in the next size up. Try growing on plug plants in your greenhouse. They are a relatively cheap source of large numbers of plants, and can be ordered and grown on quickly if you didn't get round to sowing seed in good time earlier this season.

Don't forget to give greenhouse plants more space as they put on new growth. This will help to prevent disease, and to contain early pest infestations.



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Parish Council Matters

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

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

Apologies for Absence Cllr Crawte (illness) sent her apologies.

Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in Item 17/007a as he is the recipient of two payments. No request for dispensation had been received.

Minutes of meeting held on the 14th December 2016, The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum. James Finch gave councillors an update on gritting plans, the continuance of the Park & Ride scheme, the environmental study for the Sudbury relief road, the re-consultation for the proposed speed reductions on the A134 and on the Raising the Bar grant available from the Suffolk Foundation. He was asked to report the progress on the white line painting for Valley Road and the review of the A1071 / A134 junction.

Lee Parker updated councillors on Babergh's move to Endeavour House now being planned for August / September 2017, governance changes and the Ward Boundary review.

Correspondence (Appendix A) Following a review of the Correspondence and the emails circulated since the last meeting the Chairman read out letters of thanks received from Jean Green, Carol Langley and Gwen Smith in relation to Christmas parcels. The councillors resolved that the Clerk write to support the Police & Crime Commissioner in his attempt to get Suffolk Police a Government grant in line with counties of similar size.

Clerks Report (Appendix B) Following a review of the Clerk's Report there were no further actions requested of the Clerk.

Finance

a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C), were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting, agreed the Reconciliation of Accounts against the Bank Statements and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget. The councillors wished to record NPC's thanks to Shirley Taylor, Janet Taylor and Lisa Devlin for their organisation of the Christmas Parcels and Cllr Taylor for the organisation of the Christmas tree.

b. Following a review of the agreed Expenditure budget and proposed reserves (Appendix D) the councillors resolved to set a Precept of £10,000 which will mean a 20p a month increase in the Band D Council Tax for 2017 /2018. The councillors' decision was influenced by the cost of living inflation forecast and the additional costs that are to be incurred in the training and technology set-up for a new Clerk.

Planning

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

b. The councillors reviewed the lessons that NPC can learn from the recent determination of the Red House Farm Planning Application by Babergh's Planning Committee. The following areas will need to be considered by NPC in the coming months:

i. If an application has issues that NPC require to be incorporated into an application, then object to the application and outline the concerns

ii. Understand the impact of a Community Led Plan on the decision-making process by the Local Planning Authority.

c. The status of previous applications and appeals were reviewed:

Local Housing Needs Scheme

The councillors requested the Clerk to invite Hastoe to attend the February meeting so that they can appraise the current progress of the scheme.

Playground and Asset Maintenance Programme

a. The councillors agreed to review the costs for improving the hard standing of the entrance to the playing field, between the play equipment fencing, and asked the NGT representatives to seek approval for such work and for the Clerk to get some ball park costs.

b. It was agreed that Tony Langley's offer to clean the war memorial, in line with Harry Buckledee's work over many years, be accepted. The Clerk will arrange for the necessary cleaning materials and equipment to be made available. Cllr Taylor will review the hedging around the memorial.

Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan Issues & Options,

The councillors resolved that the Clerk collates all the councillors' responses on the subject and submit to SCC before the end of the consultation.

Street Names

The councillors reviewed Babergh's request for new street names for the parish and agreed to provide names as and when the need arose.

Firework Event, The councillors agreed to continue to run the firework event in 2017 based on the template used in previous years. Training certificates will need to be updated in 2017.

Christmas Tree and Lighting, The councillors will look to provide a more permanent solution for the location of the Christmas tree and the supply of electricity for this year's celebration.

Village Hall and Trust representative updates

Cllr Schwenk updated councillors on the plans of the Village Hall Committee to change the front door, the proposed use of village hall by a football team, the upgrading of the car park surface, a new electricity contract and fund raising. The Trust has not met since NPC's last meeting but Cllr Bower updated councillors that the Trust had given permission to BT's contractor to run a communications line across The Green.

Litter Picks in 2017, The councillors agreed to hold village litter picks on 25th March and the 14th October both starting at 8.30am.

Questions to the Chair. The councillors agreed to put the following items on the February agenda:

- Celebration for the 65th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne
- A Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) for the village.

The Clerk left the meeting.

Clerk vacancy

The councillors finalised the documentation, process and dates for the **Next Meeting** The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 8th February 2017 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Reserves held by NPC With ageing bus shelters and play equipment it will not be long before a reasonable amount of money will be required for replacements. It is proposed to increase the Asset Replacement reserve to cover this risk. NPC still need to maintain a Legal Fees provision regarding the enforcement of the Byelaws. With the reserve for the Election costs being £1,500 I do not see any reason, other than a by-election, for this to be topped up between now and 2017.

