

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



January 2015
Vol 15 No 1

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



GROTONS CHEESE AND WINE



Above: Some of the many guests at the Groton Cheese and Wine party.

Below: Part of the superb spread

Right: Left Anyone for Sausage, Pat Kennedy Scott serves up.

Right: Right It was the Editors lucky evening



A Capacity crowd turned up for the Groton Cheese and wine party in Groton Village hall on Saturday 6th December. This very popular annual events brought together folk from throughout the Box River Benefice who enjoyed good company and good food on the coldest night of the year so far.

Pat Kennedy Scott, and her team of helpers produced a magnificent spread, the finest yet and Gerald's bar did a brisk business.

Always a great start to Christmas along with the Boxford Pantomime, not to be missed.



Box River News

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e.mail: ed.kench@btinternet.com

Final date for reserved copy for the February Issue is:

January 15th at noon



At the Stoke by Nayland Hotel

and a very starry band: a pleasure to welcome back Liam, Michael and James.

Friday, 16 January 8.00, £15

OH LA LA

Sophisticated and charming acoustic quartet

Fifi La Mer vocals and accordion, Kit Massey violin, Colin Oxley guitar, Julian Bury bass. The Oh La La! musicians have played across the globe in Europe, North America, Japan, Australasia and the Far East. At home, they have performed at music venues including Ronnie Scott's, the Royal Opera House (Covent Garden), Wilton Music Hall, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the National Theatre. They have had several television appearances. The band has a huge range including classic jazz, chanson and pop, in both English and French.

Friday 23 January 8.00 £15

Don Weller Quartet

The Legendary Don Weller is one of Europe's leading hard bop tenor sax players. Don Weller sax, Chris Ingham piano, Mick Hutton bass, George Double drums. Even a legend needs to start somewhere. Don began learning clarinet at the age of 14, and was classically educated on it for four or five years, soloing in Mozart's Clarinet Concerto at Croydon Town Hall when aged 15. In the 1970s his jazz-rock group Major Surgery played only Weller's compositions. This was followed by a quartet with drummer Bryan Spring and working with Stan Tracey, and Art Themen. He has played with artists such as Alan Price, Tina May and Charlie Hearnshaw - pretty versatile legend.

Friday 30 January 8.00 £18

Simon Spillett Tubby's Anniversary

Described by Humphrey Lyttleton as formidable: here with his line up of Britain's finest.

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

Friday, 2 January 8.00, Ticket £16

Fletch's Brew

Hard bitten drum led modern jazz exploring fusion led mix of classics. Mark Fletcher drums, Carl Orr guitar, Freddie Gavita trumpet, Jim Watson organ, Steve Pearce bass

A powerful and very jolly way to begin the new season.

Drummer Mark Fletcher's powerhouse jazz fusion quartet with Freddie Gravita on trumpet and Carl Orr on guitar is a regular feature at Ronnie Scott's and greatly impressed Wynton Marsalis: "We haven't had anything like this in New York for over twenty years." Come and discover the power of funky jazz originals and the music of Pat Metheny, Michael Brecker and Weather Report

Friday, 9 January, 8.00, Ticket £15

Alex Garnett

Enjoy the dark husky sound of Ronnie Scott's resident reeds man. Alex Garnett sax, Liam Noble piano, Michael Janisch bass, James Maddren drums. The press on Alec's debut album, "Serpent" was excellent, and fans and fellow musicians agreed. Tonight we have the pleasure of Alex's amazing tone and range,

THE JANUARY LETTER FROM REV JUDITH



Revd Judith with her brothers. Neil is on the right.

Dear Friends,

First of all, may I use this column to express my gratitude for the many kind messages and cards, the love, support and prayers, received after the tragic death of my brother, Dr Neil Burnie, in a diving accident in Bermuda, his home of many years. It was a stark reminder to me, and to us all, that we never know what lies ahead, and certainly the Christian faith never promises any of us that life will be a bed of roses.

What that faith does promise, however, is that, even in our darkest times, God's presence, his strength and love, will never leave us. The words from perhaps a rather old-fashioned hymn, which talks of the changelessness of God in our changing circumstances, surfaced in my mind and rang true for me in difficult circumstances over recent days (the word, "without", meaning here, of course, "outside"):

In heavenly love abiding
No change my heart shall fear
And safe is such confiding
For nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me,
My heart may low be laid,
But God is round about me,
And can I be afraid?

What was also true, as in so many cases, is that out of tragedy, God was able to bring good things. In Neil's case, his one life seems to have inspired so many more. His passion for the conservation of the marine environment is being perpetuated through the establishment of a trust set up in his name. His "Ocean Vet" and shark-tagging adventures and exploits captured the interest of a young man even in this benefice, who hopes to become a vet like Neil too. Photos of Neil with primary-age school children in Bermuda, as he shared his boundless enthusiasm for the joys and mysteries of the sea and its creatures, show an enraptured and enthralled young audience. Who knows what hopes and dreams he may have fired up in their imaginations, which might shape their careers and future paths in life?

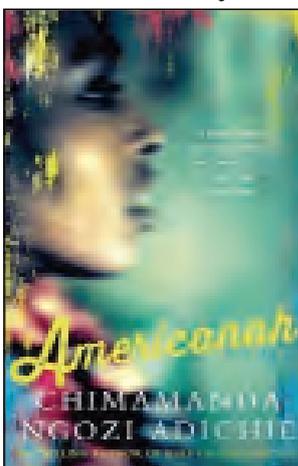
The same turning of the sad side of life into something positive and life-enhancing is the theme of a book I am reading by Bonnie Ware. Its title doesn't sound at all promising: "The top five regrets of the dying" ! The subtitle, though, provides the clue to something altogether different: "A life transformed by the dearly departed."

The author spent many years employed as a carer, with people of all ages, and devoted herself especially to palliative care. Her closeness to those she cared for enabled some amazing conversations to take place, where people looking back over their lives were able to share frankly with her the things they so wished they had done in their life. They took immense pleasure and satisfaction in being listened to and in knowing that Bonnie was someone who would be able to use their regrets as a springboard into approaching her own life choices with greater insight and a fresh determination.

As we approach the start of a New Year, we cannot always change the past, we cannot turn back the clock, much as we might dearly love to, but we can try to use whatever has happened to us in the past year – good or bad – as a springboard into the coming year, into a future in which, as the old hymn says, whatever storms arise, we need not be afraid. I wish you, and all your loved ones, happiness and peace of mind in 2015, and may you know that God goes with you. Blessings, Revd Judith

THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ BY JO MARCHANT

'Americanah' by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie



'Americanah' opens in the hairdressers where Ifemelu, the central character in the novel, is having her hair braided. After thirteen years of living and studying in America, she is ready to return to Nigeria and wants to look her best. 'Americanah' is the name she is given by her Nigerian friends who celebrate her homecoming.

In earlier times Ifemelu and Obinze are young lovers growing up in Lagos. Ifemelu, is a beautiful and feisty young girl with strong opinions and sharp observations on life and the people around her. Her clever and patient boyfriend, Obinze, adores her. She calls her lover Ceiling! Their burning ambition is to further their education and

during the turmoil of Nigeria's difficult years, Ifemelu follows her aunt to Philadelphia and Obinze tries his luck in London. Their tales of survival in their adopted countries will bring tears to your eyes. Obinze faces endless difficulties as an immigrant and Ifemelu doesn't have it easy in America either. Both have to do things which make them wretched.

The main storyline is set during the thirteen years of their separation. We follow Ifemelu in America where we meet those who dip in and out of her colourful life. She becomes famous for her Blog where she confronts America through the eyes of a Black Non-American Woman. She is brave and pulls no punches as she challenges important concerns in America today. She says, "We all wish that race was not an issue, but it's a lie. I did not think of myself as black when I came to America."

My favourite passages are those set in Nigeria, the sights and smells, its food and her descriptions of just about everything. It's not surprising that Ifemelu wants to return home and there waiting for her is Obinze, a married man. The story does not end here.

This is Adichie's third novel, and it does not disappoint; full of wit and fun, and written in her bracing style. Her first two novels won prizes to great critical acclaim and she is said to be the most promising African writer of her generation. A delicious and entertaining novel for you!

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SN

THE HISTORY OF GREAT YARMOUTH

A Talk by Anthony Arbuthnot

Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome Anthony to the Parish Room last night to talk to us about the story of the history of Great Yarmouth.

As we hoped but more than we had anticipated from a self confessed non-historian, solicitor Anthony, who had spent 20 years working in and living near the town captured the imagination of our 30 plus audience with a passionate and detailed account of the history of this historic town, once described by Daniel Defoe:

Yarmouth is an antient town, much older than Norwich; and at present, tho' not standing on so much ground, yet better built; much more compleat; for number of inhabitants, not much inferior; and for wealth, trade, and advantage of its situation, infinitely superior to Norwich.

He began by describing the location of Great Yarmouth as near to the site of the Roman fort of Gariannonum at the mouth of the River Yare. However, whether this was Burgh Castle or Caister-on-Sea, where the Romans sited two of their Saxon Shore forts, remains uncertain.

With a river leading to the hinterland and a major food supply from superb farmland grain was available to the Romans to feed both their local troops and those in based Europe. Much later the location attracted fishermen from the Cinque Ports, a permanent settlement was made and the town numbered 70 burgesses (freemen or elected / unelected officials) before the Norman Conquest. In 1208 King John gave Great Yarmouth a charter granting the townspeople certain rights, and from then on Great Yarmouth was a self governing community.

Anthony told us of the long and intimate connection between the town and the Royal Navy - in the 14th Century ships were supplied to fight the Battle of Sluys, the first great English triumph at sea, then seamen and more ships for the Battle of Calais. Great Yarmouth was then rewarded for this support by having it's coat of arms amalgamated with the Royal coat of arms - half and half.

The town was an important naval base throughout the Napoleonic Wars and local man Admiral Lord Nelson landed at Great Yarmouth on three occasions prior to his death in 1805. After the Battle of the Nile in 1798 he was given a hero's welcome and carried to the Wrestler's Inn on Church Plain to be presented with the Freedom of the Borough. Following his death at Trafalgar in 1805, an appeal was launched to raise funds for a worthy monument, in 1819, a column was erected in memory

of the hero, some 30 years before the column in Trafalgar Square and at 144 feet, only slightly shorter than its more famous counterpart in Trafalgar Square, London.

