

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



January 2006
Vol 6 No 1

NEW AWARD FOR BOXFORD SCHOOL



Above: Holding the new Basic Skills award are LtoR: Back Row Jack Morris, Joe Archer, Callum Watt, Front Row Wilf Hoskyns and Sebastian Marshall. See story inside. Below and top right: The School Nativity play



ASH STREET FREEZE UP

Sunday 20th November will long be remembered by the elderly residents of the flats in Ash Street Boxford. That was the day, one of the coldest in recent history, that the oil ran out. The temperature rapidly dropped to around freezing point and many of the residents had to move out to stay with friends and relatives. This was without doubt the worst thing that could happen to residents of a warden protected residence, many of whom are quite frail.

When the problem was reported to the warden, allegedly the Gas company were contacted and duly arrived at the flats to 'sort out the problem'. The only problem was that there has never been any mains gas in the village let alone at the flats.

Heating was not restored until 4pm on Monday 21st, almost two whole days without heating. It is amazing that none of the residents were taken ill. They are still awaiting an apology.

Questions have to be asked not least of which is "Who is responsible for checking the level of oil in the tank". Is it up to the warden to check and place an order or do Babergh District Council run a regular check on their warden controlled flats to ensure everything is in order or has there simply been a lack of training of staff. *Ed*

Box River News

Copy delivery points are:

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Include pictures together with stamped addressed envelope for their return

Telephone: 01787 211507

Please note new e.mail address

e.mail: ed.kench@btinternet.com

Closing date for copy for the February 2006 Issue is:

January 18th @ Noon

Box River
News

Delivered Free

to every home in Boxford, Groton, Edwardstone, Newton, and Little Waldingfield and available to residents in Assington, Leavenheath, Gt Waldingfield, Polstead, Lindsey, Mildon Stoke by Nayland, Kersey, and parents of children at Boxford School.

The History of Jazz at the Fleece.

Arguably the best modern jazz venue, not just in East Anglia but anywhere outside London, Jazz at the Fleece is a known and respected name in the jazz world, presenting not only the very best British artists but also many touring Americans and Europeans.

The club was started in February 1993 when it took over a gig that had been booked to appear at a venue that suddenly stopped promoting jazz after a change of landlord.

The Club is independent, non profit making and run voluntarily by committee. It is also a non smoking venue with a whole pub under it and courtyard at the back for smokers. From March 1993 there has been jazz every Friday night except when Christmas or New Year's Eve had the nerve to coincide.

Originally there were 5 committee members who bravely got together to put on that first February gig now we total 8 altogether. We boast an in-house designer Alan Sturges, our programmes and posters are the envy of all; plus he is our chief sound engineer. Nick Rabett is a brilliant photographer, many more of his pictures will adorn our walls after our planned redecoration and he also looks after our "Megastore" (the table with the CD's for sale!). Dave Lyons, a university lecturer who specialises in computer skills has designed and maintains our excellent web site, runs the mailing list, and is also 2 IC sound. David Gasson, our treasurer has done the job since day one (even through his spell as chairman!) and deals with ticket reservations. Liz Rabett has the unenviable task of dealing with the musicians we want to book, juggling the programme and preparing the contracts (some of which are even returned!) Carole Burgess, our jazz singer operates the door, assists with ticket reservations and is the best looking bouncer in the biz. Alan Crumpton (aka "Crumpers" our journalist, has worked hard over the years to raise our profile and does a great job for jazz in the region. And there is me, Michael Burgess, editor, announcements, rafflemeister, rigger, No. 3 sound, and trouble shooter/maker (take your pick!)

I must not of course forget to mention the other 4 original committee members who between them put in so many years of service. John Roe and Donald Muir who are both still regular and welcome visitors and Peter Hasler and Steve Robbins still equally welcome, who we still see from time to time.

The club has an excellent rep with all the musicians who appear and

many have said that it is their favourite venue. This is due not only to the fact that we treat them well but also because our audience actually listens. We do organise coffee and sandwiches at the end of every gig and this may be another factor!

Most of the time things go pretty smoothly but over the years we have a few dramas. No names no pack drill as they say but drummers have been known to feature. One of their breed was cruising happily on the high seas while at 8.30pm we were scanning our local horizon for a sighting. Another arrived a little late, about half way through the first set actually and assembled his kit as the rest of the band carried on. When he eventually joined in he got a huge round of applause for his brilliant and virtually silent, assembly skills. A pianist stopped for petrol and managed to drop his keys down a drain. He arrived half way through the second set on the back of an RAC tow truck. A duo guitar gig became a solo when half of it was soaking up the sun on some exotic beach. A double bass player's car caught fire and was towed away with his instrument still inside. Lennie Bush, the veteran bassist who lives locally came to the rescue and kindly loaned us his instrument. My best memory, though, is Ken Peplowski arriving late, the rhythm section having already launched into the first number and joining them, giving the impression that they had been playing together for years when in fact he had never met them before! Wonderful.

We do not have the space to list all the great musicians we have had the pleasure of presenting over the years but I can't resist a bit of name dropping so here are a few: Stan Tracey, Peter King, Andy Shepherd, John Dankworth, Martin Taylor, Dave Newton, Alan Barnes, Ian Shaw, Claire Martin, Bobby Wellins, Jim Mullen, John Etheridge, Martin Drew, Tina May, Barbara Thompson, Bill Berry, Mick Hanson, Ken Peplowski, Scott Hamilton, Gordon Beck, Stacey Kent, Elaine Delmar, Steve Melling, Dave Green, Mornington Lockett and two people the jazz world recently said goodbye to the ever popular and much loved Spike Robinson and the wonderful Marion Montgomery who made just one very memorable Fleece appearance; and Lenny Bush, a great bassist and good friend of the club.

There are countless others to thank. We have an archive of all our gigs since 1996. Pre 1996 will be added soon. Please feel free to browse them.

Our 500th gig came up in October 2002 and seven gigs from 31st January to 1st March 2003 marked our 10th Anniversary celebrations



Friday, 6 January, 8.30 Ticket £20

Claude Deppa

A spectacular start to 2006 with South African Jazz Legend, trumpeter Claude Deppa and his group of Greg Bonnie (tenor saxophone), Kari Bannerman (guitar), Paul Weinreb (piano), Sam Djegue (bass), Brian Abraham (drums) and Francis Fuster (percussion) They are accompanied by the African Divas Rachel Magoola, Pauline Oduro and Ayinke Martins. This will be a foot-tappingly, joyful, tuneful, warm and wonderful night. Please note that the number of tickets sold for this gig will be restricted to 70 due to the size of the band.

Friday, 13 January, 8.30 Ticket £12

Liane Carroll

It's a warm welcome back for the award winning pianist and singer Liane Carroll, who scored a unique double in the BBC Jazz Awards in 2005. 'Best Vocalist' voted for by 100 of the industry's movers and shakers, plus 'Best of Jazz Award' voted for by the general public. A powerful and soulful singer with a remarkable delivery, Liane has toured and recorded with artists such as Ladysmith Black Mombasa, Gerry Rafferty and Paul McCartney. Her latest band album 'Standard Issue' was recorded at Abbey Road Studios and has quite rightly been receiving rave reviews. With Roger Carey (bass) and Greg Leppard (drums).

Friday, 20 January, 8.30 Ticket £14

Sarah Jane Morris

The amazing singer and songwriter Sarah Jane Morris is - 'A Diva for our time, her voice is a force of nature' -The Observer, 'Provocative and unorthodox' The New Musical Express. One thing is certain, she shows a gleeful disregard for the boundaries between genres - jazz, soul, pop, contemporary-classical; they are all to be found in her astonishing three and a half-octave range vocal performances..

Friday, 27 January, 8.30 Ticket £12

Dylan Howe Quintet

Drummer Dylan Howe's eagerly awaited return to the Fleece finds him in the company of Andrew McCormack (piano), Brandon Allen (saxophone), Quentin Collins (trumpet) and Aidan O'Donnell (bass). If you didn't know better, then you might well assume that this band came from one of the more advanced Blue Note sessions of the mid sixties. If you like serious, inspiring, mature and invigorating mainstream hard bop jazz then this is for you.

Friday, 3 February, 8.30 Ticket £12

Mark Crooks Quintet

Mark's saxophone playing has a flair for melodic phrasing, which has echoes of Stan Getz. His clarinet playing is thoughtful and sensitive with a warm mellow tone akin to that of Sweden's Putte Wickman. With John Pearce (piano), Colin Oxley (guitar), Matt Miles (bass) and Steve Brown (drums).

Jazz at the Fleece wish Jazz fans everywhere a Happy Christmas and Healthy and Prosperous New Year

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

NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Cruse Bereavement Care

Cruse Bereavement Care, West Suffolk Branch, is offering a training course suitable for anyone interested in helping people who have been bereaved, including potential Cruse Visitors. The course will be run in Bury St Edmunds on ten Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm starting on 25th January 2006.

For further information about the contents of the course and costs please call 01449 720401 and leave a contact name and number or send the same information to the Branch Treasurer at p.brasier@tiscali.co.uk

Suffolk Open Studios

Suffolk Open Studios 2006 was launched in November. This is its fifteenth year having started with twelve members in 1991 and growing over the years to 180 members in 2005.

The main thrust of the movement takes place in the four weekends in June, when artists open their studios for members of the public to visit, to see work in progress and ask questions.

A number of exhibitions at various times throughout the year, but especially around June, provide an opportunity for people to view work and decide on those studios that they wish to visit.

The philosophy of the Open Studios movement is to make visual arts accessible to the public, to inform and give insight to the artists' working world.

Membership is open to all practicing artists and craftspeople in Suffolk and artists run it. It provides mutual support and a friendly and informative network.

A key factor in successful onward planning is the funding, which has been granted by Arts Council East. This will ensure a strong foundation in which, member artists can work effectively, to exhibit and to market their work.

One component of the grant has made possible, an improved website, which will be launched on Sunday 11th December 2005.

The Suffolk Open Studios enterprise will be an important element in a lively and vibrant Suffolk cultural scene and it will encourage communication between artists and the public.

Applications for 2006 Artist membership must be in by January 31st although Friends can join at any time. Further details, an application leaflet or a newsletter are available on line www.suffolkopenstudios.co.uk or from Mark Churchman 01502 742016 (evenings and weekends)

Would you like a W.I. group in Boxford?

Coffee Morning reminder!!!! Saturday 21st January 2006 Mary's House, Boxford. Between 10a.m. and 12 noon.

Come along to find out more about the Women's Institute, the largest women's organisation in the country. It offers a welcome to women of all ages. There is something for all tastes, making new friends and above all enjoying yourself.

Sue and June look forward to meeting you. Or contact June on 01787-310873.

Boxford Drama Group

Once again the panto was a triumph for all concerned. A record number of people attended Bill Hornes first Panto and the big success for the Drama Group was the number of children who attended the family performance on the first night, they were so well behaved and enjoyed every minute. It was a pleasure to perform in front of them. Once again, thank you all so very much.