Using the projections for income, expenditure and earmarked reserves, NPC will also need to consider the level it wishes to maintain its General Reserves. Best practice would suggest that the level of General Reserves should be somewhere between 50 -100% of main income.

Meeting of Boxford Parish Council

Report of the Meeting held on 6th February

The next full meeting of Boxford Parish Council will be on Monday 6th March.

Public Forum, A representative from the Church discussed on-going maintenance of the Churchyard including ivy on the Church building and the boundary wall. The Parish Council agreed to investigate and also to liaise with the school in respect of their fencing project.

County Council Report Cllr James Finch attended and shared that 86% of Suffolk Schools are now judged Good or higher by Ofsted. The County has long term plans to improve mental health. In December, Suffolk's School Nursing Team celebrated one year of the "Chat Health" service which gives support via texts. Flu vaccinations are still available and people are being encouraged to take this up. On local matters, Cllr Finch followed up the broken barrier near 1 Homefield, he was investigating why the A1071 Local Shops signs were not as exemplified. **The correct ones have since been installed.

District Council Report, Cllr Bryn Hurren attended and confirmed the move to Endeavour House is unlikely to take place until the autumn. The mobile phone mast should be in place by March. Queries were raised with Cllr Hurren in respect of the Station Field and Goodlands affordable housing. The meeting with the Head of Planning at the District Council was still to be arranged.

Correspondence, The progress of items raised at Parish Council were discussed. Konings, who were now operating the Boxford Suffolk Farm plant had written to the Chairman of the Parish Council out-lining expansion plans over the next 10 years.

Finance, In addition to the usual business, the Cemetery and Litter contracts were agreed for the forth-coming financial year. £1750 was paid towards the insurance costs of the Church.

Cemetery, A Memorial application was duly approved. Agreement was reached to order a further 50 grave markers.

Bus Shelter, It was agreed for a Parish Council working party to implement the changes to the Bus Shelter approved by the Heritage Officer. Cllr Hurren agreed to assist.

Reports, It was reported that 3 Parishes Response now have 6 Responders following recent recruitment.

Planning, The Planning Authority approved extensions and dormer window alterations at 1 The Causeway and tree work at 5 Fitzgerald Meadow and the Spinney. The Parish Council had No Objections to an agricultural storage building on land east of White Street Green, an annex at 8-10 Brick Kiln Cottages and reduction of 2 protected oak trees at Boxbank, Rules Yard.

Debbie Hattrell, Clerk to Boxford Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL OF BOXFORD PUBLIC NOTICE

Please note full copies of Boxford Parish Council Minutes are available on the following website: -

<http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/BoxfordParishCouncil.cfm?page=minutes>

Full Meetings take place at 7.30pm on the first Monday each month at Bell House - full address below:

Clerk: Mrs Debbie Hattrell

Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford CO 10 5NP
01787 210943.

pc@boxford.Suffolk.gov.uk

Parish Council Matters

Groton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7 pm Wednesday 18 January 2017 at Groton Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton

Present: J Osborne (Chair), P Roberts, N Cox, R Cheeseman, C Fraulo, D Wills
In attendance: A Robinson (Clerk), B Hurren (BDC)

The Minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2016 were approved and signed.

Reports - J Finch (SCC) was not in attendance but had circulated his report and has offered to meet the Chairman and Clerk if required.

B Hurren (BDC) advised that the move from BDC's offices in Hadleigh to Endeavour House in Ipswich was to take place in June. The public will be able to visit the office there if required. There will be staff available in Sudbury, as now, but there are no plans for a presence in Hadleigh. Planners have moved from Hadleigh to MSDC prior to their move to Ipswich. BDC is working on its budget at the moment. There is no further news on devolution as yet. Councillors have been asked to remind the public that they should only attend A&E if they are seriously sick or injured. He confirmed that the phone mast should be installed in late May. C Fraulo asked whether BDC had yet responded to the loss in the High Court to East Bergholt Parish Council on the Hadleigh Road planning issue. B Hurren advised that there had not yet been a response. J Osborne noted the public notice received relating to the change in governance arrangements at BDC. B Hurren confirmed that the cabinet will be decided at the AGM in April.