Anthony told us the town had been subjected to many German attacks during both world wars. The first 'successful' Zeppelin raid took place on the night of 19-20 January 1915; two targeted Humberside but were diverted by strong winds and dropped their bombs on Great Yarmouth, Sheringham, King's Lynn and the surrounding villages. Four people were killed and 16 injured. Apparently the town was also the target of one of the last Zeppelin raids of the Great War.

Due to its position as the last significant place the Luftwaffe could drop bombs on when returning home, the town suffered more tonnage of bombs per acre than London, and the historic centre was almost completely destroyed. Anthony stressed the character of Great Yarmouth people many times during his talk and told us of the time when a stretched fire service had to decide which one of two significant buildings to save. As the local brewery Lacons explains on their website, they played a pivotal part in beer supply during the war and St Nicholas Church, despite being established in 1101 and the largest church by floor area in the country, 'was happily rebuilt and re-consecrated in 1961'.

Everyone had a really entertaining evening learning much from an easy narrator who really knew his material and could put it across so enthusiastically.

At our next talk, Ashley Cooper will present '300 years of countryside history along the Suffolk - Essex border'. Former brickyards, potteries & limekilns, local hop-growing, cheese making, straw-plaiting, wildflowers and herbal remedies will all be up for discussion.

We very much look forward to welcoming guests new and old to the Parish Room on Wednesday 10th December for what is sure to be a most interesting, fascinating and educational evening courtesy of a master story teller. qqAndy Sheppard

Remember

The Box River News can be seen in full colour by downloading from the internet.

Just go to boxfordvillagehall.co.uk and click on the BRN icon. The Newsletter is usually available about two days after the published press date. ed.kench@btinternet.com

HARE & HOUNDS LEAVENHEATH

upcoming events

christmas and new year opening hours

Opening hours as usual until 23rd December

Christmas Eve - open all day (normal food times)

Christmas Day - 11:30am - 2:30pm (drinks only)

Boxing Day - 11:30am - 4pm (food 11:30am - 2pm)

Usual hours 27th - 30th December

New Years Eve - open all day (free buffet and disco in evening)

New Years Day - 12 - 4pm (food 12 - 2pm)

Usual hours 2nd January onwards

please check website or facebook for
other upcoming events and quizzes

OPENING HOURS

tuesday, wednesday, thursday 12 - 3pm & 5 - 11pm

friday & saturday 12 - 11pm

sunday 12 - 10pm

closed all day monday

FOOD IS AVAILABLE

tuesday - saturday 12 - 2am & 4 - 9pm

sunday 12 - 3pm



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New Years Eve!

Where best to welcome in the new year but at your favourite local!
Clare & Jarrod welcome you all to the fleece to see in the new year with them.

Book your New Years Eve table now!

Set Menu just £25.

Happy Christmas!

Eat, drink, party and be festive here at the Fleece
Our customers make this pub a wonderful place to be all year around, but no more so than at Christmas. Make sure you visit us with your 'thank you' envelopes in January and claim your guaranteed discount.



Fish & Chips Night

First Fish & Chips & a Pint night
of 2015 is New Year's Day
6-8pm! Thurs 1st Jan! Just £7

Seniors Luncheon

Seniors Luncheon
Tues - Fri 12 - 2pm.
Selected meals from £6



Live Music - FleeceFolk

- Acoustic Session Fri 16th January. 8.30pm.
 - Timber's Men (bar) Live. Fri 10th January.
 - Kris Drever & Ben Howards live.
 - Live Sat 10th April. Tickets available now.
- Tickets & info www.boxfordfleece.com

Weekly Pub Quiz - Every Sunday 9pm

Come and join in our weekly quiz nights. Every Sunday from 9pm

www.boxfordfleece.com - boxfordfleece@gmail.com - 01787 211183

Happy, New Year Skin!

Perhaps you spent the Christmas period this year on a yoga retreat? You spent Xmas at a Health Spa? Started the New Year on a strict Detox and exercise programme?

No?? Then the chances are that recent festivities have taken their toll on your skin. Over the Christmas season, all that eating, drinking and sitting around with the central heating on plays havoc with our skin, making it look patchy and dull.

Dermologica's intense resurfacing treatment **Active Resurface 35** is exactly what's needed to get our skin looking radiant again. The one-hour treatment clears away dead skin cells, stimulating cell renewal, hydrating the skin, clearing the complexion and evening out skin tone.

This month, get your first AR35 treatment half price and, if you book a course, receive a free facial, skin care kit and discount voucher.

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Boxford School News

It seems hard to believe that yet another year has passed by and at the time of writing we are well into our Christmas activities and celebrations. You may have seen the news item last week detailing the decline in the number of schools that continue to end the year with a traditional nativity concert. I am pleased to be able to report that this is not the case at Boxford and both our Foundation Class and our Years 1 to 4 children will still be performing a nativity concert. The Foundation children will be telling the story of The Bossy King whilst the older children will be performing their nativity through the eyes of a rather impatient inn keeper. The very oldest children will be having their own celebration of Christmas music in the Village Hall.

This year has been a very interesting year for us all as for the first time since the 1970's Boxford has enjoyed the company of children in Year 6. This in itself has presented new challenges for us all with the need to prepare our children for the increasingly important and demanding end of year 6 SATS tests. We were delighted with the way in which the children conducted themselves and approached what is a very challenging period of their education. As you can see on our website our children did very well in most areas, particularly in Reading where over half of our children exceeded national expectations. I have always felt reading is the single most important skill we teach our children is one that ensures they are well prepared for their future education and indeed life.

Last weekend was our annual FOBS Christmas Fayre and whilst I was unable to attend, following my shoulder operation, I am told it went very well and that over £2,000 was raised for school funds. With the constant threat of budget cuts hanging over us the role of the parents association is, I expect, likely to become ever more important. We have always taken great pride in the exceptional facilities we are able to offer our children and many of them owe their origins to the hard work and support we have always received from FOBS. My thanks to everyone who worked so hard to ensure the fayre went ahead and to all of you who joined us on the afternoon.

For me this year has been a strange one as following my shoulder operation in October I have had the longest period of absence in my career. This has placed extra demands on the staff as you can imagine but as I expected they have continued their outstanding work and I am indebted to them all. In particular I would like to thank Miss Mitson who has done such an excellent job keeping things running smoothly in my absence.

Finally all it remains for me to do is to thank everyone connected to Boxford School for their continued support and hard work throughout the year and to wish you all a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year.



Cover Photograph

The photograph on the cover was taken at the rehearsal for the 2003 Boxford School Nativity play. The youngest children in the photograph will be 19 years old now, the eldest will be in their 20's and either have completed their education at a college or University, At work or maybe even married. If any of them would like to let the BRN know what they are up to now we would be happy to let folk know

FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

Your Suffolk County Councillor for the Stour Valley

• High-speed broadband has arrived in Boxford !!

The Suffolk County Council "Better Broadband Programme" continues to progress well, and the residents of Boxford are one of the first of the villages of my Stour Valley Division to enjoy this superfast connection which was connected towards the end of November. Residents and businesses are reminded that they will need to contact their retail broadband supplier and amend their contract with them to enjoy the full benefits of these much faster download and upload speeds.

• Views wanted on council spending priorities

With increasing pressure on funding, SCC is asking the people of Suffolk what their priorities are, ahead of decisions being taken on spending plans for the coming year. People have until the 8th January in which to answer a range of questions that will help to shape decisions taken in February next year. In 2015/16 the council has to make savings totalling £42 million. It is therefore more important than ever that available funding is focused on the areas that are important to Suffolk people. A range of proposals were considered by the county council's Scrutiny Committee when it meets on the 26th November, with finalised proposals being discussed by Cabinet in January before the proposed budget is debated at a meeting of all the councillors in February. An on-line survey has been set up where residents are asked to rank their spending priorities. It is also possible to give views via e-mail and post. For more information, including access to the on-line survey visit the county council's consultation web page www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations

• Calling all rural Entrepreneurs wanting to enter Agriculture

Rural entrepreneurs are being encouraged to come forward with their proposals for nine locations within the county council's farms estate that could offer prospective new tenants with a range of exciting opportunities. The scheme being run by SCC, and supported by the Eastern Enterprise Hub and Easton & Otley College, is aimed at encouraging rural entrepreneurs to put forward business propositions based around agriculture or rural industries and to take up a tenancy of a site within the council's farms estate. The locations were identified following a period of consultation with budding businessmen and women about possible rural business ideas. Sites are between 10 and 50 acres in size with suitable buildings available, and in some cases accommodation. Expressions of interest for the sites must be submitted on-line via the Eastern Enterprise Hub's website no later than the 10th December 2014. Shortlisting will be carried out before the end of the year. Information about all the sites and how to express an interest are available online via: www.eehub.co.uk/programmes/grow-your-future-programme.aspx For those interested in finding out more about the scheme and what to include in an expression of interest, information sessions have been lined up on the following dates: and Tuesday 2nd December, 5:30pm-6:30pm (Easton & Otley College – Otley Campus). To book your place at one of the sessions, please contact amy@eehub.co.uk

• Boxford School Transport

Discussions have continued to make better use of the school minibus to assist in transporting school children in from the outlying villages. I am working with Carey Fraulo (Chairman of Groton Parish Council) to put a proposal to the school. The Head of Boxford School, Robert Giles, is keen to collaborate with us to make this happen. The mini buses at Thomas Gainsborough school are also used in the community and we are liaising with them to identify the best way forward for Boxford and its surrounding villages.

My priorities for Suffolk

Education - Supporting Vulnerable People - Jobs and Growth
Localism and the Stour Valley - Building on Suffolk's Strength -
all underpinned by strong financial management and low council tax

Boxford Community Council BOXFORD TEA TOWELS

What would be a better Christmas gift
or accompaniment to a gift
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These are nicely manufactured from top linen quality and
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They sell at £3.50 each or 3 for £10 and
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Proceeds from the sales go to Boxford
Community Council and ultimately back into
the local community via grants

EDWARDSTONE'S COFFEE MORNING



Above: Rev Judith talks with guests from Boxford
Below: Marlene Clark draws a raffle ticket.