March 2006, is the month to watch out for, the Drama Group are putting on a Palace of Varieties from "The Old Bull & Bush". The cast have been given license to perform their own acts and each act will be announced by an MC with music between each act. So for an evening of riotous entertainment and a good old knees up, come to the Village Hall for our Spring Production. There will be a sumptuous two course meal and of course a licenced bar. We expect to see you there
Derek Butler

We who were on stage would like to thank all those people who toil away in the background (who don't get the pleasure of the applause) and make the show a success, the setbuilders, the Front of House, and the bar staff etc. also to Di Butler and her sister Jan and their team who produce 120 delicious meals in 40 minutes and also the girls at Boxford News who sell the tickets for us. *Vic Rice* Producer

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL

What a wonderful response from Boxford and the surrounding villages! The grand total came to 215 boxes this year.

163 came from the villages and the rest from the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and the Box River Club. We do thank everyone who contributed in so many different ways. It was quite an experience to join in with the checking and packing of the shoeboxes at the warehouse. Some of us went to see the loading of the lorries which will be taking our boxes to Bosnia and India this year, and then to wave them goodbye. To say we had a lump in our throats that morning is putting it mildly. It is thanks to you all that 215 children will benefit from your generosity.

Please keep saving your shoeboxes and knitting. Easy knitting patterns available from Ann. Also, if anyone has any odds and ends of K. wool we can make good use of it.

Ann Porter Tel. 210581 Jennie Lindsley Tel 210520 Pat & Gerald Smith Tel 210958

St Mary's, Boxford

Joyful Celebrations of Advent

A delightful programme of music and seasonal readings took place on Saturday 3rd December. Our choir performed to a very high standard, ably led by former choirmaster David Felsted and our organist, David Richardson. This was followed by a candlelit supper, served by our very talented and innovative catering team. Thanks are due to everyone who participated and supported, a memorable and enjoyable evening CW

GROTON'S GREAT GASTRONOMIC GALA!

Grateful guests gorged a giant gastronomic gift of great goodness - Wonderfully wicked wine willingly and wilfully winged its way within -Hysteria, hilarity and humour heaved, and haphazardly heartened hearts and humanity with heavenly and homely happiness-Pat's players and presenters perfectly played their parts to provide prizes, prezzies and participation with panfuls of pleasure at the pre-Christmas party-"Fanks" and felicitations for festive frolics and fantastic food, fare, friends and fortune

STOP PRESS Groton Bikers raised £730 in aid of Suffolk Historic Churches Bicycle Ride in September, a great achievement.



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SPANISH

BOXFORD ART GROUP SHOW



Members of the Boxford Art Group would like to thank all who came to their annual show in November and helped to make it so successful. A bonus for visitors to this year's show was the opportunity to see Peter Kendrick's original sketches and watercolours for the book 'Boxford - Village of Delight' which was also on sale at the show.

The Art Group meets on Thursday evenings in the function room of the Fleece. New members, from absolute beginners to the competent leisure painters, are most welcome. If you would like further details please contact Dawn Bonner on 01787 211444.

OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH



The Boxford 'Over 60's' held their annual Christmas Lunch at the Fleece on Monday 5th December. The function room was packed, not even room for a little one to squeeze in. The three course meal, prepared in the kitchens of the Fleece went down a treat and helped to make this a memorable occasion.

EDWARDSTONE CRICKET CLUB WINTER PROGRAMME

The season may have come to an end but once again the big thinkers at the Cricket club are still on the go.

We have decided to once again hold a Valentine's Day dance in light of the success of this year's event. Angel Street will be giving a repeat performance of their romantic Valentine's tunes so everything is in place for another corking night courtesy of the club

The 18th of February is the date you will all be all dressed up showing all the boys who is the most romantic man in town. Tickets are priced at £12 a head, which is small price to pay for giving your girl a fine evening out so please don't hesitate to book your tickets.

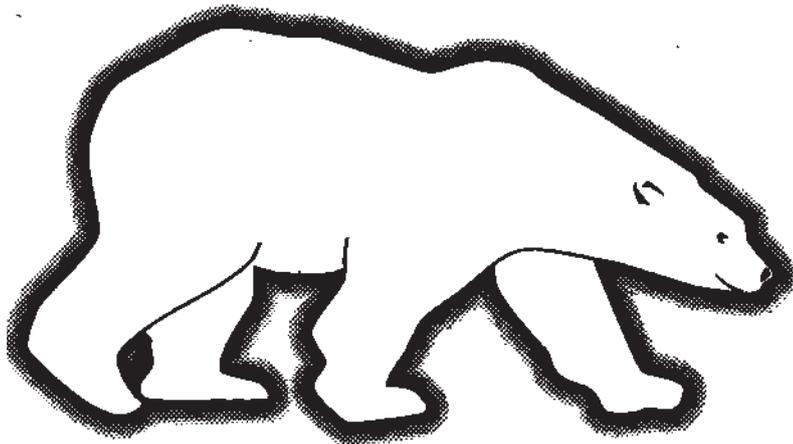
Phone Club Skipper Greg Hayton on 07980834715 or Sally Gooderham on 01787 211805 and have a great Valentine's on Edwardstone Cricket Club. *James Williams* - Press Officer

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Happy Memories

So many people have special memories of Nativity plays. One of my worst was with a Nursery class, having to tell the story, play the piano, ensure that the children thought they were in Bethlehem so could not call out to their mothers and so on. All went well until Mary and Joseph reached the 3rd Inn, when the Innkeeper, a trying child, decided his stable was not available, so when Joseph asked if 'Bang' and shot them! The play continued regardless.

The play I especially remember was many years ago when we were young. My future Father-in-law came to be the Minister of my family's church. He liked to write plays for the young people to perform at Easter or Christmas, and one year he invited older members of the congregation to take part in a Nativity play, so that year we had many very small angels, teenaged shepherds who would have preferred their sheep to be on the local football pitch, ancient 'Wise Men' who played their parts slowly, people of Bethlehem, (rather chatty young wives), and for want of anyone else, I was told to be Mary, with a very old Joseph. Christopher was the 3rd Innkeeper, with a rather old wife, who knew she must not speak, so mumbled.

All went well, with the usual processions to the usual carols, gifts presented, tableaux, everyone happy - except the 3rd Innkeeper, who seemed to walk up and down several times. At the end when we had processed out and the congregation had left, we heard the Minister ask his son, "Christopher, why did you walk about?". "Well", he said, "I was anxious to know if it was a boy or a girl!".

Happy Memories, *Clunis Porteous*.

Boxford Digital Cinema

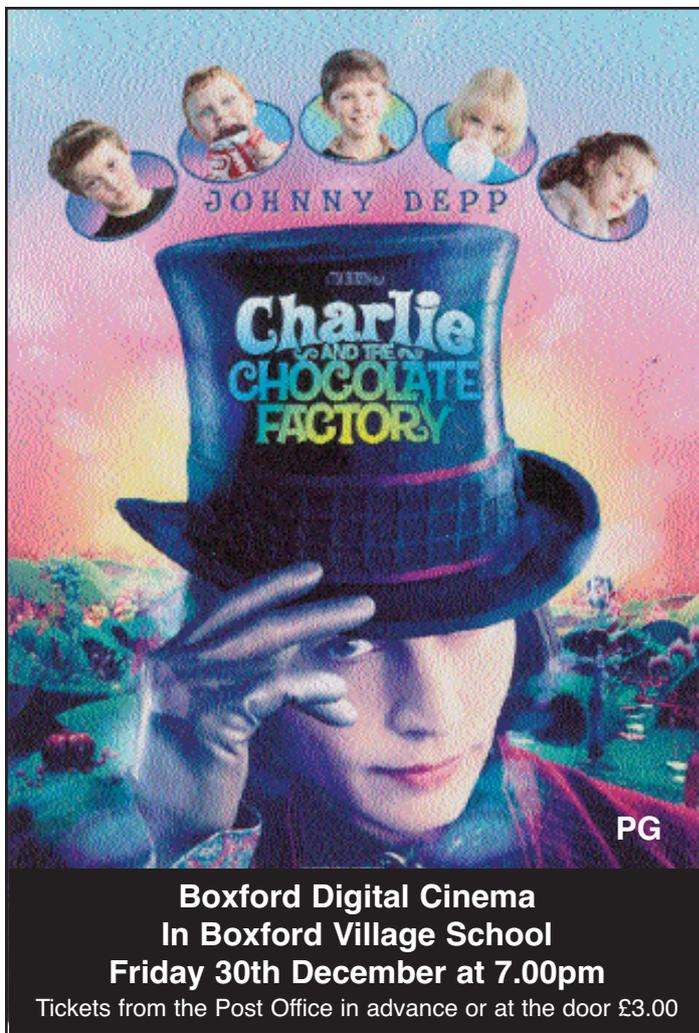
The next film to be shown at the Boxford Digital Cinema will be

'Nurse Betty' starring:

Renée Zellweger and Morgan Freeman

4th February at 7.30pm

for more information about this and other Digital Cinema films
telephone 01473 822337



Boxford Digital Cinema
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Forthcoming Events Diary

December

30 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Boxford Digital Cinema	Boxford Village Hall	7.00pm
31 New Years Eve	The Hosepipe Band	Leavenheath Village Hall	

January

16 Boxford Over 60's	Quiz	Village Hall	2.30pm
21 Boxford WI !	Coffee morning	Mary's House	10am-12noon
28 Indoor Fun & Games Night	Boxford Community Council	Boxford Village Hall	
30 Boxford Over 60's		Village Hall	2.30pm

February

4 Nurse Betty	Boxford Digital Cinema	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm
11 Valentines Ball	Stoke by Nayland Hotel		7.00pm
18 Valentines Day Dance	E & B CC		TBA

March

12 Come When I Call	Suffolk Village Festival	Boxford St Mary's	6pm
5 Lecture:--"The Lost City of Dunwich"	Groton PCC	Groton Village Hall	7.30pm
? Boxford Drama Group "The Old Bull & Bush"		Village Hall	TBA

May

13 Scouts Open Day and Evening Dinner			
26 Mothering Sunday Lunch	Boxford St Mary's		
29 J S Bach Suffolk Village Festival		St Mary's Church Hadleigh	6.00pm

June

4 Boxford Gardens Open			
24 Boxford St Mary's Church Fete		The Rectory	
Second Monday each month	Boxford Parish Council Meetings in Bell House, Stone Street St, Boxford		7.30pm

Boxford News

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and a Prosperous New Year

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Parish Council Matters

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

360TH.Parish Council Meeting

21st. November 2006

13 attended

Chairman's Report: Accounts for the last 6 months outlined. 2 additional notice boards to be placed in Edwardstone, one at Mill Green and another in Sherbourne Street.

District Councillors Report Recycling: Targets have been met for this and next year.

Boxford cinema is a success. It is planned to show a film at Christmas time. Homefield housing project discussed. BDC budget is not yet set. The government is proving difficult and is slow in furnishing information.