Suffolk Police – the December police report was available, which gave crime figures from October (available at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/sudbury>)

Reports and questions from Councillors and members of the public – J Osborne said that he had attended Boxford Community Council's meeting and updated them regarding the local housing plans. He also advised that a new constitution was being prepared for the combined Boxford and Groton United Charities. Plans had been discussed relating to extending the pavilion on the playing fields to accommodate a higher grade of football. There will be celebrations relating to the 50th anniversary of the playing fields later in the year. The bike race planned for April is already oversubscribed. A bridge club has been set up, held at The Fleece.

Planning Matters - Applications received - B/16/01677 Castlings Hall, Castlings Heath CO10 5ET - the Parish Council was in full support of this application.

Planning decisions received – B/16/01400 – Doggetts, Groton Place CO10 5EE – erection of summer house (following demolition of existing) – approved; 5 Groton Street CO10 5EE – erection of extension to conservatory – approved; B/16/01712 – The Spinney, Fen Street, Boxford - Reduce willow tree to stump level – approved; B/16/01475 – Spong Bungalow – erection of single storey side extension to provide annexe – approved. The Clerk said that the residents of Spong Bungalow had advised that they would be putting in a temporary slope for up to 5 days to enable them to site a mobile home on their land.

Local housing update – J Osborne said that he and C Fraulo would be meeting with Hastoe Housing on 19 January to progress matters and other Councillors were welcome to attend the meeting.

Community Emergency Plan - The Clerk had made a number of updates to the Plan and will provide a copy to J Osborne once completed.

Highway and Footpath matters - Footpath cutting – Councillors agreed to continue to use the SCC contractors as the last cut was much better than previously. The Clerk will advise SCC. It was resolved that if a third cut was required the Council would liaise with local landowners.

Dog fouling issues – J Osborne thanked R Cheeseman for installing the newly purchased dog waste bin near The Croft. It is being well used already. It was noted that Suffolk Wildlife Trust has installed a bin at Groton Wood.

Park Corner – SCC had responded to the Clerk's chasing email by saying that due to budget restraints there were no plans to carry out the drainage work in the foreseeable future. It was agreed that we would chase again in 6 months if no progress has been made.

Horse riding on footpaths – the Clerk confirmed that horses can only be ridden on footpaths with the landowner's permission. It is the landowner's responsibility to reinstate the path if damage is then caused. No further issues had been reported.

Other highway and footpath matters – C Fraulo said that she had received a complaint about the hedge at the corner of Heath Road and Broad Street. J Osborne will inspect it and then ask the Clerk to report it to SCC or the landowner as appropriate.

Financial matters - The Statement of Finance and Orders for Payment and accounts to date were checked and approved.

Reserve account as at 31 December 2016	£3518.39
Current account as at 31 December 2016	£5142.40
Total	£8660.79

Transparency Code Funding - £302.93 had been received in grant funding to assist with complying with the Code. The budget for 2017-18 was approved. The Council resolved to keep the precept at £4149 with no increase. The precept form was completed and signed.

The Parish Council's internal controls were reviewed and approved.

Future agenda items were agreed as footpaths, Park Corner junction, Community Emergency Plan, local housing. The next meeting will be on 1 March at 7pm. It was agreed that the Annual Meeting would take place on 3 May at 6.30pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.



Stoke by Nayland Village Hall
Thursday 6th April 2017 7.30 pm
AGM AND TALK

SUBMARINES

by Richard Channon



Image of HMS Olympus SS2 by Chris Howell from stokeby.org.uk

Our speaker will tell us how a submarine works, give a potted history of the development of the submarine, tell us something about the ocean environment and an account of operations over the past century.

Richard joined Dartmouth in May 1966 and left the Navy in September 1990. He started with submarines in 1981, passed the CO's Qualifying Course in 1989, following which he commanded HMS Olympus. Thereafter he had a variety of sea and shore jobs, most of them submarine-associated, including command of HWS Churchill and Captain of the 2nd Submarine Squadron in Plymouth. After leaving the Navy he was Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights until retiring in 2002.

All past, present and future members welcome to this **free lecture and complimentary coffee**

For further details please contact:
Sue Whiteley - 01787 210945
E: whiteleyaa@hotmail.co.uk

Next event - Summer Day School
Saturday 15th July 2017
Talk and visit to Landguard Fort
in Felixstowe

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I look forward to hearing from you.

THE NAMES ON OUR WAR MEMORIALS -MARCH 2017



In the last two articles of this series, in the absence of anniversaries of the death of men named on our war memorials, I have spent some time outlining various aspects of the history of the commemoration of the casualties of the war. This month we have to return to the familiar pattern of

providing brief biographies of the lost villagers in the context of their role in the War.