Happy Hour
5 - 6.30
Mon - Fri

The White Hart, Boxford...

Merry Christmas, everyone!
Join us on Christmas Day for drinks 12-3pm

Remember, we are open all day for food and drinks over the Christmas week.

New Years Eve Party night open until 1.00am

Open Mic night on 4th January 2015

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**a Happy and Healthy
Christmas and New Year**



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

REMEMBERING FRED LEEDER - HALCYON DAYS!



Left: At the first reunion
Left to Right
(Maiden names)
Marlene Simpson,
Sheila Tricker,
Charlie Smith
Elaine Rice,
Linda Rice,
Ann Ratcliffe,
Alan Gunn.

Below:
At the pool
Left to Right
Denise Munson
Karen Fosker

During November several of us got together to share our memories of our time at Goodlands Farm, with Fred and Prim Leeder. This was back in the late 60's -70's, when Boxford had no playing field and Leeders Farm provided us with an amazing array of activities. Originally, friends of Fred and Prim's 5 children; Roy, Kate, Billy, Jane and Tim, were invited to the farm. Over the course of several decades, the list of invites extended to many other children of the villages, until Fred passed away in 2002 in his late '80s. By which time some of the children of the original visitors, were also "going down the farm"!

We all agreed that we were incredibly lucky that Fred and Prim gave us the chance to have such a wonderful place to play and socialise in. They literally, kept us off the streets. There was a wide age range of young people there, from about 8 years to late teens, with several people meeting their future partners at Leeders. This was all before the time of health and safety of course, and looking back, we realise that Prim was very worried at times about the screams and yells as we were enjoying ourselves around the pool. Fred had created an absolute haven for all the kids.

There was a large swimming pool where many of us learned to swim and dive. In the winter, a small rowing boat was floated on the pool! Outside the pool area, there was a roller skating rink, an enormous slide and seesaw, swings and a hammock. Many of us enjoyed "playing house" in the old gypsy caravan on the meadow, which even had a lighting stove! There were two separate rooms, one for the girls, one for the boys, with a full billiard table, pianos, organ, tv's, settees and record and tape players. We used to take it in turns to chose and buy the latest singles.

Fred also kept horses, in the early days, he had Stormy, Whisky, Snowy, Tommy, Mum and Silver. Later he had many others, including Nefton. Most of us not only learned to ride, and take care of the horses, but entered competitions as well.

We had all of the meadows, now Primrose Wood, to explore, to enjoy long walks and rides on the horses, and in the winter to slide down the hills on the big wooden sledge! There was also a Tuckshop, where Fred stocked crisps and corona drinks, as well as an array of cheeky seaside postcards he had been sent by us on our holidays!

As well as this, there were the many facilities of the farm itself, including 2 big barns, the milking shed, chicken runs, and pigsties. We all enjoyed helping to feed the animals, collect the eggs, milking the cows and many of the older boys learned to drive tractors, and ride motorbikes there. Some of the older kids would help to get the harvest in. On top of all this, every morning, afternoon and evening, Fred would come round with a tray of hot chocolate and camp coffee!! All provided with a smile and free of charge!!

Fred was a quiet, gentle man, with a great sense of humour. Endlessly patient with us all, but would keep us within safe bounds, as he went about his work, with all of us milling around him. So many of us have our own personal memories of Fred, and our time at the farm. And we feel so lucky and privileged to have known Fred and Prim, and to have had these incredibly happy experiences as part of our growing years.

We are hoping to have another re-union in the new year. If you were one of the Leeders Farm kids, please contact Elaine Carpenter on 01787 210601 or Linda Drake on 01787 210850. Hope to see some of you then!



Below: Out Riding, Left to Right: Angela Ansell on 'Silver', Karen Foster on 'Snowy', Jane Leeder on 'Stormy' and Sheila Tricker on 'Mum'



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 Wed 14th
 8.30pm

Blues Night
 Wed 28th
 8.30pm

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 Every Friday for just
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 walkers, cyclists,
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Normal Opening Times:

Monday-Thursday
 12 - 3 & 5 - 11/12
 Friday, Saturday,
 Sunday: 12 - 11/12

MILL GREEN BREWERY

Award winning brewery is just meters away on-site. We always have a number of MGB ales on, including these crackers this winter:

- Tornado Smith
- Obama Stout
- Loveleys Fair
- CIVA
- Suffolk Saison

Merry Christmas! From Tash & everyone at the White Horse

Festive Opening Hours: Normal opening hours with the exception of:
 Christmas day 12 - 4pm. Boxing Day 12 - 5pm. New Years Day 12 - 5pm

Festive Food Hours: Christmas Eve 12-3 & 4-9. Boxing Day 12-3. Normal up to New Year. New Year's Eve 12-5. New Year's Day 12-3. Back to normal in January.



Christmas Quiz, 29th December. 8pm

Get your best team together and join in the competitive Christmas spirit here at the White horse.

New Years Eve Disco & Buffet!

Come to the horse to see in the new year. We'll be having A fantastic free buffet and some great music to dance the night away to.

Remember, eat here in December & get a guaranteed discount in January with your festive 'thankyou' envelope - Happy Christmas!

www.edwardstonewhitehorse.co.uk - Call 01787 211211

LITTLEGARTH SPORTING SUCCESS

Littlegarth Sporting Success

Littlegarth School continues to achieve outstanding sporting success at a national level. Last month, the senior girls won the national U12 Ski Team title and now the boys have achieved an equal level of success by winning the Independent Schools Association national rugby title in the inaugural year of the competition. Not to be outdone, the U11 girls also reached the Independent Association of Prep Schools national hockey finals during the same week and did extremely well to beat some prestigious schools on their journey to success.

The U11 boys' rugby team produced some convincing performances in the early rounds of their national competition. This was a 9 a side format with games lasting 10 minutes each. 24 teams entered, and Littlegarth were in a pool with Stoke College, Rushmoor (Bedford) and Loyola (London). They scored convincing victories over Stoke and Rushmoor but were pushed closer by Loyola, eventually running out 14-7 winners. That led to the semi-final where they beat Dixie Grammar School by 41-0 to qualify for the cup final, which was a close affair against Crackley Hall from Coventry. At full time the scores were level at 7-7 so the game went into 'golden try' extra time – the first team to score being the winners! George Whitelaw managed to cross the line to clinch the national title for Littlegarth. The successful team members are Toby Bryant, Jack Christey, Taylor Clark, Seb Gifford, Charlie Gillam, Thomas Hardwick (Captain), Milo Howard, Harvey Keeble, Jamie McCarroll, Charlie Richardson, Thomas Ryan and George Whitelaw.

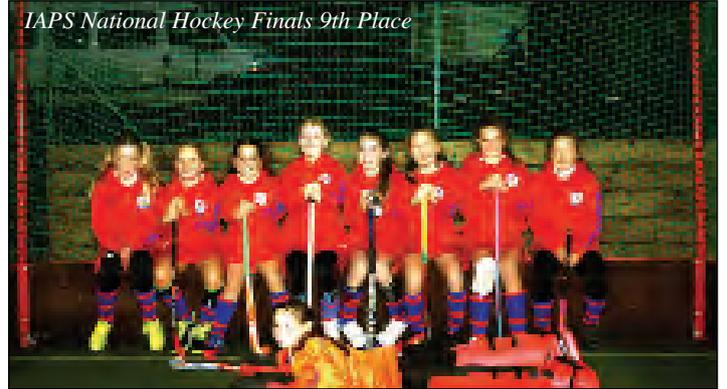
Having qualified for the IAPS National finals by virtue of their excellent performance in the regional competition, Littlegarth's U11 girls' hockey team made the long trek to Derbyshire for an early start to the National finals.

The wet weather meant that the girls had no opportunity to practise on the Astroturf pitches before their first match. Twenty four teams out of an original entry of one hundred and fifty six schools were organised into groups, and Littlegarth improved with each match to finish 3rd in their group. This meant that they progressed to the 9th – 16th place playoffs and their improvement continued to such an extent that they finished in a very creditable 9th place, beating prestigious schools like Millfield in the process.

The team of Mary Robinson (captain), Esmae Macgregor, Verity Iglesias, Emma Watling, Maddy Mann, Lydia Gee, Francesca Hughes,

Harriet Pettit & Millie Church can be very proud of this achievement. Headmaster, Peter Jones, is delighted with the excellent performances of all the Littlegarth sports teams this term: "From the age of eight, all our children represent the school with significant enthusiasm each term and our results across the ability ranges have been outstanding. To have three Littlegarth teams achieving success at national level in one term fills us all with pride. I would like to congratulate all the children involved and in particular the team coaches, Matthew Elmakahleh, Rob Fidler, Sarah Garrard and Zoe McBeth".

IAPS National Hockey Finals 9th Place



ISA Rugby 14



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Littlegarth School, Horkesley Park, Nayland, Colchester, Essex, CO6 4JR.

RUNNING FOR MACS



Above: Jasmine and Dawn at the Boxford Village Hall Christmas Fair

Jasmine Lait and Dawn Mace are running the London marathon next year and have a combined total of £2,300 to raise for their chosen charity MACS.

MACS (Micro and Anophthalmic Children's Society) is the UK's national charity for children born without eyes or with underdeveloped eyes. We support families of children born with Microphthalmia (small eyes), Anophthalmia (no eyes) and/or Coloboma (cleft of the eye). Our services are accessed by around 500 families around the UK and some who are further afield.

Both Dawn and Jasmine have several fund raising ideas, one of which

will be a grand prize draw with a top prize of a weekend dinner bed and breakfast in Dorset. They will be advertising details of this at a later date and how you can purchase a ticket with a chance to win.

They would like to thank everyone that came along to the Boxford village hall Christmas fair and supported them. With your help they managed to raise £520 to help kick start their total target of £2300.

In the mean time, if you know of anyone that would be willing to donate a prize please contact jasminelait@btinternet.com.

If you would like to sponsor us then please go to www.justgiving.com and enter either Jasmine Lait or dawn mace to make your donation.

MARY'S HOUSE CAKE STALL



Cakes and Savouries, Jams and Marmalade together with a big selection of African beads were on sale in Mary's House on Saturday 22 November in aid of the orphanage in Entebbe, Uganda. I can vouch for the cakes being delicious.