Police Report: Cars in Mill Green were damaged by a resident and neighbours alarmed by the discovery of firearms in his house.

Finances: The budget precept for 2006-07 was set. £4400 was needed after increases in some grants and expected rises in insurance costs. This will mean an increase of about 80p per household per year (Band D).

Planning: No objections to the recent applications from Barfield Cottage, Boxford,;

The Grove, Priory Green; 5 The Winthrops, Edwardstone.

AOB Mr Rides has written to protest against Stanstead Airport expansion.

The road at Mill Green is in poor condition and needs attention.

It was suggested that 20mph notices be erected in Sherbourne Street and along the road at Mill Green.

NEXT MEETING: February 20th. 2006

News release issued on behalf of the Suffolk Lieutenancy Office by Suffolk County Council

Luncheon Reception for the Queen's 80th Birthday

On Wednesday, 19 April 2006, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will host a reception and lunch at Buckingham Palace for some of those people who will be celebrating their 80th birthday on 21 April 2006.

All those who were born on 21 April 1926 should contact their Local Lieutenancy:

Valerie Hill

Suffolk Lieutenancy Office

Endeavour House

Russell Road

Ipswich

IP1 2BX

Or telephone, 01473 264004,

or email: Valerie.Hill@cexec.suffolkcc.gov.uk

All applications must be returned to the Lieutenancy office by Monday 16 January and should include a copy of the applicants birth certificate, so that eligibility can be verified.

Invitations will be distributed on a pro rata basis between Lord Lieutenants' offices and ballots will be held locally to achieve the fairest possible spread throughout the country.

Boxford Bounty Winners

November - December 2005

The Boxford Bounty would like to thank members of the cast of Back to Oz for drawing following winners on Saturday 3rd December 2005

£160.00	MR Roberts	SWAN STREET
£75.00	MRS B Owen	HOLBROOK BARN
£30.00	MR & MRS J Doma	FEN STREET
£15.00	MR & MRS Swampillam	ELLIS STREET

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Mark Miller 01787 211596 and cost £10 per year



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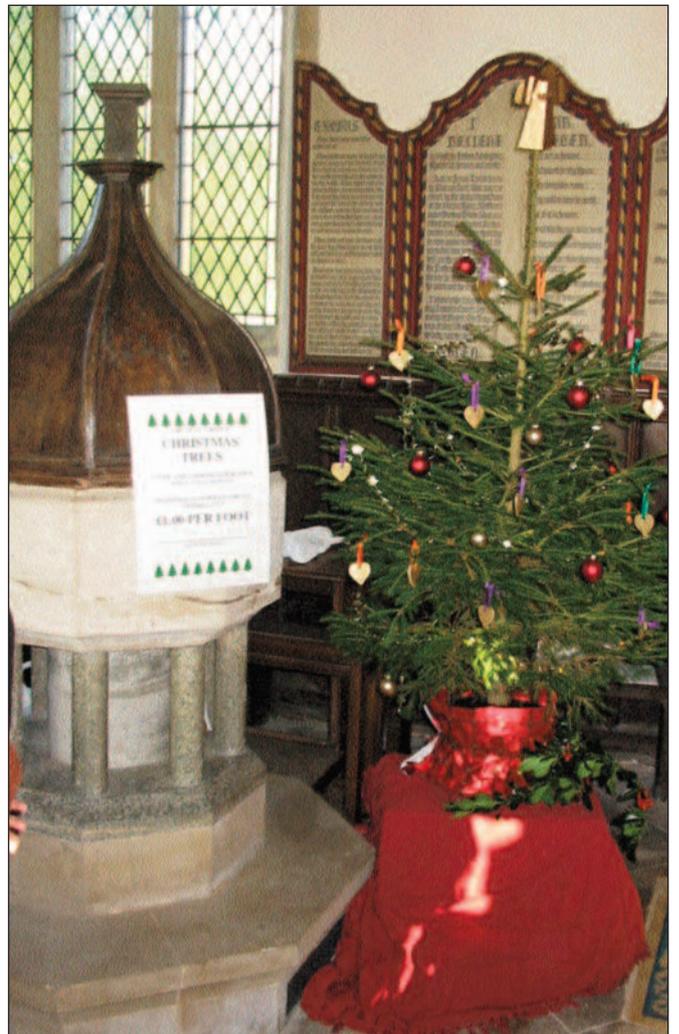
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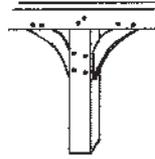
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Tel: 210752 e-mail: david.matthews49@tiscali.co.uk
Day off: Monday

Reader: Christopher Kingsbury, Rose Cottage, Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone CO10 5PD
Tel: 211236 Fax: 211238 e-mail: ChrisKingsC@aol.com
Graham Brook, 90 Tayler Road, Hadleigh IP7 5HR
Tel: 01473 823723, e-mail: g_brook_1999@yahoo.com

Benefice House Mary's House 5 Swan Street, Boxford CO10 5NZ
Please let one of them or a Churchwarden or a Lay Elder know:

- If you would like a home visit, home communion, hospital visit or
- Of any cases of sickness or otherwise where they might be of assistance. Thank You

To the Box River Saints

Here we are looking towards another year and I suppose most people are wondering what it will bring. When we look back at 2005 we see a year punctuated by human suffering and distress. Boxing Day saw a giant wave sweep away people's hopes and dreams, their homes livelihoods and their loved ones. Britain lost many who were holidaying in coastal resorts.

We saw for the first time since the IRA attacks, bombs being detonated in our capitol city. The irony of the situation is that they were brought up and nurtured by the very country they turned against.

The richest and most powerful nation in the world was brought to its knees by a hurricane. And then seemed completely unable to respond to the human need of its citizens in that disaster.

Finally Pakistan was struck by a devastation earthquake from which it still has not started to recover.

These are just some of the major disasters, there were many more minor ones interspersed.

Sadly I cannot at this moment remember one piece of good news that happened to the planet last year, but then good news does not resonate across the media and stick in the memory like bad news does. What makes us think that 2006 will be any better for humanity than 2005? What good news can we look forward to?

The world we live in may seem secure from the warmth and comfort of our homes, but there is no real security. No matter how much money or power we have, we live a life completely dependent on external factors over which we have no control.

If there is no good news to look forward to in 2006 where can we find good news that will give our lives meaning and hope? The place we can turn for that is to God. The four books of the bible written about Jesus are called the Gospels and the word Gospel means 'Good News,' Christmas is about the most improbably rescue operation ever mounted in the history of humanity. God himself came as a child to save the world. I don't know about you, but a God who would go to those kinds of lengths for my benefit is one that is worth listening to, worth giving a chance to sort out our chaotic world, and worth entrusting our relationships to.

God will not stop the tsunami, bomb, hurricane or earthquake but he will be with us through them and after them to assure us of his love for us. He will be there at the start of our lives, the middle of them, the end of them and the new life, which follows. So let us this New Year make a resolution to give God a chance in our lives and in the world. Let us hold on to the promise the coming of the infant Jesus gives to us and realise that there is someone who is always there for us.

The new ALPHA course will begin on Thursday 31st January. The first meeting will be held at Edwardstone in the home of David and Jean Randle. Please contact Joan Matthews 210752 for further details

A happy New Year.

God's richest blessings to you

David



THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwardens:

Ruth Kingsbury, as Christopher above

Peter Patrick, Amberley,

White Street Green. tel 210346

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

Someone once described Epiphany as God tapping you on the shoulder and saying "Oi I'm here!" At Epiphany we celebrate the recognition of God in our world: quite literally God is uncovered, revealed not just to us but to everyone. God stands in our lives and declares his presence. How do we respond? *Christopher Kingsbury*

FAMILY SERVICE:

The Box River Club join worship in church at a Morning Service, Sunday 8th January, and at a Family Service Sunday January 29th, both at 11.00 a.m. All are very welcome *CK*

BOX RIVER CLUB NEWS:

New members to the Box River Club are always very welcome.

Meetings:

January

In the school hall at 10.30 a.m. on January 8th and 22nd.

Box River Club Family Service at 11.00 a.m. in Church on January 29th.

February

In the school hall at 10.30 a.m. on February 12th and 26th.

March

In the school hall at 10.30 a.m. on March 12th.

Mothering Sunday is March 26th for a Family Service at 11.00 a.m. *Janet Daniels*

BIBLE STUDY GROUP:

Meets at 8.00 p.m., 47 Swan Street on Monday 9th and 23rd January. We are exploring the Book of Genesis - everyone is welcome to join this time of fellowship. *Peter Holden*

ALPHA COURSE - 2006:

Meets at 10.30 a.m. Tuesdays. For details please contact Mrs Joan Matthews

RESTORATION NEWS:

Work is due to start in January on repairs to the chancel roof. Further donations to the Building Trust are urgently required to complete the project and carry out repairs to the North windows and church heating system Please pick up a leaflet in church for details of the Building Trust. *CK*

THE HOUSE GROUP:

Meets alternate Thursdays at Brook House, Fen Street, Boxford. A time of reflection and fellowship. All are very welcome. Peter Holden

SMILE LINES:

Bored at work try this plan of action: Ignore the first five people who say good morning to you. Kiss the sixth! From Office Dares



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:

Vacant

Lay Elder:

*Antony Dodd, Mill Green End; tel 210397
Peter Welstand, 5 The Winthrops; tel 210525*

QUIZ NIGHT, EDWARDSTONE PARISH HALL:

Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Quiz Night. To David and Yvonne Penrose who organised the quiz, to Les Clark who did the bar, to all the hardworking committee members who decorated the hall so beautifully, prepared and donated all the food and to everyone who came along and joined in the fun. If the laughter and noise was anything to go by, the evening was a great success. Apologies David – if you organise another quiz for us, I will get you a microphone!!

£400 was made for Edwardstone Parish Hall funds. *Daphne Clark*

OPEN GARDENS AND SCARECROW COMPETITION:

We are planning to have Open Gardens with a Scarecrow Competition on Sunday 11 June 2006. There will be a separate competition for adults and children. If you are interested in opening your garden or entering the competition please contact Pam Dodd on 210397 or Daphne Clark on 210698. You can take part in both of course – I plan to hide a scarecrow somewhere in our garden. *DC*

CHURCH CLEANING:

A big thank you to all who tirelessly clean our lovely church throughout the year.

It would be good to have more people on the rota – if you are able to help, please contact either Margaret Moore (211492) or Daphne Clark (210698).

SIDESMAN & CLEANING ROTA:

Jan 1: Combined Benefice Service (Box)/Mrs Moore & Mrs McDermott;

Jan 8: Mrs Dodd/Mr & Mrs Dodd;

Jan 15: Visiting/Mr & Mrs Dodd;

Jan 22: Mr Dodd/Mrs Morris & Mrs Kennett;

Jan 29: Mrs Dodd/Mrs Morris & Mrs Kennett.