Between the end of December 1916 and the end of March 1917, no family in the five villages had to endure the harrowing sorrow of the loss of one of their sons. But as spring began to wake the countryside hereabouts from its winter rest, bringing a renewed hope for the coming year, no such peace was to be bestowed on the fields and lanes of Flanders just across the Channel. From the last week of March to the first week of May, ten more of our men would die, never to experience the warmth of the summer sun in their homeland.

This pattern of a period of fewer casualties followed by a sudden increase is a reflection of the course of the war, and not some chance statistic of the deployment of the Suffolk men. The official death toll for all of the Allied Forces in France in the first five months of 1917 is as follows.

January	4,377
February	8,173
March	7,343
April	30,305
May	17,380

An average of 6,660 deaths for the first three months of the year is hardly inconsequential but what changed in April? As I have briefly discussed in earlier articles, the end of the Somme offensive in November had left both the opposing armies with much to try and recover from and much to review in respect of future tactics. The damage done to

men and equipment between July and November 1916 was on a scale never witnessed before in any human conflict. Hundreds and thousands of men were lost on both sides; weapons of all sorts were damaged or destroyed; millions of shells were fired; of about 360,000 horses and mules on the Western Front, something like 90,000 were killed. And yet there was no appetite for peace in the corridors of government in London, Paris or Berlin. German forces were still occupying the sovereign country of other nations, and it was clear that the German government wished to continue that assault with the ultimate goal of capturing the French capital. The Allied forces had no choice but develop a new strategy to try and break out of the entrenched deadlock of the Western Front and seek to push the Central powers back into their homeland and defeat the political elite that had embarked upon this enormously costly venture.

During the month of March, whilst the German forces were in the process of strategically retreating to the shorter more defensible Front Line of higher ground a few miles to the east, known as the Hindenburg line, the Allied powers were planning a new offensive. The aim of this was to break through the German trenches in the country to the south of Arras. The main attack was to be carried forward by the French forces along the valley of the River Aisne, but before that was started, the British forces were to launch an assault to the east of the city of Arras along the valley of the River Scarpe and towards Vimy Ridge. This was planned to take place a week ahead of the French action in order to try and draw the German forces away from the French battle lines and then create a flanking attack on the northern side of the German positions.

Vimy Ridge is not particularly high per se, but it faces westwards across a flat river valley plain and gives commanding views in all directions. The British and Commonwealth forces, notably Canadian troops, began their assault on April 9th. The first day of this battle was a notable success and over the four days to the 12th as much progress eastwards was made as had been achieved in all the long months of the Somme offensive. The heavily defended Vimy Ridge was taken and secured by the Canadian forces, and though not as successful, the British battalions made steady progress along the River Scarpe. However, it would seem that the German troops were genuinely caught unawares and thus had been very tardy in reinforcing their front line trenches from the rearward second and third lines. But this failure of organisation was soon corrected. The battle of the Scarpe quickly turned into the usual stalemate of moribund entrenched positions, and the counter attack at Vimy began in earnest.

To this background of initial morale boosting success followed by less positive signs around Arras, the French opened their attack on the 16th April. This was concentrated very tightly around Chemin des Dames and should have punched a hole through the German lines. However, the view is that the French artillery barrage lacked coordination with the result that during the advance across no-man's land the troops were exposed to terribly destructive machine gun fire. In addition, the barrage of the previous days had alerted the German commanders to the oncoming attack and this gave sufficient time to bring up reinforcement heavy guns that succeeded in destroying the French tanks whilst still in column formation before they could be deployed to support the infantry.

Two weeks into this battle, the French advance was effectively at an end. The losses for the French army were severe; the total was 120,000 casualties including some 29,000 dead. Morale was broken and on 29th April a non-violent mutiny broke out in the French ranks, which was suppressed in a tactful way, and, though the fighting continued, the damage was done. The battle continued until the 15th May and some ground was secured, but in the end it was the French line which was broken, not the German line.

All the while the French assault was failing in its objectives, British and Commonwealth troops were engaged in trying to secure and defend the ground won in the first few days after the 9th April. This became more and more difficult as the expected support from the French forces to the south never materialised. Once again, a major assault that was meant break the deadlock along the Front ended with relatively minor gains at the cost of significant losses of men. In mid-May the whole Arras offensive was declared at an end, and the War entered a new phase to which we will move in due course.

Of the ten men we need to account for who died in the actions that I have sketched out above, I will detail four in this month's article, and then split the remaining six between the April and May articles. The articles will take the deaths in chronological order, however, because of the way services fall in April, the normal pattern of which is disrupted because of the Easter services, the days of commemoration in the churches will be, for some men, up to a month adrift from the actual date of their death.