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For further information please contact Laura at laura@laura.precisionmail.com or telephone 01787 210990.

KING ARTHUR AND THE PHILOSOPHERS STONE CAME TO BOXFORD



Left:
King Dick (Jeremy Morgan) and Queen Amonia (Alison Barlow) celebrate their Wedding and Coronation with Left to right the Dame (Nick Elliott), Pocking her head through the middle Sir Mince About (Coralie Marshall), Nancy Puke (Hannah Murphy) and behind Maria Limpet (Liz De Alwis).

Bottom Right:
Princess Amonia visits the castle Kitchens and Laundry with members of the staff and Sabella Swill (Elaine Horne) whose impersonation or not of Pam Ayres was great.

Below:
Seaweed (Derek, "I can't remember my lines" Butler) and Coblers (Tony Murphy) in the Boxford Post Office. Tony has stepped into Vic Rice's Shoes and found they fit well.

Bill Horne, our local Bard, was probably influenced by Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone when He wrote this panto. Elements of the Arthurian tradition are woven throughout the Harry Potter series. Both King Arthur and Harry were heroes and both had the potential to become immortal. However that is where the likeness in the panto ends!

This years panto began with a zing when Miss Lesley's girls were on stage to entertain us with a traditional Irish Tap Dance which they performed very well indeed. Following the dancers that we discovered that King Arthur had suffered a breakdown after Queen Guinevere had run off with Lancelot. The King decided he needed a break and with his daughter roamed the country until he came across Boxford where he set up court on the site of what is now the Boxford Village Hall. He had with him the Philosophers stone which tradition maintains turned everything into gold that came in contact with. Add to this Morgana, a nasty greedy piece of work, a royal romance and the King opting to take out his pension, stir it up and you have the potted history of King Arthur's visit according to the Bard.

Two octogenarians need a special mention, Seaweed played by Derek, "I can't remember my lines" Butler and Coblers played by Tony Murphy came on after the interval and had us all in fits of laughter with their repartee and singing and supported by the Blue Bird of Happiness played by David Clapp who became the butt of their jokes. Derek did not disappoint us as he managed to forget his lines in one of their songs.

We also had a new dame played by Nick Elliott whose amazing outfit was only surpassed by the energy he put into the part

I know I have said it before but this Panto was a reminder of the wealth of acting talent, passion and production know how that can be found within the Benefice. There were also a number of outstanding performances from newcomers to the BDG.

I have to praise the exceptionally high standard of musical direction. Over the past few years under the direction of Ward Baker and Gareth Price the standard was continued

to improve. This bodes well for the musical that we are being promised for later this year.

The programme did not give credit for whoever prepared the meal during the interval and presumably provided the same high quality for three nights. in a row. Well done to everyone involved Ed





New Years Resolutions and Detox Solutions 2015

Are you ready to clean up your act and make 2015 your healthiest ever? We can help you make it happen!

Make this year really count; we have the practitioners and the expertise to provide the protocols and guide you through the pitfalls to attain your goals.

So if your body is aching and grumbling, your digestion is wheezing and rumbling; you're stressed, depressed and need some help, give the Natural Health Centre a call on 01473 826232

- **Holistic Healthcare.** Linking the body and mind; Detox and cleansing; back pain. Alexander Dent- B.Sc.(Hons)OST, MAO (manip), Registered Osteomyologist. Direct line 07800 542901
- **Counseling and Hypnotherapy:** Getting to the roots and causes. Sit in the driving seat of your life rather than being controlled by your habits, fears and anxieties. Elaine Carpenter. Hypnotherapy, NLP, CBT. Direct line 07929 744072
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- **Optimum nutrition is the bedrock of a happy healthy life.** Shed those pounds, get in shape and rebuild your relationship to healthy food and healthy eating. Louisa McKnight, Clinical Nutritionist

Come and visit our new purpose built clinic rooms in the tranquil setting of Kersey Mill. A professional facility set in a historic watermill site just off the A1141 at Kersey. Ample free parking, coffee shop, craft and boutique shopping on site.

Call now on **01473 826232** to book your appointment or e-mail enquiries at holonhealth@gmail.com

Natural Health Centre- *healthcare naturally*

SESAW



Here we are, January again and time for New Year resolutions. I've heard talk of dieting, stopping bad habits (I hope that doesn't apply to me hoarding things) and new health plans. One of our supporters is already keeping fit for a very special reason. Dave Carr is training for the London Marathon in April to raise money for SESA. Dave hopes to complete the 26.2 miles in 4 hours, as he did in Edinburgh four years ago. You can read more and donate on Dave's fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/David-Carr12

Looking back at 2014 we thank everyone who supported SESA, including those who braved miserable weather to help raise £1805 at our Christmas Fair and Grand Raffle. An unusual event took place when a party of SESA Volunteers was treated to a tour of the Mayor's Parlour in Ipswich. On a sadder note Boff, our resident tailless tabby who often greeted visitors, died in November. A gentleman among cats, Boff was respected by all, including us canines, and will be greatly missed.

I've just been out with lovely Debbie who responded to my plea for new helpers a few months ago, but we still need dog walkers and animal carers. Please leave a message on 01787 210888 if you can spare one morning a week, or would like to help with fundraising. We have many animals awaiting new homes including a deaf dog named Angel and Harvey the whippet, her constant companion. Next time I'll tell you more about the animals but now I've run out of time. If this article is late, the Editor will not be very pleased with me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua! Suffolk and Essex Small Animal Welfare, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP. Tel: 01787 210888. www.sesaw.co.uk

THE NATURAL HEALTH CENTRE

Your body is trying to tell you something. It often starts with aches and pains, feeling generally run down or tired all the time.

Traditional approaches tend only to deal with one aspect of your symptoms; your sore body, your dickie tummy, your anxiety. Traditional approaches often fall short of the mark because they deal with superficial symptoms, not causes.

This is why the Natural Health Centre is different. As a group of practitioners we cover a broad range of specialties, but we share a common vision and purpose- to get to the root of your problems. We do this by team-work.

Here is a simple example: Aches and pains have many components, including local inflammation and mechanical dysfunction. But it often runs deeper than that. It is now well known that digestive issues can cause tissue inflammation via a 'leaky gut'. However, changing your diet often requires more will power than you can muster.

And here is how we'd help you in this case: Sort out the tight muscles, irritated joints and lymphatic congestion; Initiate a detox protocol to reduce tissue inflammation and heal & seal the gut; test for the foods that are driving your immune system crazy and get you eating clean again; develop the mental techniques and clarity to overcome the cravings and the binges that set you back.

So if you find yourself on pills and tablets just to keep a lid on symptoms, or going in for yet another 'maintenance session' that keeps you in the same place, you might want to seriously consider another approach.

At the NHC we promise to give you the time and attention you deserve, to work our hardest to find the best approach for you as an individual, and to support your every step of the way.

This is the way you achieve lasting results, long-term good health and happiness. So don't waste another day- invest in your health today. Please see our advert in this month's Box River News. If you are unsure as to what therapy is best for you, please contact Alex Dent on 01473 826232 or 07800 542901 to discuss your needs.

FOB'S CHRISTMAS FAYER



A great time was had by all at the FOB'S Christmas Fayer on 29th November with over £2000 raised.

There was a special visit from Santa and Olaf and Elsa from Disney's Frozen. The children were able to do many crafts in the craft room and have their hair and nails done in the makeover room. They could visit the secret gift room where a gift could be chosen for Mum & Dad in secret. The grownups enjoyed tea, coffee and mince pies in the Christmas Cafe and mulled wine and sausage rolls were being served in the Merry Bar. The afternoon ended with a Christmas sing-along and a wonderful time was had by all... it even snowed!!

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - SUDBURY

We are here with one purpose; to provide the advice people need for the problems they face. We offer free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities.

The Citizens Advice service helps people to resolve their problems. As the UK's largest advice provider we are equipped to deal with any issue. Our advice helps people resolve their problems with debt, benefits, employment, housing, consumer, discrimination, and many more issues. It is available to everyone. For example:

Debt: If you have a problem with debt, it is important not to panic but don't ignore it either – it won't go away. The Citizens Advice service can provide information on challenging debts, covering whether the client is liable for the debt, whether the contract is enforceable and whether the amount of the debt is correct. Our advice service can also help with identifying options for managing the debt.

Benefits: We can assist you with identifying what benefits you may be entitled to. We can also help with obtaining and completing any benefit applications. In circumstances where an application for a benefit is unsuccessful then we can also assist with identifying and helping with any appeals against the decision.

Employment: Having a job is an essential part of most people's lives. When you are in work, you can be faced with many difficult issues, so it is essential to know what your rights are. We can help you with finding out more about your rights and how to solve problems.

Consumer: When you buy goods or services the law gives you consumer rights. These protect you from being treated unfairly. You may have received poor service or you may want to switch energy suppliers or cancel a contract. You can also learn more about what you can expect to find in a consumer contract.

Housing: Housing issues will always arise and therefore you need to know your rights and responsibilities. You could find yourself threatened with eviction if you can't cope with your mortgage or rent payments. We can also provide advice on handling problems with your landlord and help to avoid losing your home.

The above are but a few of the subjects on which the Citizens Advice service can provide guidance and assistance to anyone.

We are situated in Belle Vue House, Newton Road, Sudbury and we are open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, when we operate on a no appointment necessary drop in service during the mornings, from 0930, on each of these days. For those of you who have other commitments then we can arrange for you to visit us on an appointment basis.

We can also contact the Citizens Advice service on a phone-in basis. Our number is 01787 374671.

We are here to serve you as a confidential, free and independent advice bureau.



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Wot's On

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY

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

Monks Eleigh Whist Drives 2014-15

Come and join a group who play whist every third Monday of the month in Monks Eleigh Village Hall. We play 12 hands, refreshments are provided and we have a raffle.

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

Dates: 15th January 19th February 16th March 16th

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD VILLAGE WALKS

We meet at the Pavilion on the Playing Field at 10.00. a.m. on the first Sunday of each month. Walks usually take an hour to an hour and a half but there are opportunities at various points for people to return by shorter routes. Walks finish at the pavilion where light refreshments are provided. Anyone may make a donation to the Playing Field funds before, or after, the Walk.