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens: *Barbara Riddleston:
Poplar Farm, Goslings Green, 210261
Patricia Bowdidge, Appletree Cottage,
Horners Green 211553*

CRIB SERVICE at GROTON CHURCH:

Thursday 22nd December at 4.00 p.m.

We need characters to form the scene at the crib. Come ready dressed as one of the people, or animals! from the Christmas story so we can re-tell it, with the help of the donkey who made her debut last year!

Wanted! any musicians who play recorders or guitars or flutes, to play a few simple carols for us all to sing. Also, the loan of a keyboard. Please contact Pauline Lamming 210360 or Joanna Roberts 210619

Join us for a short simple service and refreshments. See you there!

GROTON'S GREAT GASTRONOMIC GALA!:

Grateful guests gorged a giant gastronomic gift of great goodness. Wonderfully wicked wine willingly and wilfully winged its way within Hysteria, hilarity and humour heaved, and haphazardly

heartened hearts and humanity with heavenly and homely happiness -

Pat's players and presenters perfectly played their parts to provide prizes, prezzies and participation with panfuls of pleasure at the pre-Christmas party -

"Fanks" and felicitations for festive frolics and fantastic food, fare, friends and fortune! *Pauline Lamming*

GROTON:

A very big "thank-you" to all who so willingly help throughout the year to keep our church running in this village - David M., Organists, Sidesmen, Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Fund Raising, all those involved in administration of all hard working committees at this time and to everyone who supports our Church.

Happy New Year. *Barbara Riddleston*

ROTA

Flowers:

Cleaning:

Sidesman with Sacristan:

January

Mrs Susan Block

Mrs Susan Block

Mrs Diana McCorkell



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens

Sandra Harbord, 55 The Street; tel 247034

Alison Carse, Pink Cottage; tel 247585

Lay Elder:

Tim Harbord 247034

BOOK AND VIDEO LENDING SCHEME:

There will be no open morning in January. However, please feel free to borrow any books, videos or puzzles by obtaining the keys from Tim Harbord on 247034.

The PCC wishes you all a Happy Christmas and New Year. *Alison Carse & Sandra Harbord*

CAROL SINGING:

Carol singing around the village in aid of CRISIS at Christmas will take place on Wednesday 21st December, meeting outside The Swan at 6.00 p.m. To assist with catering afterwards please would you let Sandra Harbord know in advance if you intend to join us?

ROTAS: SIDESMAN/FLOWERS

Jan 1: Combined Benefice Service (Box)/Mrs Clive;

Jan 8: Mrs Pell & Mr Bowden/Mrs Grunsell;

Jan 15: Mr Squirrell/Mrs Harbord;

Jan 22: Mrs Rattee & Mrs Ridgeon/Mrs Ewen.

Jan 29: Visiting/Mrs Squirrell.



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwardens:

Diana Stock: 12 Links View; tel 312828

John Turner:

Severn, Church Road; 372677

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS:

We should like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. *Diana Stock & Jean Green*

STOP PRESS

Groton Bikers raised £730 in aid of Suffolk Historic Churches Bicycle Ride in September, a great achievement.

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

Please, NO LATER THAN 16th January. Thank you.

Daphne Clark 210698.

email address – daphne@clark-home.me.uk

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HOMERS GREEN SEAT UNVEILED



Above: a startled John Harris tries out the seat erected in his honour by the worthy Bob Bowdidge, seen behind John and about to drench him in champagne

In the presence of the great and the good of Homers Green, assorted dogs and others, Sunday 20 November saw the unveiling of a seat for weary travellers around the Acer tree on the Green which Groton Councillor David Elliott had planted nearly a quarter of a century before.

Mr John Harris of Boxford formally sat upon the seat and pronounced it comfortable and duly open, the occasion being marked by a plaque which reads "Seat for John Harris and Those Passing By - R.B".

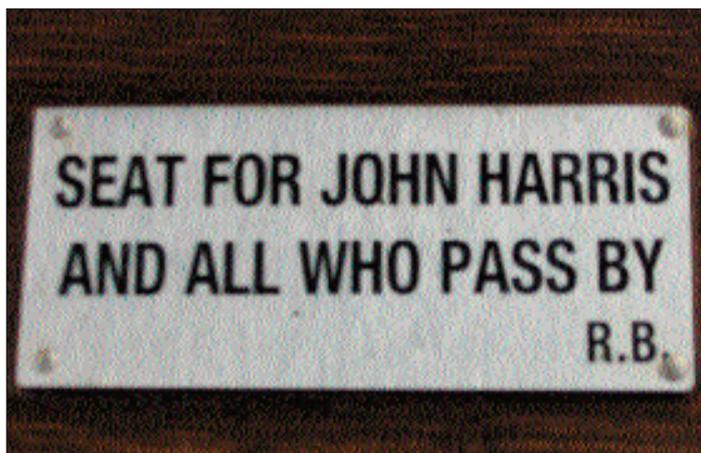
Built and erected by Mr Bob (Put a Fete Up in Five Minutes) Bowdidge, the seat is crafted from seasoned and polished oak specially selected from Balham off cuts, mounted on supporting legs supplied by local tubing specialists, Marbryn Scaffold Services.

The seat has ample accommodation for up to twelve people with the perhaps added advantage that they look outwards and away from each other.

Tasty morsels for the occasion were provided by Mrs Sam Block and Mrs Bob Bowdidge, washed down with copious quantities of Champagne; the occasion being greatly enjoyed by one and all.

On behalf of the assembled company, Mr Harris thanked Mr and Mrs Bowdidge for their generosity and thoughtfulness in providing such a comfortable resting place.

The Homers Green Seat will be a welcome sight indeed for



A good time was had by all at the Trafalgar night celebrations in the Little Waldingfield Parish Room. There was a nautical quiz followed by cheese and wine and great fun was had with fishing for treasure in the pirates lagoon. The night ended with a "Last Night of the Proms" sing song. We would like to thank all those villagers who supported us, A grand sum of £419 was made which will go to the refurbishment of the Parish Room.



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STOKE JUNIORS ARE UK CHAMPS



The Stoke by Nayland team are awarded their trophy in La Manga by BBC presenter, Alex Hay. Team: Michael Swan, Scott Brace, Robert Murray, Kelvin O'Dwyer Heath, Owen Pearl, Liam Brace, Stephen Adams and Josh Day

Stoke by Nayland Junior Golfers are UK Champions at The Sunday Telegraph Junior Team Golf Home Nations Inter-Club Championship Final at La Manga. They completed a 6 – 0 win over Scotland's Newmachar Golf Club from Aberdeen in their final of 3 matches in 3 days, having beaten The Castle Club champions of Ireland and drawn with Wrexham, champions of Wales.

Michael Swan, one of the team, also won the Sir Steve Redgrave Trophy in La Manga for the Best Overall Net Score during the 3 day championship – another major achievement. The Stoke by Nayland team had won the England Junior Team final at Brocket Hall on October 24th.

The young squad, who have been trained by excellent Club Professional Kevin Lovelock and Assistant Professional Roley Hitchcock, demonstrated their ambition and golfing talent throughout 2005. They have shown great consistency to reach this stage of the Championship, which is regarded as Europe's foremost junior golf competition.

WOLVES STAY AT THE STOKE BY NAYLAND HOTEL



The Wolves team with Glenn Hoddle (right) at the Stoke by Nayland Hotel

Glenn Hoddles's Wolves team took over the entire Stoke by Nayland Hotel this week to prepare themselves for their match against Ipswich Town. The resulting 1 – 1 draw was a little disappointing for him, but former England manager, Glenn Hoddle enjoyed the hotel and spa facilities so much that he stayed another night after the match and was joined by his wife and friends for some treatments in the excellent "Peake Spa" followed by a long leisurely Sunday Lunch.

Leavenheath 50+ Badminton Club

The new year starts with the first meeting on Wednesday 4th January 2006 & the Wednesdays of 11,18 & 25 of the month. For February the 1,8 & 22 are available. This is due to the various stages of the re-decorating of the Village Hall. One or two new regular players would be welcome to come and give us a trial. Please contact Frederick on 01206 263986 for details. Venue Leavenheath Village Hall, Wrights Way (off the high street) Wednesdays 8pm - 10pm



Above: Father Christmas and some of his helpers under contract to the Friends of Boxford School pause during their busy schedule for a photograph for the Box River News.

Boxford Community Council

Presents an
Indoor Fun and Games Night 2006
Saturday 28 January 2006
Boxford Village Hall
7:15 for 7:45 start prompt

Licensed Bar Refreshments

A funpacked evening for adult teams of 8 persons for only £5 per head which includes refreshments.

Come along and enjoy the friendly competition for the prestigious 'Fun and Games Cup'. We have some new and interesting games as well as some old favourites. Whatever your ability you will find something to enjoy.

Register your team with

Doug Impett on 210035 or David Gasson on 210796.

Team Captains report at 7:15.

If you would like to come along and help but not compete call Peter Hibben on 210819

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

January 2006

Sunday 1 January, The Naming of Jesus		
Box	1100	<i>Combined Benefice Service</i>
Box	1830	Evensong
		The Revd. David Matthews Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 4 January

Box/MH	1030	Holy Communion*	Antony Dodd
LtW	1900	Home Communion*	Tim Harbord

Sunday 8 January, The Baptism of Christ			
Gro	0800	Holy Communion BCP	The Revd. David Matthews
LtW	0930	Family Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
New	0930	Morning Prayer	Diana Stock
Box	1100	Morning Prayer	Christopher Kingsbury
Edw	1100	Holy Communion CW*	Antony Dodd

Wednesday 11 January

Box/MH	1030	Holy Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
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Sunday 15 January, Epiphany 2			
Edw		<i>Visiting</i>	
LtW	0800	Holy Communion BCP*	Tim Harbord
New	0930	Holy Communion CW	The Revd. David Matthews
Box	1100	Holy Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
Gro	1100	Family Service	Graham Brook

Wednesday 18 January

Box/MH	1030	Holy Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
LtW	1900	Compline	Tim Harbord

Sunday 22 January, Epiphany 3			
Gro		<i>Visiting</i>	
New		<i>Visiting</i>	
Box	0800	Holy Communion BCP	The Revd. David Matthews
Edw	0930	Holy Communion CW	The Revd. David Matthews
Box	1100	Matins	Christopher Kingsbury
LtW	1100	Family Service	Graham Brook

Wednesday 25 January

Box/MH	1030	Holy Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
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Sunday 29 January, Epiphany 4			
LtW		<i>Visiting</i>	
Edw	0800	Holy Communion BCP*	Peter Welstand
Gro	0930	Family Communion	The Revd. David Matthews
New	0930	Hymns & Readings	Diana Stock
Box	1100	Family Communion	The Revd. David Matthews

February 2006

Sunday 2 February, Presentation of Christ			
Edw	0930	<i>Combined Benefice Service</i>	The Revd. David Matthews
Box	1830	Evensong	Christopher Kingsbury

* Public Worship with Communion by Extension
 Baxford/MH: Mary's House, 5 Swan Street, Baxford

Box River Soap Box

It would be wrong to say I am unaccustomed to public speaking. My job requires me to talk to varied audiences at a range of events throughout the year. This is well within my comfort zone. I have spent more than 42 years in the investment world and there are few questions likely to put me off my stride when the topic is financial in nature.