The four men are **Private James Hayward** of Newton, 21250, 11th Battalion Essex Regiment, who died on the 24th March 1917 aged 26; **Private George Harry Butcher**, also of Newton, 17443, 11th Battalion Suffolk regiment, who died on the 6th April 1917 aged 27; **Private Harry Pryke** of Little Waldingfield, 44497, 25th (Tyneside Irish) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, who died on the 9th April 1917 aged about 26; **Private Charles William Mann** of Groton, 20865, 5th Battalion Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, who died on the 13th April 1917 aged 32.

Very often, when I research these brief biographical notes, I find that the soldier in question was born in the village on which memorial he is commemorated, and that the family lived in the same village, or those very close by, for one or more generations. This is not the case for James Hayward. James was born in 1890 in Woolwich, Kent, the other side of the Thames. However, his parents and his paternal grandparents, John and Sarah in both cases, were all born in Newton or Great Waldingfield. At the time of James's birth his father was a carman living in Sun Street, Woolwich. A carman was the equivalent of a modern day heavy goods vehicle driver. He drove the substantial four wheel carts used in their thousands to carry bulk goods mostly to and from railway depots, docks or canal wharfs. They would often use a team of four horses. The term carman distinguishes them from carters, which referred to the light two wheeled carts, used for local deliveries, what we might rather unkindly these days call the 'white van' drivers.

Sometime between 1871 and 1881 James's parents had left Newton, where John was recorded as an agricultural labourer, and settled in Woolwich. During this time the Woolwich docks were growing in size and importance for supplying the capital city, and it is very likely that it was the opportunity of better pay that drew them there. However, between 1901 and 1911 they made the return journey to their home village bringing the young James with them. James appears to have had five older brothers and one younger, but no sisters. In 1911 he is recorded as a general labourer on a farm in Newton.

James enlisted in Newton, probably in late 1914, and his battalion was stationed in England until it moved as part of the 24th Division to Boulogne in August 1915, and then it was transferred to the 6th Division. This Division was deployed during the final three months of the Somme Offensive, so James was familiar with trench warfare as 1917 dawned. Whilst there was action continuing along the Western Front between the end of the Somme offensive and the Arras offensive, it was of a relatively small scale limited objective nature. When James died at the end of March, his battalion does not appear to have been directly involved in any of these engagements. However, it must have been in the vicinity of Arras in late March, probably in preparation for the Arras offensive in which it was later deployed, because James is buried in the Philosophe British Cemetery at Mazingarbe, which is about twenty miles north of Arras. He lies with 1,719 of his fellow soldiers.

In contrast to James, **George Harry Butcher's** family did not stray far from the surrounding villages in more than one hundred years. George's father, also George, was born in Bures in 1861, and his father John, born in 1826, came from Assington, as did his father, also probably John, born in the late eighteenth century. George's mother, Mary Ann King, was born in Boxford in 1864, as were her father Robert and her grandfather, though her mother came from Middlesex and was probably in service in Boxford, when she met her future husband. The menfolk amongst the King's were all agricultural labourers, but the Butcher's had more varied occupations. In 1881 John Butcher, our soldier's grandfather was a farmer with 24 acres and employing one man at Fenns Farm, Stoke by Nayland, with his son working for him on the farm. But by 1891 John was retired living with his son in Chilton, where George senior was employed as a grocer's porter and it was here that George Harry was born. The family was still in Chilton in 1901, but George senior was now a cowman, which he remained through to 1911 but now in Newton, with George Harry a farm labourer, by now 21 years old.

George Harry enlisted in Bury St Edmunds into the 11th battalion Suffolk Regiment, probably in 1915, and would have travelled to Boulogne at the beginning of January 1916. The 11th battalion formed part of the 34th Division, which fought through the Somme offensive from its terrible first day in July until the beginning of September when they were relieved from the Front. So, by the start of 1917 in the space of a year, George had gone from a raw recruit with little knowledge of the world beyond south west Suffolk to a battle hardened and wearied soldier, who must have witnessed horror beyond mention. As spring spread across the battlefields of the Western Front, George would have moved with his battalion in preparation for the coming action around Arras. On the 6th April, somewhere in the few days before the actual commencement of the Arras offensive, George met his death in the spring air in such a way that he has no known grave. Just another horror to add to the horrors he had fought through. Perhaps he was detailed to a scouting party beyond the lines as part of the preliminaries prior to the assault along the flood plain beneath the Vimy ridge, or perhaps his trench sustained a direct hit from the German artillery way back out of sight to the east of the ridge itself.

George Harry is remembered on the panels of the Arras Memorial along with around 35,000 men from Britain, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the vicinity of Arras between the spring of 1916 and the summer of 1918.