Leavenheath Village Hall Digital Cinema

Tickets £3.50 per adult, £2.00 per young person
Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) for tickets
Arrive 7.00pm starts 7.30pm This months film on SAT 3RD JAN - "PRIDE"

Bridge at Newton Green Golf Club

There were only four and a half tables in play at the Bridge Drive held on Monday 1st December, and this was again disappointing.

The prize winners were:

Adam Waller and Phena Nott 3620, Alan Vince and Barbara Latta 2810

Rod and Judy Donnelly -270

Recent attendances have not been sufficient to warrant continuing with these bridge drives. However I will run one further drive on Monday 5th January and depending on how many players turn up will decide whether to continue. These drives have been running for over 20 years and it would be a shame to lose them, so please bridge players please make every effort to attend. Thanks Alan Vince 01787 373963

Newton Village Hall Events REGULAR EVENTS:

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

Monday and Thursday evenings : Highway 12 Western Partner Dance Club (phone Chris on 371006 for details)

Tuesday evenings: JT Steppers Line Dance Club (phone Jean on 377343 for details)

Friday afternoons: Art Club (phone Anne on 312346 for details)

Friday evenings : Sudbury and District Wargames Club (phone Brian on 312160 for details)

Polstead Cinema Polstead Village Hall

Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029

Arrive at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm. Friday 19th December "TBA". "Magic in the Moonlight" is booked for January 23rd.

SOUNDS OF THE PAST

The Museum of sound production, recording and broadcasting

OPEN DAYS

Sunday 7th December 10:30 to 4:00pm

The Old Chapel Monks Eleigh

In aid of Prostate Action and McMillan Nurses

For more info telephone Paul Goodchild 01787 372478

Supper Club – Sun 25th January

An exclusive dining opportunity presented by the 2 AA Rosette Lakes Restaurant. Enjoy a 6-course taster menu with a specific theme. Tickets cost £39.95pp! Call 01206 265843/262836 to book or visit the website for more info.

Valentine's Candlelit Dinner

Fri 13th and Sat 14th February

Treat your loved one to a romantic dinner in a gorgeous setting. You'll receive a glass of champagne, 3-course dinner and a lovely red rose for your Valentine – all for just £39pp. Call 01206 265843/262836 to book or visit the website for more info.

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY
A NEW YEAR SPECIAL

GARDENERS QUESTION TIME



Rupert Eley of Place for Plants
Sarah Cook former Head Gardener at Sissinghurst and Iris specialist

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE TO MAGGIE THORPE

Tuesday 6th January at 7.30pm

Spring Series of 10 Lectures at Stoke-by-Nayland Village Hall Starting Thursday 22nd January 2015, 7.30 pm



The Tower of London - A History of England with Roger Mannion



Following the 1066 Norman invasion William the Conqueror established the Tower in 1190 as his London stronghold. From then until the present time the Tower of London has been inextricably entwined with the story of English history. It has been a fortress, palace, prison, treasury, place of execution, zoo, and more. It has provided shelter, safe havens for 1000s until the present day. The Tower has been a place of historical and social, military and religious significance for almost a thousand years.

We shall examine the history of the Tower and the famous events, from the Beheading of Joan of Arc in the 15th to Queen Elizabeth I's coronation in 1558, from the execution of Guy Fawkes in 1605 to the execution of Charles I in 1649. We shall also see the Tower's role in the 19th century when it was used as a prison for the most notorious criminals of the time.

Roger Mannion has been a curator for the Tower since 1981. He is a retired school officer with a strong interest in history and has formally trained to teach adults. Roger's family has a tradition of observing the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower. His grandfather, the father, had been involved in the ceremony since 1900 and he has been involved since 1960. He will be at the ceremony next night for the 10th Anniversary.

Place: Adult £48 (includes after the lecture drink)
Come to the first session or please contact Sue Whalley for further info (tel: 01206 265843) or email sue@wsgl.org.uk

Future Dates
April - Thursday 9th April 7.30pm
July School - Saturday 10th July 2015

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Wot's On

FUN & GAMES NIGHT

BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL. We will once again be holding our Annual Fun & Games Night in Boxford Village Hall on Saturday 24th January 2015. Teams of 8 contestants (max.) will battle through the various indoor games and quizzes to claim the prestigious title. A fun night is promised for all with a licensed bar, raffle and refreshments. The evening will commence at 7.30 with registration and the first round of games at 7.50 promptly. Ticket prices are £48 per team. We have a limit of 16 teams so if you don't want to be disappointed please contact Stephanie Atkins on 01787 210444 or Mark Miller on 01787 210596, or alternatively e-mail Mark on Mark.Miller@talktalk.net We would like to get all teams listed before Christmas and, if you are not in a team but would like to help, please also let us know. It is never too early to book your place, so book it now!



Little Waldingfield History Society

Programme of Events - 2014 / 2015

21st Jan 2015 Len Manning, Member only event - War escapades by our local master of escape. Parish Room 7.30

18th February Pip Wright, The dissolution of the monasteries. Enjoy the economic jiggery-pokery of 16th century life & hear how Suffolk's up and coming young men made their fortunes Parish Room 7.30.

18th March - Ship of Dreams by James Hayward, The stories of Suffolk people connected to the Titanic.

15th April - Youth must have dalliance by Sarah Doig A romp through Henry the Eighth's life through the eyes of his wives and mistresses. All talks will be at the Parish Room in Church Road, Little Waldingfield, commencing at 7.30 pm sharp.

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

Booking Secretary: Diana Langford, Pitt Cottage 01787 248298

Tickets, Members £2.00 Non Members £4.00

Membership of LWHS costs £10.00 per person pa and entitles each member to the following benefits:

- Reduced price entry to LWHS events;
- Access to exclusive LWHS member events;
- Access to Suffolk Local history and other local events;
- and • Access to the Suffolk Review.

Pancake Lunch

Tues, Feb 17th, Pancake Lunch at Mary's House 12.30

Yoga classes

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

Come and enjoy an hour of stretching and relaxation. All levels welcome. To book a place call Marianne Marshall (trained Alexander Technique teacher and British Wheel of Yoga) 01787 210323 or email marianne_marshall@fastmail.fm.

The Haunting.

A supernatural horror story.

On a cold winters evening four friends gather to celebrate a birthday in a lonely cottage. But they are not alone; evil has been waiting two centuries for this moment to unleash hell.

A malevolent force has conspired to draw these seemingly ordinary people together to turn an evening of friendly banter and laughter into a night of horror from which they cannot escape. As the hours pass a series of unexplained and chilling events start to unfold which ultimately results in a hauntingly macabre twist, bringing the night's terror to an unsettling and violent conclusion.

The Haunting, by Michael Munn, is Boxford Drama Groups next production in March. It is designed to be terrifying, to shock and provide moments of tension. This is not for the faint hearted or the squeamish and is not suitable for children.

The performances are on Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm and tickets will be on sale from 1st February from Boxford Post Office.

POLICE PRIORITY MEETING.

The next meeting is in Assington Village Hall, CO10 5LJ, 11am-noon Tuesday January 13th 2015. Please come along & talk to your Safer Neighbourhood Team about issues important to you.



FUN & GAMES NIGHT

Saturday 24th January 2015
7.30pm for 8.00pm prompt start!

BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL

£48 per team – Max. 8 in a team

Contact Stephanie Atkins 01787 21044
Mark Miller 01787 210596
markmiller@talktalk.net

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LEAVENHEATH CINEMA SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD
Tickets Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266)
£3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person

Boxford Drama Group presents

She had waited over two centuries
and now would
unleash hell



Haunted

by
Michael Mann

Boxford Village Hall

March 11th, 12th and 13th at 7.30pm

Tickets £14.00 with supper. Licensed bar.

Tickets on sale from 1st February at Boxford Post Office

Warning: This play contains elements of violence, some violence is not depicted on stage and should not suitable for children.



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Magic In The Moonlight

Scripted & Directed by Wexley Allen



Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 23rd January
Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029
All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm

Boxford Study Centre Literature Group

An 8 week course on Monday evenings 6.30-8.30pm
Meeting in Greaton Village Hall, CO10 5NF.
Starting on Monday 19th January 2015

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

The Outsider

We shall explore the tension between the outsider and society in literature. These texts afford the chance to compare individuals alienated from the centre by ideology, gender, region and class. Finally we shall be considering the writer as outsider.

Texts are:-

- January 19th S Camus: The Outsider
 - January 26th and February 2nd: Shakespeare: The Tempest
 - February 9th A.I. Turgenev: Peter Ginzburg and Britten's opera
 - February 23rd Kate Chopin: The Awakening
 - March 2nd P.J.arkin: Picasso
 - March 16th H Pinter: The Homecoming
 - March 23rd P Fitzgerald: The Bookshop
- NB, No class on February 16th or March 9th

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

Further information from:

Mrs Eileen Tealik, Miss Fern Corliss, Education Centre, Sudbury CO10 3PY
Telephone: 01787 210031

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

Forthcoming Events Diary

January

5 Bridge at Newton golf club		Newton Golf Club	
6 Gardeners Question Time	Boxford Gardening Society	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm
21 Members only, Les Manning	Little Waldingfield History Society	Parish Room	7.30pm
24 Fun and Games Night	Boxford Community Council	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm

February

16/19 Holiday Club	Sunflower group		9am to 4pm
17 Pancake Lunch	Groton PCC	Mary's House	12.30
18 The Dissolution of the Monasteries	Little Waldingfield History Society	Parish Room	7.30pm

March

7 The Friendly invasion lecture by Clive Stevens	Groton PCC	Groton Village Hall	7.30pm
12/13/14 The Haunting	Boxford Drama Group	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm
18 Ship of Dreams, James Hayward	Little Waldingfield History Society	Parish Room	7.30pm

April

15 Youth must have Dalliance Sarah Doig	Little Waldingfield History Society	Parish Room	7.30pm
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First and Third Monday each month Boxford Parish Council Meetings in Bell House, Stone Street St, Boxford 7.30pm