Speaking on other subjects is a different matter altogether. From time to time I have been asked to give after lunch or dinner speeches. I find these particularly difficult. Aside from anything else, you are expected to entertain – not an easy task unless you enjoy the gift of natural humour. The old maxim that good preparation is only evident when it is absent is particularly true when addressing an audience. I should have thought of that before standing in front of Conservative sympathisers in Polstead at the beginning of the month.

My role as Tim Yeo's Constituency Chairman requires me to say a few words at party functions throughout the year, usually because he is unable to attend. This can be a daunting experience as Tim is a natural and fluent speaker. Like me speaking on the investment world, when talking politics he is well and truly at home.

What made me disappointed with my recent performance was that I fell into a trap so easily avoided. I touched upon a subject that need not have been mentioned. Europe. The murmur of dissent that travelled around the room when I confessed to being a Europhile was off-putting to say the least.

Firmly entrenched views on Europe in this part of the world are pretty much inevitable. We are a rural county and many of the more vexatious issues that concern our membership of the European Union relate to agricultural subsidies. That, of course, is a subject all of its own, but there are plenty of other reasons why people feel challenged – perhaps even threatened - by Europe. Some even favour our full withdrawal from the European Union. Perhaps I should outline some of the arguments.

Back in 1973, when a Conservative Prime Minister spearheaded the pro-European vote in a referendum, the issues were principally over trade. In that regard our membership of the European Union has proved beneficial. Where we hold a powerful franchise, such as financial services for example, we have prospered. Manufacturing industry, far from travelling across the Channel, has tended to migrate to the other side of the world. Indeed, arguably it is the greater strength that a degree of European integration affords industries in this continent that has helped us continue to compete in a world that is increasingly global.

Immigration has also been a plus for us, difficult as it is to believe. I know we are a crowded nation and jobs do flow to people from Eastern Europe prepared to roll up their sleeves up, but the reality is that these are the less well-paid jobs. We do have remarkably full employment in this country. More important, the flow of people entering Britain is beneficial from a demographic perspective. At a time when countries like Italy are suffering strains as the percentage of those retired increases, we are benefiting from an influx of largely younger people. America enjoys a similar boost to its economy.

But with more trade and freedom of movement has come greater bureaucracy. Those opposed to Europe will interpret this as creeping federalisation. Yet two countries at the core of Europe – France and Holland – voted to reject the European Constitution. The benefits that Europe bring do not need the abandonment of the concept of sovereign states. Indeed, any such move should come from natural progression in society, as self interest gives way to a greater good. This remains generations away, in my judgement.

Bureaucracy is another matter entirely, though. Part of my commitment to Conservatism rests on the belief that less Government is better than more. I would agree that all the signs suggest Europe is even more bureaucratic than are we. But I think this battle is better fought from inside. In particular, I would not want to lose the benefits we are currently gaining. I remain a Europhile – but my support is not unqualified and, no, I do not advocate joining the Euro – yet, at any rate.

Brian Tora is Chairman of the Little Waldingfield Parish Council and a regular writer and broadcaster on investment and financial matters.

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Box River Benefice, Parish Councillors

Boxford Parish Council

David House (Chairman)	14 Holbrook Barn Road	
Veronica Hobbs (Vice Chairman)		211529
David Gasson	18 The Causeway	210796
Paula Stacey		211488
Cecil Hughes	Kiln Place, Cox Hill	210685
Keith Paxman	The Causeway	210104
David Fraser		
Christopher Philbidge		

Groton Parish Council

Brian Waghorn <i>Chairman</i>	Smalls Farm Groton CO10 5EG	210231
Gerald Smith <i>Vice Chairman</i>	7 Castlings Heath Groton CO10 5EU	210958
Martin Wood <i>Parish Clerk</i>		
Carey Baldwin	Groton Manor Castlings Heath Groton CO 10 SET	210391
David Elliott	9 Gunary Close Boxford CO10 5QB	210802
Robert Mares	3 Groton Place Groton CO10 5EE	211318
Jeremy Osborne	Waterside Barn Groton Place, Groton CO10 5EE	211960
Roger Vipond	Cloptons Groton Street Groton CO10 5EE	210491

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

Brian Tora (Chairman)	Enniskillen Lodge The Street, Little Waldingfield CO10 0SU	247783
Terry Western (Vice Chairman)	20 Croft Lea Little Waldingfield CO10 0SL	247874
Peter Baker	Hostlers, The Street Little Waldingfield CO10 0SQ	247931
Bob Berry	Pitt Cottage, The Street Little Waldingfield CO10 0SU	248298
Mike Ewen	Cobweb Cottage, High St Farm Little Waldingfield CO10 0SS	210466
Richard Mitchell	Larks Mead, Church Road Little Waldingfield CO10 0SP	247173
Phil Scott	Scott House, 3 The Street Little Waldingfield CO10 0SQ	247632

Edwardstone Parish Council

John Paul (Chairman)	Willows Farm	210972
Ted Rides		
Matthew Glason		
Sharon Silverthorn		
Paul Clarke	Hazel Cottage	210689
James Rodger-Brown		
James Powel		
David Tolhurst	Parish Clerk	

Newton Green

David Crimmin <i>Parish Clerk</i>		375085
John Taylor	Chairman	
Janet Crimmin	Vice Chairman	
Harry Buckledee		
Alan Vince		
Colin Poole		
David Smalley		
Rita Schwenk		

THREE PARISHES RESPONSE

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Comment

I have just received a copy of a letter sent by Sue Wigglesworth, Chairman of Babergh District Council in August, to our Parish Councils complaining about alleged inaccurate reporting of Babergh District Council matters in the Box River News.

Maybe a review of Matters raised over the last few months is due.

February 2004: We reported that Babergh were to sell a ransom strip to the developers of Partridge Close at £60,000. This information was passed to us via a concerned District Councillor. Officers of the council denied the charge and promised to let us know how much it was sold for. We are still waiting! Since then the District Councillors have agreed that Ransom Strips will be handed to developers of Affordable Housing without charge in future.

November 2004: We reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, chaired by District Councillor Bryn Hurren had voted in favour of introducing charges for car parking and reducing the free shoppers parking from 3 to 2 hours based on statistics produced by Babergh officers. A subsequent survey carried out by BRN showed the Babergh figures to be highly inaccurate and Babergh agreed to carry out another survey and the editor of BRN was invited to take part. Subsequently the District councillors voted against the introduction of Charging by 24 votes to 15 .

We also reported on Babergh's intended demands for £650 each for garage owners in Ash Street to cover the cost of totally unnecessary repairs to the area in front of their garages. Bryn Hurren worked hard on their part and got the sum considerably reduced.

April 2005: We reported that Babergh District Council were planning to charge a Fen Street Widow and her neighbours £1420 inclusive for work on a footpath common to their properties. Fortunately she was able to obtain a private quotation to the same spec at only £800.

July 2005: We reported that Babergh Officers were refusing to distribute correspondence to their District Councillors. An apology on the councillors behalf was made by Bryn Hurren who was unaware of this decision by the officers and new procedures are now in hand.

September 2005: Under the heading 'Sour Grapes' we pointed out that Sue Wigglesworth had referred to the cost of car parking as a deficit. The Oxford English Dictionary states that a deficit is an excess of liabilities over assets. The council have been budgeting for the cost of free car parking for as long as I can remember and have include its cost in our Council Tax, in fact they claim this cost to be £6.00 per household. No way is it a deficit and use of the term can surely only have been to promote your own support for car parking charges.

We apologised for suggesting Mrs Wigglesworth was a Lib Dem.

January 2006: see front page. We question the training of wardens responsible for the care of our elderly in Babergh Flats.

We make no apology for reporting these issues to Box River Benefice readers who would otherwise be kept in ignorance which is presumably what the Chairman wants.

Finally I would like to thank the many readers who have passed on to me their support since the December issue of BRN

Ed

*Happy Christmas and a Prosperous
and Healthy New Year to all our readers*

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Parish Council Matters

Minutes of Newton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th September

Present:

Cllr Janet Crimmin
Cllr Rita Schwenk
Cllr Harry Buckledee
Cllr Colin Poole
Cllr David Smalley
Cllr John Taylor
Cllr Alan Vince
Dave Crimmin

Chairman
Vice Chairman

Clerk

Apologies for Absence Peter Holbrook and Selwyn Pryor

Declaration of Interest Cllr Poole

Minutes of Last Meetings Held on 27th July and 31st August 2005

The Chairman signed the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

The Meeting adjourned to receive the Police Report from PC Darren Marshall

Correspondence & Clerks Report From the correspondence reviewed by the councillors the following actions were agreed

- Clerk to respond to Suffolk West PCT Consultation questionnaire in similar terms to those sent to Tim Yeo MP
- NPC will start to review the 2006 BDC Community Achievement Awards nominations at their March 2006 meeting
- Cllr Buckledee and the Clerk to attend the BDC Annual Meeting on 3rd November 2005
- Clerk to post request in Village Newsletter regarding volunteers to help clean Bus Shelters in response to Wendy Turner's letter and will action the maintenance programme
- The Conclusive Map received from the Country Side Agency does not meet NPC's requirement regarding Parish Boundary. Clerk to investigate further.

Following the Clerk's Report the councillors agreed these actions

- Await the outcome of Punch Taverns review of the land opposite Saracens Head, which is due before next NPC meeting, before agreeing next course of action regarding annual maintenance.
- The Clerk should attend the 2 day Clerk & Councillors SALC Course on 29 / 30 November 2005

Finance The councilors reviewed the comparison of actual income and expenditure as at 19th September 2005 against the yearly budget. All cheques signed since the last meeting and due for signing at this meeting were approved.

The councillors agreed that

- a grant of £350 be given to Newton Church in respect of Churchyard Maintenance
- from 1st April 2006 a grant would be given to Newton Village Hall and the Hall's electricity account will revert to the Village Hall Committee
- the Cemetery maintenance was not required on the insurance and that the all risks cover should be based on the Asset Register value of £24,240
- Selwyn Pryor's locality budget be allocated to the Reflective Street Name project
- the draft Financial Regulations be adopted by NPC.