Our next soldier is **Private Harry Pryke** of Little Waldingfield and he is well documented in Little Waldingfield History Society's publication of 2014, Little Waldingfield Our village history from 1840 to 2014, for which I am grateful for some of the facts I relate herein. Harry's experience of the world before the War is in marked contrast that of George Harry Butcher. He was born in Church Road, Little Waldingfield in 1890 to Walter and Rosa, both of whom were also born in the Village in 1851 and 1856 respectively. Rosa's family name was Day and her parents also hailed from the village. However, Harry broke the mould. In 1911 he was still resident in the village and working as a farm labourer, but at the end of 1913 he is found marrying Agnes L Johnson in Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

What took Harry to Yorkshire is not known, but let me digress to an aspect of my own family's past to give a possible explanation. My paternal grandmother, who was in service with the family of a politician in her home of Stirlingshire in Scotland, moved south to Sussex with the family, when he was appointed to the Cabinet. There she met and married a local man, who had been taken on as a groom. They moved again with the family to north London, which is where my father was born in 1911. Young women often moved around the country whilst in service to wealthy families, and were thus much more mobile than the young men, who were likely to be rooted through their work on the land. Perhaps Harry followed Agnes back to Yorkshire in some similar set of circumstances.

However, this is conjecture and what is not conjecture is that Harry enlisted into the army in Harrogate before his marriage was a year old. Initially it seems he served in the West Yorkshire Regiment, but then he transfers to an unlikely military home, that of the 25th (Tyneside Irish) Battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers. This battalion was one of the early 'Pals' battalions, which were raised by recruiting men with a common background, such as a city, ethnicity, or an area of a county. Again, we can only speculate on what Harry's affinity with the stout-hearted dockers and navvies of the Tyneside Irish was, but it was with them that he served and went to war in France and it was with them that he died.

The Tyneside Irish Brigade were attached to the same division as George Butcher's Suffolks and so Harry would have experienced a very similar war to his comrade in arms from the neighbouring village. Harry's brigade formed part of the first wave of the infantry advance across open ground towards Vimy Ridge on the opening day of the Arras offensive. The Brigade suffered heavy losses and was decimated by persistent and accurate machine gun fire from the Ridge before they could reach their own forward most trenches. Harry was initially buried where he fell along with nine of his fellow soldiers at map reference 51B A20 B6-9, which is now in the corner of a small cultivated field lying between the modern D937 and D49E1 roads north of Arras. And there he lay until 28th August 1919, when his body was exhumed with the others, four of whom could not be identified, and reburied with them in the Roelincourt Valley Cemetery just to the north east of Arras.

As well as being named on the Little Waldingfield War Memorial, Harry is commemorated on the Knaresborough War Memorial, and a plaque in the precincts of Knaresborough Castle. His name also appears in a Roll of Honour known as Ireland's War Memorial Records 1914 to 1918.

Agnes remained living and working in Yorkshire after Harry's death but at some point moves south and marries Harry's elder brother Albert in 1925. She died in Sudbury in 1962.

Lastly we meet **Private Charles William Mann** about whom I have relatively little information. Charles was born in 1885 in Groton but I can only positively identify him for the first time in the 1901 Census, when he was living in Groton street with his grandfather, William. His parents may be Johnson William Mann, who was a shepherd, and Martha Lilly, but I cannot be certain of that. Charles was an agricultural labourer and his grandfather a jobbing gardener.

By 1911, Charles is still in Groton and now working as a horseman. In 1910 he had married Susan Spooner. The couple are listed on the Census form along with Edith Mary Spooner, who is Susan's daughter but not Charles's. Edith was born somewhere between April and June 1910 and Charles and Susan married

somewhere between October and December 1910. Susan's family were farm workers living in Hagmore Green and then Brick Kiln Hill.

Charles enlisted in Boxford, probably in 1914. His battalion formed part of the 14th (Light) Division which was moved to Boulogne in May 1915. Like George Butcher, Charles saw action in the Somme offensive from mid-July through to mid-September 1916. In 1917 he would have moved to the vicinity of Arras in readiness for the new offensive. The Division was ordered into battle on the first day of the offensive and was directed to attack along the valley of the River Scarpe. This flows west from the higher ground beyond the Vimy Ridge and its valley cuts through the line of low hills forming the ridge. The tactic appears to have been to attempt a flanking movement south of the Ridge to cut off the German rear organisation supplying the fortifications atop the Ridge itself. This undoubtedly contributed to the first few successful days of the offensive but Charles did not live to witness this achievement. He is buried in the Mount Huon Military Cemetery at the small coastal town of Le Treport north of Dieppe. Le Treport was a major hospital centre, so Charles must have sustained wounds in battle and been evacuated to the coast, but he succumbed to his injuries on 13th April, five days after Easter Sunday in the spring of his life. When his headstone was erected, Susan had inscribed upon it the words I heard the voice of Jesus say Come unto me and rest and so he did. Susan does not appear to have remarried and died in the Sudbury district in 1940.