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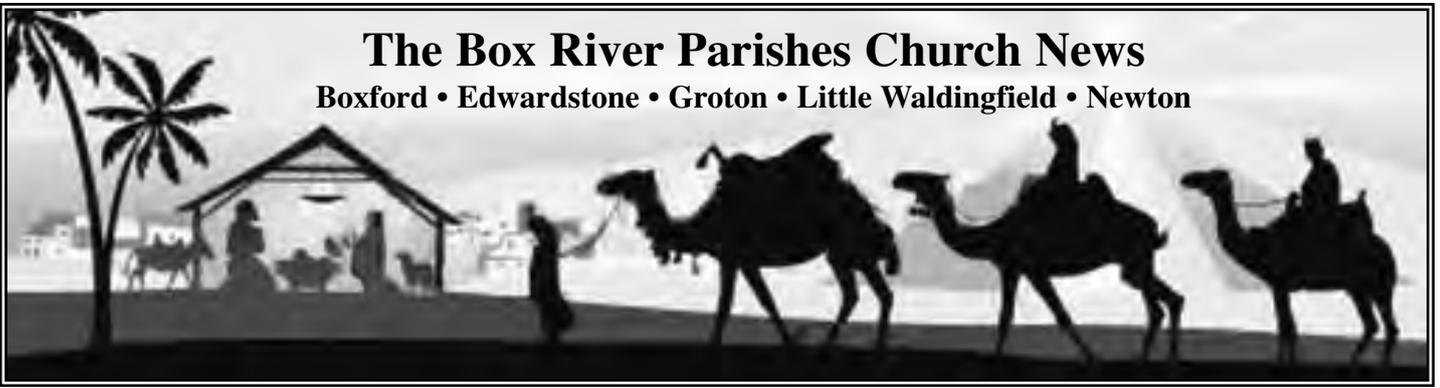
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The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton



Box River Benefice

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Boxford Church
Sunday January 4th
11am

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focusing on The Three Kings

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

Please, NO LATER THAN 13th January 2015

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

Thank you. Sue Knight. 01787 210785

email address: sedwards1946@btinternet.com

MARY'S HOUSE BOOKINGS

There is now a new 2015 diary in Mary's House for making bookings

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

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



THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwardens:

Ruth Kingsbury, Rose Cottage,
Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone tel.211236

Peter Patrick, Amberley,
White Street Green. tel 210346

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST.MARY'S



Sunday 21st December

6.30pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve 24th December

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day 25th December

10.30am Family Service

West End & Children's Corner At St. Mary's Church we want to carry out some improvements to the West End of the church- by possibly removing or relocating some pews, laying carpet across the church from the South to North side & by having some new tables & chairs for "Cafe Church" all age services. The space could also be used for community purposes. Improvements to the Children's corner are also planned. We need your help- perhaps by arranging a fund raising event, donations or by helping out at events. Ideas please to ChrisKingsC@aol.com or to Revd Judith or a churchwarden.



The Boxford Church Calendar

2015 is available from Village shops or from Ruth @ £7.00 per copy- makes a great Christmas Gift. Thanks to all those who contributed photos.

See ad in this months BRN



At this time of year it is a good idea to consider how we can help our church - with our talents, ideas & money. Please do speak to a churchwarden or Revd Judith if you can help.



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens: Jayne Foster:
Rambler, Bulmer Lane. 211360
Sue Knight:
Cotlee, The Street, Groton; tel 210785

CHRISTMAS CAROLS, MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES

Groton's Carol Service this year is to be on Monday 22nd December 2014 at 7.00 pm. Elisabeth and Colin Blackmore have invited everyone back to their home, The Old Rectory, Groton Street, after the service for mulled wine and mince pies. This year the service will be a little different, with a mixture of poems and the traditional Bible readings as well as well-known carols. Do join us!

PCC MEETING: The PCC will meet at Mary's House at 10.30 am on Tuesday 6th January 2015. Items for the agenda should be communicated to the secretary, David Lamming (tel: 01787 210360; e-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com) by Sunday 28th December 2014.

Rota
Sidesman: Mrs Knight
Flowers: Mrs Foster
Cleaning: Mrs Foster



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens
Vacant

Rota

	Sidesman	Flowers
Jan 4	Mrs Rattee & Mrs Eddington	Mrs Squirrel
Jan 11	Visiting	Mrs Eddington
Jan 18	Visiting	Mrs Gregor-Smith
Jan 25	Visiting	Mrs Roser



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:
Vacant

Coffee Morning 6th December

We were so pleased to see so many people at our Coffee Morning. Thanks to all who came to support us. It was lovely to be able to enjoy and coffee and cake and be able to have a chat to you all. So many thanks to all who helped with coffees and teas, those who helped behind the stalls, and of course to those kind people who made such delicious cakes and provided so many lovely Raffle prizes and gifts. Total raised was £400. Well done everyone!

Rota
Jan 18th 9.30 am Morning Worship
Sidesman: Pam Dodd
Coffee & Teas: Anita Steel
Flowers: Ineke Morris
Cleaning: Anita Steel & Emma Driscoll



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwarden:
Christine Cornell,
"Opus", Sudbury Road, Newton, Tel: 370331

23rd November: Our Service of Morning Worship was taken by Lay Reader Mrs. Penny Thewlis from St. Andrew's Church, Great Cornard as Revd Judith was on compassionate leave because of the unexpected, tragic death of her brother in Bermuda. Our thoughts and prayers were with Revd Judith, Rufus, her remaining brother and the family in Bermuda. Thank you to Michael Colleer who played the organ and helped with the choice of hymns and to all who helped.

30th November: The Five Villages Service was at Boxford and each church in the Benefice was represented there with the service led by Revd Judith. The first Advent candle was lit and the theme of the Advent Service was to 'wake up, believe and repent' not always easy to do. To help us, we were given a purple circular card tag and a minute to write on it one thought for us to take home and try to carry out the theme of the service.

6th December: On a beautiful, frosty morning our Annual Church Coffee Morning was held at the Village Hall. Although the number of people was down, they gave generously and enjoyed the warm atmosphere and friendship. Thank to all for the kind help given. Thank you to Sue Knight our editor for being so helpful during 2014. We send out good wishes and peace to all for the coming year.

NEW DIOCESAN BISHOP: On 20th November (St Edmund's Day) it was announced that the 11th bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich is to be the Revd Canon Martin Seeley. Canon Seeley, aged 60, is currently the principal of Westcott House in Cambridge, one of the Church of England's leading theological colleges. He will come to Suffolk with a wealth of pastoral, educational and leadership experience, both in Britain and the USA. Prior to his current post Canon Seeley served for 10 years as a vicar on the Isle of Dogs, a post also held by a former bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, John Dennis. Martin is married to the Revd Jutta Brueck, who is priest-in-charge of a church in Cambridge and they have two children, Anna, 14 and Luke, 11. A date for Canon Seeley's enthronement has yet to be fixed but it is expected that he will take up his new role sometime after Easter. Meanwhile, our interim bishop, Bishop David, will continue to lead the diocese with the warmth and enthusiasm that we have all come to appreciate over the past year.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SUDBURY AND DISTRICT

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

100 YEARS, 100 TREASURES: A celebration of Suffolk Churches. Copies of the book, produced to celebrate the centenary of our diocese in 2014, are still available to purchase, price £5.00. Contact David Lamming: Tel 210360; e-mail djlamming@hotmail.com.

Box River Benefice The Church At Worship January 2015

Village Daily Prayers: Each week,** said in the five churches: an informal, friendly service, lasting between 30-40 minutes, with Revd Judith. We pray for those who are ill, concerns of the villages, and for the wider world. Do join us!
Please let Revd Judith know the names or those you would like prayed for, or any situations for prayer:
Confidential messages can be left on tel. 210091 or emailed: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com. The rota is:
 Tuesday 9.00 Edwardstone, 16.00 *Little Waldingfield at Newman's Hall*, Wednesday 9.00 Groton;
 Thursday 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford. **[Please Note: no Daily Prayer 23rd December to 1st January]**

***PLEASE NOTE THE SERVICE PATTERN AND LOCATION FOR 8.00AM HOLY COMMUNION IS UNDER REVIEW ***

Sunday 4th	The Epiphany	
Boxford *	8.00	Holy Communion (W) Revd Judith
Lt Waldingfield	9.30	Holy Communion Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Café Church (for all ages) Revd Judith, CK and lay team
Boxford	18.30	Evensong Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 7th
 Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion - Mary's House Revd Judith

Sunday 11th	Baptism of Jesus Plough Sunday	
Newton Green	9.30	Plough Sunday Service (W) Roy Tricker (TBC)
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion Revd Judith

Wednesday 14th
 Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion - Mary's House Revd David Abel

Thursday 15th
 Little Waldingfield 19.00 Compline - Newmans Hall Lay Team

Sunday 18th	Epiphany 2	
Edwardstone	9.30	Morning Worship (W) Revd Judith and lay team
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion Revd Judith

Wednesday 21st
 Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd Judith

Sunday 26th	Epiphany 3	
Groton	9.30	Morning Worship (W) Revd Judith, DL and lay team
Newton	11.00	Holy Communion Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00	Matins Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 28th
 Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion- Mary's House Revd David Abel



Perhaps it is that I am getting older, but Christmas seems to come round again more quickly each year. I'm not talking about the way in which our shops seem to push the launch of the Christmas present buying season ever earlier (I swear I saw some Christmas cards and decorations on offer last August), but rather that the time that has elapsed since last I celebrated the festive season gets shorter each year.

I recall the late John Mortimer remarking that one of the problems with ageing is that breakfast feels as though it arrives every hour. For we of senior years, time compression has become a fact of life. Still, I plan to enjoy Christmas every bit as much this year as I have in the past. Only one aspect of this time of year presents me with any

problems – and this time I have laid plans in advance.

The giving of presents is a central part of the Christmas festivities. In this we seem to be more dedicated than our continental friends. Somehow the shops in Portugal do not appear as laden with gifts as those at home, but my experience of a Portuguese Christmas has been confined to a single visit two years ago. Much as I appreciate receiving presents – and enjoy choosing and wrapping them for those to whom I will be giving gifts – the fact remains that many presents simply add to the inevitable clutter that exists in my life.

A wise older relative once said to me beware of possessions lest they possess you. I now fully understand what he meant. Despite regular visits to charity shops, we still have far too much “stuff”. And this isn't just a problem here. In Portugal, where the house we bought earlier this year was from a deceased estate with the consequence that it was full of furniture and knick knacks, we have too many things, despite giving as much as we can away.