Planning The councillors reviewed the following Planning Applications and had no objections

- Erection of non-illuminated information sign
- Erection of first floor extension at St Michaels, The Green, Newton
The status of previous applications, reviewed by NPC, are as follows
Homefield, - alteration to workshop, No objection, Minor amendment approved 18/8/05
St Michaels, The Green Retention of Floodlights to Tennis Court, No objections, Requesting detailed lighting scheme with Lux luminance levels
Mascals Farm Barn, Conversion of existing agricultural buildings No objection but questioned B1, use BDC confirm B1 as Studio in Dwelling House Application being considered
Mascals Farm Barn, Use of private sewerage Treatment plant, No objection, Application being considered
Old Joe's Driving Range, Erection of "stop" netting, No objection Approved 01/09/05
Stow Cottage, erection of shed, No objection, Approved 22/09/05
Newton Hall, to allow parking of 5 sewerage tankers and siting of portable storage unit on agricultural land, Objection on grounds proposed use, operating in residential area, existing use, operating licence and irregularity with obtaining licence. Application being

considered

Sparrow's Cottage, erection of single-storey rear extension, No objection but questioned access provisions for land locked site. REFUSED 19/09/05
Sparrow's Cottage, Application for Listed Building Consent re erection of single-storey rear extension, No objection but questioned access provisions for land locked site. REFUSED 19/09/05

Footpath across Green The councillors were pleased with the response from SCC in rectifying the slope of the footpath where it joined the road and now consider the project complete.

Proposed Bus Shelter at Airey Close Cllr Schwenk reported that there had been no update since last meeting.

Reflective Street Name Plates The revised quotations for reflective Street Name Plates for Church Road, Rectory Road, Links View and Airey Close have now been obtained. Cllr Smalley and Clerk to implement project so long as all costs are within overall project budget.

Playground Report ROSPA inspection report was discussed and councillors agreed that Cllr Taylor and Clerk to implement necessary maintenance as soon as practicable and within maintenance budget.

Traffic Calming Having studied the SCC Highways proposal for calming measures the councillors were satisfied that the works were as per specification. Having also read the report on the results of the speed surveys conducted before and after the calming measures were implemented the councillors agreed

- that speeds recorded in the centre of the village were acceptable
- that the Clerk to write to Peter Ingram asking SCC to conduct surveys at the 30 mph signs at both ends of the village.

The councillors asked the Clerk to write to SCC Highways to question whether the works to the road surface at Mascals Bends had been completed as the surface of the road appeared to retain a lot of moisture.

Valley Road Junction The councillors reviewed the measures introduced to see their impact on visibility and ease of exit onto the A134. The Clerk to write to SCC Highways to suggest that

- weight limit signs are made more prominent
- by painting lines on the exit from Valley Road to the A134 cars could be restricted to single lane in order to improve visibility.

Plampin Close Street Lighting The councillors agreed to join the SCC Street Lighting Maintenance contract from 1st October 2005. The Clerk to make all arrangements for transition.

Emergency Planning Cllr Poole distributed his proposals for the emergency planning arrangements. NPC to review in detail at next meeting.

Tramar Tankering Ltd Vehicle Operators Licence at Newton Hall Farm
The councillors agreed the contents for the letter to be sent to the Traffic Commissioner outlining NPC complaints on the Licence Application process. It was also agreed that the Clerk send copies of letter to Christine Thurlow (BDC Planning), Peter Holbrook (BDC Councillor) and Mary Mitson-Woods (SALC).

NPC Standing Orders The councillors agreed to adopt the Standing Orders drafted by Clerk and modified by NPC.

Clerks Contract of Employment and Job Description Cllr Taylor stated that he was currently reviewing these documents and would agree these with the Clerk by the next meeting.

Village Hall Cllr Vince outlined the plans for a "thank you" reception at the Village Hall on 30th November 2005. Work is currently underway on the second phase of the refurbishments which will concentrate on the exterior of the building.

Questions to Chair The following were agreed by the councillors

- Cllr Taylor to replace the 2 old rubbish bins
- Clerk to establish costs of new Dog Bins
- Clerk to establish if any planning applications are currently in place for land opposite Oak Cottage in Valley Road
- Clerk to raise hedge cutting and ditch clearance to BDC regarding land at Airey Close

Date of Next Meeting To be held in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 23rd November 2005. The meeting closed at 10.25pm.

Police Report

PC 270 Darren Marshall gave the following report

"The report tonight covers the period from the 26th July 2005 through to the 28th September 2005.

During this time 4 offences have been recorded within the parish, this compares to 3 for the same period the previous year. The breakdown of crimes were as follows • Overnight 10th-11th/09/05 entry was gained to the pro Shop at the golf club by unknown offenders forcing open the window frame, a search was made but nothing stolen. • 2 offences relate to the theft of golf clubs that had been left unattended near to the golf club house. Offences occurred during the daylight hours on the 30/07/05 and 10/09/05 with the total value being just over £2,000. • The remaining offence relates to a male being dealt with for possession of cannabis."

GARDENING IN JANUARY *Harry Buckledee*

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

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

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

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

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

Thin out dead and diseased branches from established trees and shrubs. It may also be necessary to remove some of the over crowded branches to allow for good circulation of light and air

which is essential for healthy growth. Winter prune wistaria by cutting back to within two buds of the old wood all previous years growth,

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

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

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

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3PR UPDATE

We have four members who have completed their initial training congratulations to them, they are Martin Brown, Simon Boggis, Catherine Elmer and Charlotte Peters. They have undertaken a new

training programme known as First Person on Scene. We are no longer trained by St John Ambulance. The whole course is a series of workshops run by paramedics from the East Anglian Ambulance Service, the workshops run for two Sundays and an assessment on the third Sunday. Now they are qualified we have to wait until all the security checks etc are completed before we can use them 'on call'

We are still looking for new recruits as we have lost a few responders through work and family commitments also those who have reached or about reach age 70. If you feel you would like to find out more about this very worthwhile cause please give me a ring on 210504

We are changing our reflective jackets to the new style yellow and green which are supposed to give us better protection when we are on duty.

We have just completed our two hundredth call since we started, we don't seem as busy since Ambulance Control have been using a Triage system

Could I please remind you that we can only respond to 999 calls from Ambulance Control and not private individuals. If you do call us at night, could you please leave lots of lights on and lock the dog away in case he wont let us in.

If you have recently changed the name of your house, please let us know so we can find you if you need our help.

We hope you all have a very healthy Christmas and New Year. Vic Rice., Co-ordinator 3PR.



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Evening Gazette, November 8, 2000.

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Local Walks in & around the area

Lavenham Rambling Club: Awaiting the programme for the New Year, for enquiries please phone Graham 01787 248128

Ramblers Association Walks:

Sunday 1st January 2006, Sudbury Meadows. Meet Granary cp Quay Lane Sudbury (GR TL 877411) making a 10.30am start to walk to Sudbury Meadows. Distance 5 miles. Hot drinks & cake at the finish. Leader Laurie 01787 375597

Sunday 1st January. First footing. Figure of Eight. Meet 'The Beehive' Little Horkesly (GR TL 962 321) for a 10.45 start. Walk in the area. Bar snacks/lunch may be booked before the start of the walk. Distance 4+4 miles. Leader David 01206 797860

Sunday 8th January. Hadleigh Figure of Eight. Meet for a 10am start at Magdalen Street cp Hadleigh (GR TM 027 426) for a walk in the surrounding hills. Choice of pubs in Hadleigh for lunch. Distance 5+5 miles. Leaders John & Judy 01206 055244.

Wednesday 11th January. Lamarsh. Figure of eight. Meet at 'The Lion' Lamarsh (GR 892 355) for a walk in the Stour Valley. am start 10 pm start 1.15. Distance 5+5 miles. Leader Janet Penfold 01787 227929

Sunday 15th January. Foxearth. Meet for a 10.30 start at Rodbridge Picnic site cp (GR TM 857 437) to walk in the Foxearth area. Distance 5 miles. Leader Phillip 01787 248079

Wednesday 18th January. Stour Valley-Figure of eight. Meet at 'The Crown', Wormingford (GR TL 950 315). Two circular walks in the area. Food may be ordered before the start, which is 10am. Distance 5+5 miles

Wednesday 18th January Bures area. Meet to start at 10.30am from Bures Village Hall. (GR TL 908 349) for a six mile walk in the area. Leader Vivienne 01787 375047

Thursday 19th January. Dedham, figure of eight. Meet at Dedham free cp (GR 057 334) for walks in the area, choice of pubs, tea shops for lunch. am start 10.00. pm start 1.30. Distance 5.5 + 3.5 miles. Leader David 01255 677845

Wednesday 25th January. Aldham/Fordham meet for 10.15 start at Aldham, Millrace Nursery (GR TL 919 268). Lunch at 'Three Horseshoes' Fordham. Food may be ordered before the start. Distance 9 miles. Leader Vic 01206 210108.

Sunday 29th January. Hadleigh. Meet for a 10.30am start at Topesfield Bridge, Hadleigh (GR TM 025 422) to walk in the area. Distance 5 miles. Leader Pat 01473 824105.

N.B. Most of these are fairly easy walks, great after Christmas for gentle exercise. For further info on each walk contact the Leader.



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Boxford School News

Fantastic News!

Just recently we have been informed that we have been awarded a Basic Skills Quality Mark. At the time of writing we are one of only 7 Suffolk schools to have received the award. It is given to schools that are able to demonstrate that they offer high quality teaching and a well balanced curriculum in the teaching of the basic skills of reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. Over the years we have received several awards including Investors in People and the Charter Mark but in many ways this is the most pleasing as it is an award that recognises our key purpose, the education of our children. My congratulations go to everyone in school who has worked so hard to ensure that our school is capable of meeting the high standards demanded by this award.

Whilst on the subject of standards I was delighted to receive the 2005 SATS results from our middle school. When I receive these results I always look straight for the children who are from our school to see how they are progressing. This year I was very pleased to note that 95% of our children achieved or exceeded national expectations in literacy and Numeracy and 100% in Science. Set against the national picture where the figures are around 70 to 80 percent this is a fantastic achievement. My congratulations go to the staff of the middle school.

Last week I spoke to Heather Griffin about another of our pupils Hamish who left here several years ago. I was delighted to hear that he is very settled in a new school in the Lake District and is doing well. Heather tells me that many people often ask how Hamish is getting on and asked me to put this note in our news which of course I am very pleased to do. It is always nice to hear from ex-parents as to the progress of their children. Please keep us informed, especially if your children are at schools other than the local ones.

Many thanks to the many people who turned up for our Christmas bazaar at the end of November. I have never been so busy. It was especially nice to see so many ex parents and pupils. My thanks go to all of the FOBS members and staff who helped on the evening particularly Moira who coordinated the whole event and did a fantastic job.

May I thank everyone who kindly sent in the Tesco sports for schools vouchers. We have collected several thousand and will soon be placing an order for some new sports equipment.

Whilst on the sports theme last week I accompanied twelve of our children to a sports morning at Cornard Upper School. The morning was arranged by staff and pupils of the school and involved our children experiencing many different sporting activities from climbing to dance. As always I was very impressed with the school and in particular the students that had taken a morning out of their studies to help. The way in which they helped and worked with the younger children was very impressive. Well done. I feel that sometimes our secondary colleagues do not always receive the credit and recognition they deserve. I can assure everyone that we have a pyramid of schools to be proud of and that those children who do eventually get to Cornard have the opportunity to complete their studies in an excellent school.