Harry Pryke will be remembered at the 09:30 service at Little Waldingfield on Sunday 2nd April; George Butcher and James Hayward will be remembered at the 11:00 service at Newton on Sunday 23rd April and Charles Mann will be remembered at the 09:30 service at Groton on Sunday 14th May.



Suffolk Crisis Bereavement Care

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

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

For help or information please telephone your local office:

 Ipswich 01473 200000	North Suffolk & Great Yarmouth 01502 722234
Waltham Cross 01204 810001	West Suffolk 01284 481108

Further information can be found at www.suffolk.org.uk, www.katobereavement.co.uk or email info@crisiscare.org.uk

"I will try to remember with my eyes closed the things I had not noticed, the things that I had excluded and all things I forgot."

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Carter Jonas

Readers Letters

Sir

My family and I were overwhelmed by the amazing numbers of cards, letters, flowers and phone calls which came flooding in after Peter died; these were from a combination of friends, ex-colleagues and ex-patients, and we are so very grateful for all the love and care shown to us by so many people, how wonderful to live in the Box River Benefice! Very many thanks to everyone,

Pat, Charles, William and James Kennedy Scott.

Sir

A Big Thank You

We would like to say a huge Thank you to everyone involved in Peter's Benefit Valentines Disco many of whom were there on the evening but to everyone else who kindly donated. We had a fantastic evening Veronica and her team did a tremendous job we were overwhelmed with the generosity. The money raised will really make a difference with Peter's rehabilitation.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Marion Hibben, Julia, Andrea and Families

Thank you Boxford

My brother John and I would like to thank everyone who was involved in organizing the Valentine's Disco on 12th February for the benefit of my younger brother, Peter Hibben, especially Veronica and all her helpers. What an amazing event and what an incredible amount was raised! The kindness and generosity of everyone who gave of their time to put this on, the donation of auction items and the number of people who attended all reflects how highly Peter is thought of in the village. He was very touched by the warm friendship shown to him on the evening. Peter loves Boxford and would love to be back being involved in all sorts of things. It is good that he is now at Magdalen House in Hadleigh so close to home, meaning that Marion and his family and friends can visit him more easily.

On behalf of the whole family, our sincere thanks to you all.

Sylvia Clark and John Hibben



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 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 Gardens Open
 Boxford Gardening Society
 Boxford Over 60s Club
 Boxford Playing Fields
 Boxford Rovers Football Club
 Boxford School
 Boxford Society
 Boxford Spinney
 Sunflower Child Care
 Box River Lectures
 Boxford Tennis Club
 Boxford United Charities
 Boxford Village Hall Bookings
 Boxford WI
 Boxford Youth Club
 Box River News
 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
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 Gareth Weiland Memorial Fund

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 Moira Grant 211513
 Neil Barkham 211916
 Adrian Gooderham 211805
 Eloise Britcher 828710
 Janice MacMillan 210565
 Richard Gates 210432
 Mark Miller 211596
 Denzil Smith 210020
 Peter Hibben 210819
 Richard Gates 210432
 Sue Beven 210021
 211077
 Matthew Shinn 211296
 Les Clark 210698
 Mark Miller 211596
 Sue Green 210603
 Brian Porter 210581
 Ward Baker 210129
 Peter Patrick 210346
 Janice Macmillan 210565
 Angela Tolputt 212264
 Elizabeth Wagener 210223
 Shirley Watling 210024
 David Burden 211926
 Melvyn Eke 602846
 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
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 Bryn Hurren 01787 210854
 Iain Young (01787 210048
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 Philip Rich 212329
 210558
 Caroline Williams 210836 or Nicola Coote 371788
 Debbie Hattrell 210943
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 Brian James 210814
 Ian Lindsley 210520
 Maggie 210888
 Ruth Kingsbury 211236
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Groton Clubs & Organisations

Groton Educational Foundation
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 Groton United Charities
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 Anthea Scriven 01787 210263
 Anita Robinson 211673
 Jeremy Osborne 211960
 Joanna Roberts 210619
 Jeremy Osborne 211960
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 David Lamming 210360
 R Bowdidge 01787-211553

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

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

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Milden Cricket Club
 Milden Pavilion and Playingfield