I know this is not just our problem. The growth of personal storage units – a service that simply did not exist a generation or so ago – plus television series devoted to de-cluttering crowded homes bear witness to a growing problem amongst the “haves” of our society. Many of us just own too many things. Christmas presents seem likely to add to the problem, which is why this year we have asked our respective families to remove us from the gift list.

Not that this will necessarily work. Visiting Elizabeth's sister in the run

up to Christmas, armed with presents for her three small boys (children must, of course, be exempted from any non-giving pact), we were somewhat surprised to be handed a gift wrapped parcel on our way out of the door. We said no presents, was the rather ungracious way we greeted this present. But if we don't give you anything, it becomes too one sided, came the reply. I suppose I can see her point.

Anyway, at some stage we will be faced with that inevitable de-cluttering imperative – downsizing. With our children long since departed the nest and no grandchildren yet in prospect, maintaining a five bedroom house feels like madness. Except, as I often point out to Elizabeth, it isn't really a five bedroom house – merely a one bedroom home, but with four walk-in wardrobes.

While we have put off the downsizing day – perhaps for too long – advancing years and declining capabilities will make it necessary at some stage. I feel a garage sale coming on – fine in concept, other than for the fact that we do not have a garage. All ideas on how best to deal with a house full of possessions that I swear must be breeding will be gratefully accepted

Brian Tora was Chairman of Little Woldingfield Parish Council.

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Gardening in January

Harry Buckledee

There is still much to do in the way of general maintenance. Check tree stakes and loosen ties if necessary. Check also posts on Pergolas and other garden structures. A little time spent on repair now will prevent the collapse of plants in summer when heavy in leaf and difficult to pull upright. Inspect stored bulbs, corms and tubers and remove any that are showing signs of decay.

Remove fallen leaves from around the crown of alpines, it only takes a very small number of leaves to cause rot in wet weather. Loosen the soil around the plants with a small hand fork to give good drainage and prevent water settling around the crowns.

One of the worst pests of plants such as Fuchsias, Cyclamen, Primulas, etc., which are overwintering in a greenhouse are the grubs of the vine weevil. If you have plants which show sign of roots then you can be fairly sure the trouble is vine weevil. Scratch around in the compost and you will find little white grubs, curled in the shape of a C, with brown heads. They are not always confined to greenhouses, but it is there that they are most noticeable. They are quite hardy and survive severe winters outside. Attacks out of doors are most noticeable on plants grown in containers. The adults are most noticeable on plants grown in containers. The adults are black, wingless beetles and although they cannot fly they can travel quite fast over a fair distance. The beetles lay eggs in July around the base of plants and when they hatch the grubs feed on the roots of plants for several months before pupating. The adult weevils come out at night and feed on the leaves of plants. The usual signs of damage are irregular shaped notches around the edges. Beetles need somewhere to hide during the day and this can be provided by laying rolls of paper or a

handful of straw which can be shaken onto a piece of white paper and any beetles shaken out can be destroyed. Outdoors conifers can provide excellent hiding places during daytime and they can come out at night and attack more succulent plants.

There are several proprietary vine weevil control preparations on sale at garden shops which are affective.

Never use old, once used compost, for potting as this may contain eggs or grubs.

Put a layer of strawy manure around rhubarb and cover with a large box to encourage early growth. Lift one or two crowns and expose them to frost for a few days then plant them under the greenhouse staging. Keep them in the dark and they will soon produce an early crop. Once sticks have been pulled from forced crowns they should be replanted outside and allowed to establish for a couple of years before using again.

Top 10 jobs this month

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

When the weather allows, carry on clearing paths of moss and leaves.

After heavy snowfall, gently brush snow off conifers and hedges to stop the weight forcing them apart. If you have a chance, pack the branches of tender trees and shrubs with straw and secure with fleece to protect them from the cold; thick dry mulches will also protect roots from freezing conditions.

If you haven't already done this, lay old carpeting or something similar over cold frames to protect them and check the insulation in greenhouses and that heaters are working properly.

When soil conditions allow, continue to dig over beds and borders, incorporating as much organic matter as you can. Forking over not only helps prepare the soil for next year, it helps reduce pests by exposing them to hungry birds.

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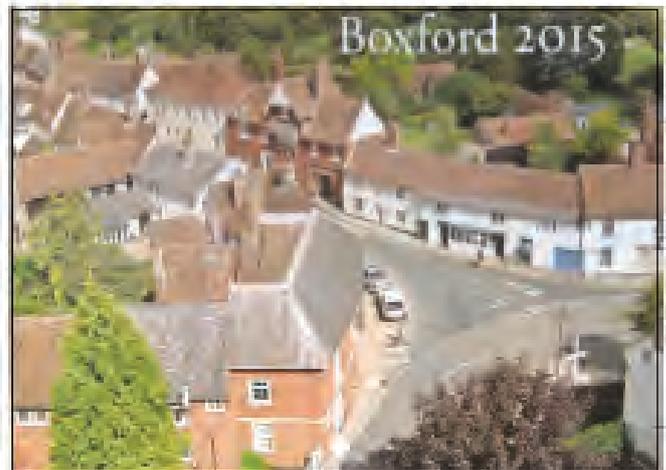
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The Boxford 2015 Calendar is now available in village shops or in church. Will make a lovely Christmas gift.

£7.00 per copy. All proceeds to St.Mary's Parish Church

Parish Council Matters

Edwardstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 pm Monday 17 November 2014 at Edwardstone Village Hall

Present: S Norman (in the Chair), C Britcher, S Flack, J Robinson,

In attendance: B Hurren (District Councillor), J Finch (County Councillor), PC D Marshall, A Robinson (Clerk)

To receive and approve apologies for Absence - Councillors Melanie Childs and Paul Clarke sent their apologies, as did Daphne Clark.

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any items on the Agenda: There were none.

To approve Minutes of the Meeting of 15 September 2014

Approved, proposed by Jim Robinson and seconded by Shirley Flack.

To co-opt a new Councillor to fill the Casual Vacancy: No-one had come forward and it was agreed that Councillors would continue to ask around to see if anyone was interested. The election due on 7 May means that all members will have to decide if they wish to seek re-election.

To receive reports from:

Suffolk Constabulary: PC Darren Marshall apologised for the lack of a police report but explained that they had been at full stretch following events in Long Melford. There have been 4 criminal matters in Edwardstone since the last parish council meeting in September, one being a person arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, who was subsequently not charged as his official reading was under the limit, and 3 assaults, including one on a police officer attending to one of the other assaults. PC Marshall explained the personnel changes due to take place in January and confirmed that crime reports covering the whole area will be sent regularly.

Suffolk County Council: James Finch had circulated a copy of his report. He gave details of the conference held by SCC attended by the new Rail Minister to discuss priorities for the rail service. He gave details of the Suffolk Skills Show which brought together local employers and young people looking for work, and explained about the grant of almost £5 million to help increase the number of shared bases for fire, police and ambulance services. James advised that a new £10 million contribution had been made to phase two of the plan to secure high-speed broadband across Suffolk, and pressure was being put on mobile phone providers to share areas to produce better signals. James also advised that there remains a high need for people prepared to adopt or foster children and he can advise anyone interested. Following a discussion about the severity of the potholes in Edwardstone once again, James informed Councillors that the contractor had invested in 2 large machines that can permanently repair 150 potholes a day. The Clerk will send him a copy of the pothole report prepared by Garry Peacock, which has already been sent to SCC.

Babergh District Council: Bryn Hurren reported that BDC's budget gap was £1m, similar to last year. However, business rates are providing an income and unemployment is low. He explained that a potential office share between BDC and Mid Suffolk was still being progressed though no decision had yet been made. There is still no news regarding the solar farm and is unlikely to be any until the new year. The mirror on Sherbourne Street has been removed by SCC. Bryn was pleased to advise that Boxford Fireworks made a good profit and was well attended. The Chair thanked Bryn for his work in mending the notice boards free of charge and he took the keys to check the locks.

To receive reports and questions from Councillors and members of the public There were none.

To consider Planning Matters:

Any urgent Planning Matters. The Council had been consulted regarding 4 applications for amendments to the approved plans for the development south of Daking Avenue and west of Swan Street, Boxford (Goodlands Farm) as adjoining parish. Councillors considered the plans and documents and resolved that they had no objections to the amendments to B/14/01249, 01250 and 01251 but objected to Application No B/14/01253 that sought to remove the proposed 7 space car park and replace it with a detached house and garage, as the additional parking would make a significant improvement to congestion on Swan Street.

Sand Hill development, Boxford: Following consideration of the development Councillors resolved to write to BDC in support of the application as the affordable housing was important to the area.

Financial matters: To consider and approve the Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment. The Council's financial position was reported by the Responsible Financial Officer. And Councillors authorised the proposed payments, proposed Clare Britcher, seconded Shirley Flack.

To consider donations and s137 payments for 2014-2015

Councillors resolved to make the following payments:

£15 to Royal British Legion for the poppy wreath; £300 as a donation to Edwardstone PCC; £375 as a donation to Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust; £350 as a donation to Edwardstone Village Hall.

The Council will reconsider the matter at the meeting in March 2015 and will make further donations should finances allow. The Council will consider making a donation to Boxford Playing Fields at that time. Councillors agreed that next financial year they will consider increasing the payment to the Royal

British Legion to £25.

To consider the budget and precept for 2015-2016: The Responsible Financial Officer presented the draft budget for 2015-2016. After discussion Councillors resolved to move £500 from the Community Account to the Business Saver Account. The Council resolved not to increase the precept for 2015-2016 despite the reduction in Parish Council Tax Grant and set the precept at £5625, proposed by the Chair and seconded by Clare Britcher.

To carry out a Financial Risk Assessment for 2014-2015

Councillors considered the Risk Assessment document and the Register of Fixed Assets. Councillors agreed that all was in order save that Clare Britcher agreed to inspect the bus shelter, which is insured by the Council, and the Clerk will investigate further.

To confirm the appointment of an internal auditor for 2014-2015

Richard Norman has kindly agreed to continue to act as internal auditor and Councillors resolved to appoint him, proposed by Clare Britcher, seconded by Shirley Flack

To sign the Bank Mandate Change Form removing Garry Peacock from the list of signatories: Following the resignation of Garry Peacock from the Council, the mandate was signed to remove him from the list of bank signatories.