Finally all it remains for me to do is to say a few words of thanks. Firstly I would like to thank Eddie for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this first class publication and I would also like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who is involved with our school. The fact that we have such a happy and successful school is down to the considerable hard work of so many and I am truly grateful for that. Have a fabulous Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2006.

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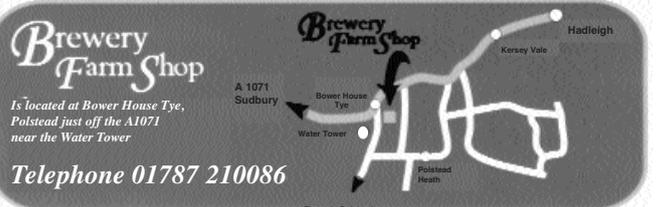
Christmas is approaching and the Brewery Farm shop has an extensive choice of items on sale, including hand made Christmas puddings from Pure Preserves, chocolates from Hadleigh Maid, chestnuts, hand made wreaths and much, much more, including all the trimmings for a perfect festive season. The shop is offering a range of luxury Christmas hampers, perfect as a gift or as a special treat to indulge yourself. To complement the Farm shop, Brewery Farm Animal Feeds has recently opened its doors, setting a wide range of animal feeds for, horses, chickens, dogs, cats and much more, even ferret food!

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Christmas trees, Christmas wreaths
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Savadi is one of the most exciting ensembles to arrive on the early music scene in recent years. Its three members come from Latvia, Germany and France, and studied together in Basle. They won the 2003 International Early Music Network Competition at York and the 2004 Van Wassanaer Concours at The Hague, and since then have performed in festivals and concert series throughout Europe.

Savadi means 'in another way' in Latvian, and the group is unique in performing the Baroque repertory for one and two sopranos with the beautiful and flexible accompaniment of the Italian triple harp.

In this programme they contrast intense and dramatic solos and duets by Claudio Monteverdi, Girolamo Frescobaldi, Barbara Strozzi and others with music from seventeenth-century England including songs and dialogues by John Dowland, Robert Johnson, Richard Dering, John Coprario and Henry Purcell. A concert not to be missed.

'Their fascinating programme was carefully and cleverly chosen, presented with equal measures of humour and scholarship, and brilliantly performed'—Stephen Varcoe

Monday 29 May 2006, 6.00 p.m.

St Mary's Church, Hadleigh

J. S. Bach: Mass in B minor

Philippa Hyde 6 Claire Tomlin (soprano) Timothy Travers-Brown (countertenor) o Patrick McCarthy (tenor) Eamonn Dougan (bass)
Psalmody

Essex Baroque Orchestra directed by Peter Holman

Suffolk Villages Festival

119 Maldon Road, Colchester 003 3AX

Telephone: 01206 366603

www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com

Boxford Study Centre

We offer the following courses beginning January 2006:

Literature

A ten week course on Monday evenings at 7.30 pm meeting at **The Fleece Boxford**. First meeting Monday 9th January. The course tutor is

Steven Trerise.

We will be reading and discussing works by four "Inner Émigrés":- Joseph Conrad, James Joyce, D.H. Lawrence and Ford Madox Ford. All are major figures in English Literature. One is Polish, one Irish, one English and one half German. For a reading list and further details contact Mrs. Etain Todds 01787 210344 Moat Farm Cottage, Edwardstone, CO10 5PX

General

A ten week course on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm at CEVCP Primary School, Boxford, starting on 10th January 2006. Art in the USA will be scrutinised, from the time of the first European settlers to the present day. Much will be learnt about American history, and its connection to painting and sculpture.

Course fee: £37 (concessionary fee: £34)

Further information from: Mr Patrick Bazley-White, The Rosary, Thorington Street, Stoke-by-Nayland, Colchester, Essex, CO6 4SP, (01206) 337334

Hypnotherapy Courses

There are still a few more places left for the next self-hypnosis course being run by hypnotherapists Hugh Clover and Liz Kotarska in East Bergholt. This highly successful course runs for 10 Thursday evenings from January 12th. If you wish to find out more about this ten week evening course please contact Hugh (01206 323089, email Hughhyp@hotmail.com, www.hughclover.co.uk) or Liz (01206 299724, email liz@lifechangesnow.co.uk, www.lifechangesnow.co.uk) as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Alternatively, you may be more interested in Hugh and Liz's latest four morning slimming course from January 27' or their new four-week evening course "Stress? What Stress?" which commences on Monday January 16th

Boxford Over 60's Club

We re-start on January 16th

January 16th - A Quiz

January 30th

Meetings in the village hall at 2.30pm

Contacts: Shirley Watling (secretary) 210024,

Maisie Tricker (treasurer) 210045

Barbara Hamling (vice chairman) 210936

BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB '100 CLUB' WINNERS FOR DECEMBER:

£36 – Mrs G Thomason; £15 – Mr Peter Windmill;
£6 – Mr R Alderton.

Boxford Study Centre (General Group)

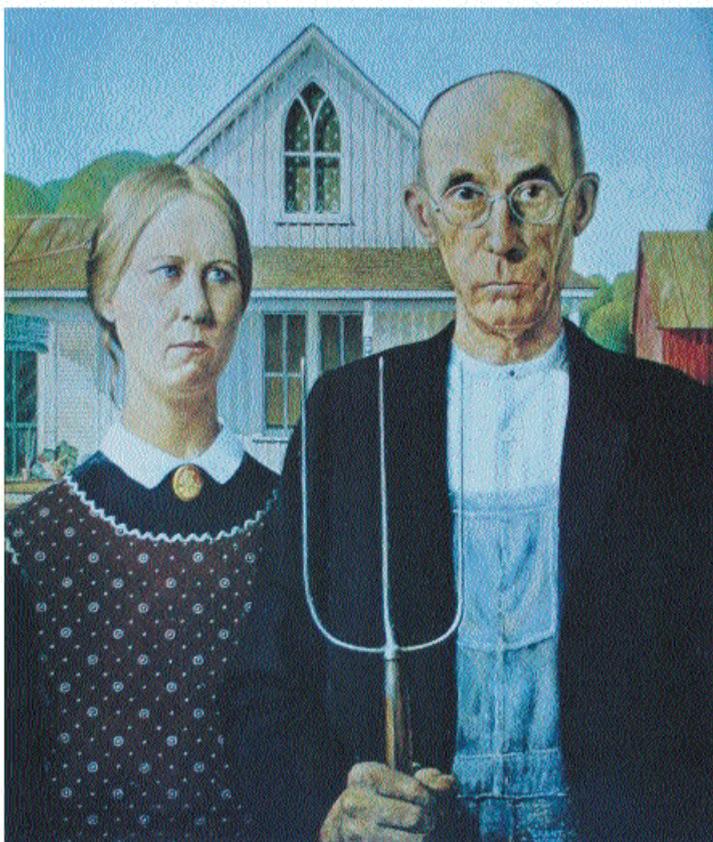
A ten week course beginning on
Tuesday evenings from 10th January
2006 meeting in Boxford School
7.30-9.30 pm.

Tutor:- Dr. Mike Baldry

Understanding American Art

The course traces American Art from the time of the earliest settlers through the turbulent development years depicting events of the time, landscapes & American urban and rural life through the work of such artists as Edward Hopper, Thomas Benton and Thomas Eakins.

Course Fee: £37.00 (Concessions £34.00) per ten week term. Payment on first or second evening



Bartholomew Gosnold, the true founding father of America!

Bartholomew Gosnold might have been the founding father of what we now know as the United States, though his name and place in history have been buried in the passage of time and the importance that the swaggering adventurer John Smith attached to himself.

Bartholomew Gosnold (1572 - August 22, 1607) was an English lawyer and explorer whose expeditions to the New World 400 years ago were reduced to little more than a footnote after the voyage of the Pilgrim Fathers 13 years later. He was the first non-indigenous person to visit Cape Cod on May 15, 1602 and was also instrumental in founding the Virginia Company and Jamestown, Virginia.

Born in Otley Hall in Suffolk, England in 1571. His parents were Anthony Gosnold and Dorothy Bacon and a descendant of Francis Bacon. He graduated from Cambridge University and studied law at Middle Temple. He was friend of Richard Hakluyt and sailed with Walter Raleigh and obtained backing to attempt a colony in the New World and sailed in 1602 to establish a colony. Pioneering a direct route due west from the Azores to New England in his ship 'Concord' he arrived in Cape Elizabeth in Maine (Lat 43 degrees) in May 1602 skirting the coastline for several days before anchoring in York Harbour, Maine on May 14, 1602.

The next day, he sailed to Cape Cod. Following the coastline for several days, he discovered Martha's Vineyard and named it after his infant daughter who died and is buried in the Great churchyard in Bury St Edmunds. He established a small post on Elizabeth's Island, which was his sister's name and which is now called Cuttyhunk Island and is part of the town of Gosnold. The post was abandoned when the crew voted to return to England rather than attempt to winter over.

He spent four years after his return to England promoting a more ambitious attempt and recruited his cousin-by-marriage, Edward M. Wingfield, as well as John Smith of Jamestown, his brother and a cousin and members of his 1602 expedition to form the core of the Jamestown, Virginia colony. They set sail in 1607 in the ship *Godspeed* together with two other ships forming a fleet of which he was second in command. Jamestown was a village on an island in the James River in Virginia, about 45 miles southeast of where Richmond, Virginia, is now. Both the river and the 1607 settlement there were named after King James I of England who had recently come to the throne.

He was popular among the colonists and opposed the location of the colony. Three months later, after overseeing the building of a fort in just 19 days, Gosnold was dead at age 37. It was recorded that he suffered a three-week illness and that when he was buried, all the ordnance in the fort was fired in his honor. The colonists had to defy orders from England preventing anyone from burying anyone outside the fort and in a false show of strength to the Indians Gosnold was buried with great ceremony, with all the guns going off, to show the Indians that despite having lost their leader, they're fine! By all accounts, he was greatly missed and his loss marked the beginnings of the discord which tore apart the colony in its first couple of years.

Jamestown became the first real English colony and eventually led to the creation of the United States of America. Historians acknowledge that if it had not been for Gosnold then almost certainly the USA would have become Spanish territory.

The following is a rare copy of a letter to Bartholomew Gosnold's father, touching his first voyage to Virginia in 1602

Sir

My duty remembered, &c. Sir, I was in good hope that my occasions would have allowed me so much liberty, as to have come unto you before this time; otherwise I would have written more at large concerning the country from whence we lately came, than I did: but not well remembering what I have already written (though I am assured that there is nothing set down disagreeing with the truth,) I thought it fittest not to go about to add anything in writing, but



Above: A monument erected to Bartholomew Gosnold at Gosnold Town the smallest town in Massachusetts, population 75.

rather to leave the report of the rest till I come myself; which now I hope shall be shortly, and so soon as with conveniency I may. In the mean time, notwithstanding whereas you seem not to be satisfied by that which I have already written, concerning some especial matters; I have here briefly (and as well as I can) added these few lines for your further satisfaction: and first, as touching that place where we were most resident, it is the latitude of 41 degrees, and one third part; which albeit it be so much to the southward, yet it is more cold than those parts of Europe, which are situated under the same parallel: but one thing is worth the noting, that notwithstanding the place is not so much subject to cold as England is, yet did we find the spring to be later there, than it is with us here, by almost a month: this whether it happened accidentally this last spring to be so, or whether it be so of course, I am not very certain; the latter seems most likely, whereof also there may be given some sufficient reason, which now I omit; as for the acorns we saw gathered on heaps, they were of the last year, but doubtless their summer continues longer than ours.