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 Pearl 01449 741876

Directory of Benefice Web Sites

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 For churches other than Boxford, follow the links under "Our other churches"
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 The Groton Fox: thefoxandhounds.webeden.co.uk/
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 Newton Golf Club
 Newton Green Trust
 Newton Keep Fit Club
 Newton News Views & Coffee
 Newton Village Hall
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 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

War Games Club

Edwardstone Clubs & Organisations

Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust
 Edwardstone Parish Hall booking Secretary
 Edwardstone Parish Hall chairman
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EDWARDSTONE C.C. LEAGUE



Edwardstone C.C. Collect League Winners Trophy,

On Saturday 4th February members of the Edwardstone Cricket Club joined many other cricket clubs at the Hunts County League Awards dinner at Bury Cricket Club.

The yearly event celebrates the winners of the 5 leagues in the local area. Edwardstone won league 3 following a highly competitive season when many of the young squad started to produce match winning performances after gaining experience with the team in previous years.

Skipper Jack Clark (pictured) received the winners trophy from former Essex and England cricketer Ronnie Irani who was also guest speaker.

Also present were our neighbours from Milden C.C who picked up the winners trophy for league 5 and we would like to congratulate them on their success.

The new season is now getting nearer and we look forward to playing in Division 2. This will require more commitment from our young team, who are already looking forward to testing themselves against better sides. The extra work has been completed which has increased the size of the square at Homefields and plans are being made for the next years' Edwardstone Junior training sessions on Saturday mornings.

We would like to thank all those who have contributed to the success of the club and look forward to starting the new season and seeing some sun in the sky.

If you would like to play some cricket, we would like to hear from you. We play friendly games as well as league cricket and during the season we also play a few 20/20 games.

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THE HART OF BOXFORD IS BACK!

The White Hart in Boxford has a new owner who knows the right ingredients for a popular village pub - excellent food and drink, great prices, and a friendly welcome for locals and visitors alike.

"We've taken the time to really talk with our customers and understand what they've loved about their pub in the past, and how they'd like to see it in the future," explained Shikhar Chatrath. "It's a big responsibility to take over a business that plays such a big role at the heart of a community, and we are proud to provide Boxford with the vibrant, social hub this fantastic village truly deserves."

Things are already off to a great start. Regulars are back in numbers, and visitors are up too. The White Hart's location and parking has always made it attractive to local clubs and societies, and now its own pool and darts teams are growing in popularity. Players are always welcome to join in league matches, or to just pop in for a few games. A large bar area also means that major sports can be shown at the snug and bar, without disturbing diners.

Those diners are also well catered for. Traditional pub favourites are now complemented by exciting seasonal menus and weekday specials. Why not treat yourself to pizza for a fiver on Mondays, the superb homemade burger and a pint deal for £8.95 every Tuesday, or bring the children to eat FREE on Wednesdays and Thursdays? Perhaps The White Hart's latest range of local real ales and ciders, quality lagers or tempting new wine list might just seal the deal?

ALICE BARLOW GETS MORE TROPHIES



MORE TROPHIES FOR NEWTON'S ALICE BARLOW

Newton Green's Alice Barlow brought down the curtain on her outstanding season by picking up the two leading awards at the annual meeting of Suffolk Ladies' County Golf Association.

She won the Joy Winn Salver for the lowest scratch scores during the season, and the Nigel Birrell Trophy awarded by the county captain to the most outstanding golfer of the year.

Alice, 18, also received her county colours. She is in her final year at Thomas Gainsborough School, Great Cornard, and will be concentrating on playing in leading women's amateur events across the country.

Over the last year she has won all the leading Suffolk ladies' trophies, as well as being the first winner of the national junior champion of champions' trophy, and finished seventh in the Telegraph BMW junior championships in Portugal.

Also at the Suffolk presentation, Newton's Eloise Aldous, now playing as a driving range professional, was confirmed as the coming year's organiser of Suffolk girls' junior golf.

NEWTON GREEN SENIORS TO STAGE FINALS DAY.



The men's senior section at Newton Green Golf Club is to stage an autumn finals day, it was decided at the annual meeting of the group.

The event is likely to take place in early October, with the season's trophies being presented, rather than two months later at the annual Christmas lunch.

In his absence due to recovering from illness, John Ford was installed as captain, with Harry Wordley vice captain. The seniors will support the Jude Brady Foundation during the year.

Retiring captain James Fraser said the

Newton's greens and catering were the envy of many other clubs, and in some weeks in the coming year the seniors would be staging two inter club matches per week. It was agreed subscriptions to the sector be raised from £2 to £3, with numbers now having passed the 100 mark.