We cannot gather, by anything we could observe in the people, or by any trial we had thereof ourselves, but that it is as healthful a climate as any can be. The inhabitants there, as I wrote before, being of tall stature, comely proportion, strong, active, and some of good years, and as it should seem very healthful, are sufficient proof of the healthfulness of the place. First, for ourselves (thanks be to God) we had not a man sick two days together in all our voyage; whereas others that went out with us, or about that time on other voyages (especially such as went upon reprisal,) were most of them infected with sickness, whereof they lost some of their men, and brought home a many sick, returning notwithstanding long before us. But Verrazano, and others (as I take it, you may read in the Book of Discoveries,) do more particularly entreat of the age of the people in that coast. The sassafras which we brought we had upon the islands; where though we had little disturbance, and reasonable plenty; yet for that the greatest part of our people were employed about the fitting of our house, and such like affairs, and a few (and those but easy laborers) undertook this work, the rather because we were informed before our going forth, that a ton was sufficient to cloy England, and further, for that we had resolved upon our return, and taken view of our victual, we judged it then needful to use expedition; which afterward we had more certain proof of; for when we came to an anchor before Portsmouth, which was so me four days after we made the land, we had not one cake of bread, nor any drink, but a little vinegar left: for these and other reasons, we returned no otherwise laden than you have heard. And thus much I hope shall suffice till I can myself come to give you further notice, which though it be not so soon as I could have wished, yet I hope it shall be in convenient time.

In the mean time, craving your pardon, for which the urgent occasions of my stay will plead, I humbly take my leave.

7th September, 1602

Your dutiful son, Barth. Gosnold.

Readers Letters

Dear Sir

Another spectacular pantomime from the Boxford Drama Group! How they do it I shall never know. This year's production was more ambitious than ever and they brought it off superbly. Our grateful thanks to the cast, production team and those responsible for the food. You provided another great night's entertainment of which the village should be very proud.

With best wishes

Roger and Tina Loose

Dear Editor

I would like to thank Little Waldingfield Playingfield Committee for the wonderful Christmas Party they put on for the children

Thank you all
Margaret Lister

Boxford Village Hall December Draw Results

1st No.109	£40	M.Riddlestone	BrookHall Rd
2nd No.11	£20	P Whymark	Sudbury
3rd No. 31	£10	Ann Wymark	Sudbury
4th No.40	£5	N Suckling	Swan Street

Next Draw January 3rd 2006



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Dear Sir

Owning a Holiday Cottage

Many people have had the idea of having a holiday cottage to rent out. The attractions are definitely there, being able to keep the cottage in tip-top condition all the time rather than finding it having been abused after a sub-tenancy, no big costly gaps between tenants and of course a new income for a redundant farm building or just a higher rental income for your cottage.

It actually becomes a pleasure to have your cottage used this way rather than just subletting it and worrying about how it is deteriorating under a long-term tenancy.

But these dreams often come unstuck as the reality of costly advertising and sitting by the phone to take the bookings or the alternative of being lost in some massive holiday cottage booking system and either way usually contending with the low season "blues", these all take their toll.

This is where I can help you. I have managed to build up a small local holiday cottage business which breaks the mould; where occupancy figures for the owners he represents reach a dizzy 87% p.a. - impressive as the local published rate is only 34% and just 52% for Suffolk as a whole.

Obviously not every cottage can fit into our specialist group of "character" Holiday. There is a market for everything and other agents who specialise in those areas. But if you are thinking of starting a holiday cottage or willing to adapt to fit in with our style then now is the time to contact us as we are planning to take on a few new cottages this year and looking looking for likely candidates.

We are happy to 'talk cottages' any-time and can be contacted on 01787 211 115.

Mark Scott
Edwardstone



86% occupancy in a Holiday Cottage

All my owners have achieved

76 – 86% occupancy in the last 12 months.

If you are thinking of starting a holiday cottage or have one with the right potential then contact me to find out more.

I am looking for 3 more cottages to add to my small selection.

I am particularly interested in being involved in the planning and conversion stage as I only specialise in cottages with lots of character - size is unimportant.

For more information please call Mark on 01787 211115

Back to Oz



Probably the biggest cast in one of the most ambitious Pantomimes put on by the Boxford Drama Group, wowed packed houses for 4 nights in a row. 'Back to Oz' Written and directed by Bill Horne, husband of the famous playwright Elaine Horne, this production boasted a cast of 19 with a backstage team of 8 and front of house 4 let alone the magnificent team in the Kitchen serving over 300 meals over the four days of the production.

What can one say that has not already been said about this incredible Village Drama Group, Incredible, Magnificent, Inspired, Fantastic, A touch of Genius, (make the cheque out to E.Kench Bill) but all can and have been applied by members of the audiences to this production.

It would be difficult to pick out individual performances for praise since all members of this huge cast deserve a mention but one newcomer to the team had my heart pounding faster. With her legs clad in fishnet stockings and thigh high sued boots, every time Ozzy (Alison Barlow) slapped her thigh I believed 3PR's Defibrillator was going to be made redundant! And rarely seen on the Boxford stage in recent years, Linda Drake as the Ice Queen made me quake in my shoes, she filled the stage with her presence in a powerful performance. At one time there was so much Rice on the stage we could have made a pudding!

Well how do they follow that one? In fact it is not too long to wait because at the end of March there is to be a Palace of Varieties which I believe is to be produced by Derek, I can't remember my words, Butler. It is sure to be a great performance with lots of hidden talents rising to the surface, so book your place in the queue for tickets now.

MARY'S HOUSE HOSTS 2 EVENTS



Above: The stall showing items for the 'Save The Children' Draw

Save The Children

The cake sale at Mary's House on December 3rd was very successful and raised £430 for SAVE THE CHILDREN. Many thanks to all who helped in any way. *Joan Smith, Jean Saunders and Ann Holdgate.*

Below: some of the produce on sale at the Fair Trade Fayer held in Mary's House on Friday 9th December



Monday - Friday
9.00am - 3.30pm

The Pavilion
Homefield
Boxford

Tel: 01787 211363
or: 01787 211513

www.boxford-sunflower.co.uk

Readers Letters

Dear Boxford,

The time has come for me and my family to move out of this wonderful village and start a new life somewhere else.

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who has touched our lives over the last eighteen years since we moved into this area, especially to the school that set my three sons, Richard, Charlie and Christopher on the road to their various careers in life. Without that initial start and care I feel they would not be the confident young men they are today and doing so well. I am so proud of the way they have coped with everything. Thank you Boxford School.

Life is never easy at the best of times for anyone, but it helps to have the support of a wonderful village when things get tough, and Boxford is just that. Thank you Boxford for all your support through my tough times.

I am happy to say that I am about to become a Grandparent for the first time in January. This is a thrilling time for all of us and signals a wonderful time ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone we all have known over the years A Very Happy Christmas by way of a poem, and also a poem to the tree above the village that helped me through all the tough times.

Thank you Boxford for being our home for so many years. You have been good for us and we will never forget you.

With love from

Clare and Family,

Richard, Charlie, Tanya, (Baby Athorne !!) and Christopher Athorne

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

There is a list of folk we know
All written in a book.
And every year at Christmas time
We go and take a look.

And this is when we realise
That these names are part,
Not of the book they're written in,
But of our very heart.

For each name stands for someone
Who has touched our lives sometime,
And in that meeting they've become
The Rhythm and The Rhyme.

And whether we have known you
For many years or few,

In some way you've had a part
Of sharing things we do.

So every year when Christmas comes
We realise anew,
The biggest gift that God can give,
Are people just like you.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
From Clare Perkins and Family

The Tree

I stand alone in a field of green,
And wonder quietly if I've been seen
By Him above, who sits on high
And listens to my every sigh.

This field means so much to me
Because it has a glorious tree.
Its trunk is my resting place.
Its branches reach out to embrace.

I feel this tree is my special friend
Who listens quietly, and branches bend
To give a sign that all is well,
And what is heard, will never tell.

I trace my finger on aged bark
And try to read every mark.
So much history has gone before,
It knows there will be much more.

The fruit it bears gives so much pleasure
To all the animals, who do not measure
How much to eat and what to weigh.
They don't listen to what people say.

The roots go deep and underground.
The branches spread high and look around.
The leaves are like a canopy
That open up for all to see.

To have this tree as my friend
Is very special ...and I intend
To keep on coming to this my tree,
Because my heart is in the country.

By Clare Perkins

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HOMEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING

WHY IS AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDED IN BOXFORD?
Babergh's Housing Register shows that Boxford is a village where there is a high demand from local people for affordable housing. The new houses at Partridge Close have met some of this demand, but there is still a need for accommodation in Boxford for single people and couples.

HOW WILL THIS NEED FOR ACCOMMODATION BE MET?

It is proposed that land owned by Babergh is used to build 8 flats, which will comprise:-

4x2 bedroom flats and 4x1 bedroom flats

WHO WILL THE FLATS BE FOR?

The flats are for people who have a local connection with Boxford. Four of the flats will be for rent and 4 will be for shared ownership. If you would like to be considered for one of the flats (rent or shared ownership) you must be registered on Babergh's Common Housing Register.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE SCHEME?

- 8 new affordable homes with designated parking, for Boxford people.
- 6 new garages to replace the existing brick built garages.
- 6 new garages to replace the private self build garages.
- Properly constructed road from Homefield to the playing field car park.
- Landscaping for the new flats and entrance area to the playing field car park.
- Designated parking lay-by adjacent to 28 Homefield.
- Off road parking (subject to agreement with occupiers) for 24, 27, 28 and 30 Homefield.
- Additional parking for the benefit of users of the playing field.
- 2 garages for use as storage by the Playing Field Committee.
- Additional lighting to the playing field car park.
- New fencing between the playing field car park and the playing field.
- New footpath linking Partridge Close to Homefield providing safer

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Edwardstone



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Sat. December 31st

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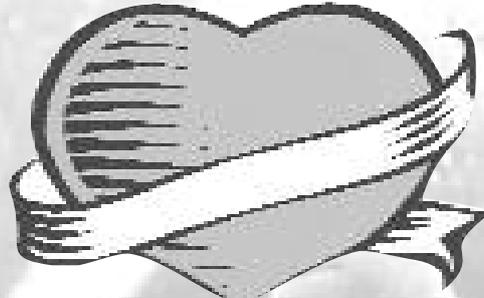
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