To report on and consider any Highway and Footpath matters

To receive an update on the state of the potholes near the pits The potholes are in a very poor state and are included on the report prepared by Garry Peacock referred to above.

To receive an update on the mirror on Sherbourne Street

Melanie Childs had met with the resident and SCC who advised that the mirror had to be removed. This has since been done.

To report on the telephone kiosk proposals

Jim Robinson said that he unfortunately had had no time to progress the proposal to put a defibrillator in the kiosk, although Bryn had passed his details on to Vic Rice of 3PR. Vic had kindly left a message for Jim saying that he would be pleased to provide any advice and information required. It was noted that the kiosk is now in a very poor state of repair. It was resolved that a notice would be put in the BRN and on the website asking residents for feedback and in the meantime Jim would make further investigations into costs and other requirements. The Council can then consider whether to go ahead.

To report on and consider Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence:

The Chair reported that she had recently attended a meeting held by James Finch for the Chairs of parishes in his area. It had been a good opportunity to meet them and to discuss issues that affect everyone and look at opportunities to work together. The Clerk advised the Council of the pension update received from SALC and asked whether she could attend the election training being held by SALC in January at a cost of £20 (to be shared with Groton). The Council agreed to this request. The clerk confirmed her holiday arrangements over the Christmas period.

To set future Agenda items

The telephone kiosk, bus shelter and potholes will be added to the next Agenda.

To confirm the dates of the meetings for 2015

The Council agreed to the following dates, although the January meeting will only be held if there is a particular requirement to do so.

19 January 2015 (provisional), 16 March 2015, 18 May 2015 (Annual Meeting), 20 July 2015, 21 September 2015, 16 November 2015

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.



Parish Council Matters

GROTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7 pm Wednesday 5 November 2014 at Groton Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton

Present: C Fraulo (in the Chair), J Osborne (Vice Chair), G Smith, A Dixon-Smith, R Kelsey, N Cox

In attendance: A Robinson (Clerk), J Finch (Suffolk County Councillor), and 2 speakers

Apologies for absence - There were none.

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any item on the Agenda There were none.

To sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of 3 September 2014: The Minutes of the meeting of 3 September 2014 were approved and signed, proposed by Jeremy Osborne, seconded by Nick Cox.

To co-opt a new Councillor to fill the Casual Vacancy

No-one has yet officially put their name forward so this matter was carried forward to the next meeting or to await the election.

To receive reports from:

Suffolk Constabulary - The Police were not in attendance.

Suffolk County Council - James Finch had circulated his report prior to the meeting, providing information on the Suffolk Skills Show, a skills and careers event arranged to engage Suffolk's young people and provide an insight into careers opportunities available locally. James advised that a grant of nearly £5 million has been made to help increase the number of shared bases in Suffolk for fire, police and ambulance services. SCC had agreed to a new £10 million contribution to phase 2 of the plan to secure high-speed broadband across Suffolk. James confirmed that discussions are continuing to try and make better use of Boxford School minibus to assist in transporting children in from the outlying villages. The Chair thanked James for agreeing to fund the new 30mph roundels from his Locality Budget. James explained that Kier were making progress with filling potholes and had invested in 2 substantial machines that can quickly repair the holes on a permanent basis.

Babergh District Council - Bryn Hurren was not in attendance.

To receive reports and questions from Councillors and members of the public: To receive a report from John Moles regarding the Boxford Speedwatch campaign. John Moles of Boxford Speedwatch attended and demonstrated the equipment used in speedwatch sessions. Boxford has the equipment for one week once a month and is prepared to share this with Groton if required. John explained how the Speedwatch sessions work and Councillors agreed to consider the matter and place it on the agenda for the next meeting.

To receive a report from James Salmon of County Broadband: James Salmon explained how County Broadband is set up and how he believes it could provide Groton and surrounding villages with higher quality broadband signals. Equipment could be mounted on the Church Tower, in agreement with the Church, and residents could agree to purchase receiving equipment which would need a clear line of sight as the signal is unable to pass through trees and buildings. The Church would benefit by receiving rental income and free Wifi. He explained that this would have to be a community based project with enough people interested to take the matter forward. It was agreed that in the first instance the Chair would contact the Chairs of Boxford and Edwardstone Parish Councils and seek to arrange a meeting at Groton Village Hall in the spring, at which James Salmon would explain in detail how the system works and establish the level of interest. If there was sufficient interest a feasibility study would be held to identify the potential demand and location of that demand.

To receive a report from Jeremy Osborne on the September SALC meeting: Jeremy Osborne confirmed that he had attended the SALC Babergh Area meeting in September at which about 10 parishes were represented. There were presentations on strategic plans and affordable housing. He will attend the next meeting but will not be attending SALC's AGM.

Any other reports and questions - The Chair reported that she had yesterday attended a meeting with James Finch and the Chairs of the other Parish Councils in his area. This is to become a regular event to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing parish councils particularly with the push for localism. The Chair will arrange for someone to lay the poppy wreath at the Remembrance Day service.

Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence: To consider the options regarding litter picking/proposed Community Caretaker Scheme - Following discussion the Council resolved not to express an interest in this at the moment but to keep the situation under review.

To report on school transport issues - The Chair confirmed that an apology had been received from SCC regarding the error made on the first day of term.

Any other reports and correspondence - The Clerk confirmed that the website was ready for publication and Jeremy Osborne will provide the wording for the introductory page. It will then be published and advertised in the Box River News. The Clerk advised the Council of the pension update received from SALC as part of their Payroll Service. The Clerk asked if the Council would consider funding her attendance at an Election Procedure

training session held at SALC in January (shared with Edwardstone Parish Council if they are in agreement) the full cost of which is £20 plus VAT. This was agreed. The Council agreed to fund the usual Christmas gifts and the Clerk confirmed arrangements for the Christmas holiday period.

Highway and Footpath matters: To consider the issue of speeding traffic including funding of 30mph roundels James Finch has kindly agreed to cover the cost of the roundels from his Locality Budget.

To consider the provision of dog bin(s) at or near The Croft

Following consideration of public feedback and the cost of the provision and emptying of dog bins, the Council resolved not to proceed with purchasing any further bins.

Any other Highway and Footpath matters: The Clerk will report to SCC the 30mph signs on Fox Hill and at Horners Green that are completely hidden in the hedges, and will put a notice in the Box River News asking people to refrain from riding horses on the permissive path from the Fox & Hounds down to Boxford.

Planning matters: Local Housing Needs Survey - The Chair has chased Sunila Osborne but although she has passed the information on to the District Council she has not heard anything further. The Clerk will chase the Council direct.

Any urgent planning matters - Since the Agenda was prepared the Council had received notice of the following planning application:

Application no B/14/01334/FHA

Location: 5 Castlings Heath, Groton CO10 5EU

Proposal: Erection of single-storey rear extension

The Council considered the plans and resolved to respond to BDC with no objections.

Financial matters: To approve Statement of Finance and Orders for Payment The Council's financial position as at 31 October 2014 was reported and the proposed payments were approved.

To consider acceptance and approval of the Annual Return: The Annual Return was considered and approved, proposed by Gerald Smith and seconded by Adam Dixon-Smith. The Responsible Financial Officer confirmed that she had a diary system in place which would ensure that the financial risk assessment would be considered and minuted each year (this had taken place in May 2014) and that the appointment of the internal auditor would be approved.

To confirm appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2014-2015 and continuing: The Council resolved to confirm the appointment of SALC as internal auditor for 2014-15 and continuing, proposed by Gerald Smith, seconded by Jeremy Osborne.

To consider the budget and precept for 2015-2016

The Responsible Financial Officer presented the proposed budget for 2015-16 to compare with current and previous years figures. After discussion it was resolved that no increase in precept was required, despite the fact that the Local Council Tax Grant was down slightly, as the Council had sums in reserve. The Council resolved to set the precept for 2015-2016 at £4149, the Smith. The Council also resolved to move £1000 from the current account to the reserve account, proposed by Jeremy Osborne and seconded by Nick Cox.

To agree future Agenda items

Community Speedwatch, County Broadband, Local Housing Needs Survey

To set dates for meetings in 2015

• 21 January 2015 • 4 March 2015 • 13 May 2015 • 1 July 2015

• 2 September 2015 • 4 November 2015

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.38 pm.



Parish Council Matters

Meeting of Newton Parish Council Meeting

Present: Councillors Paul Presland (Chairman), Roy Gardner, Lee Parker, Rita Schwenk, Philip Taylor and Deborah Williams.

Attending: James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor), James Cartlidge (Babergh District Councillor), D Crimmin (Clerk) and 4 residents.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Vince (holiday) sent his apologies.

Declaration of Interests: None were declared

Requests for councillor dispensation: None were received.

Minutes of meeting held on the 10th September 2014

The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum: Residents raised concerns over the planning application for Newton Leys and the demise of a "permissive" footpath. The "permissive" footpath will be discussed at the January meeting. Reports raised are in Appendix A.

Correspondence (Appendix B): Following a review of the Correspondence and the emails circulated the councillors reviewed BDC's second consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy. It was agreed that comments from councillors would be consolidated by the Clerk and sent to Babergh by the end of November.

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

Finance:

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

b. The councillors reviewed the Budget Proposal (Appendix E) and resolved to set and Expenditure Budget of £11,185.91 for 2015 / 2016.

c. The councillors reviewed the changes proposed for NPC's Financial Regulations and resolved to adopt them from the 12th November 2014.

Planning:

a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/14/01136 Newton Leys - Notification under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment and Consequential Provisions) (England) Order 2014 - Change of use under Class MB(a) from agricultural building to 1 No. detached dwelling (part demolition of store building) & 2 No. semi-detached dwellings and resolved to object to the application on the following grounds:

i. with a working farm and Farm Shop either side of the access road to the property there are concerns over the vehicular movements to and from the site with pedestrians and H&S issues for customers of farm

ii. the applicant does not own the access road but has a right of way for shared access

iii. there is a covenant in the title deeds for one dwelling (Newton Leys) to be on the site not the number now proposed

iv. the applicant has reportedly been unwilling to contribute to his existing legal obligations towards the cost of maintaining the access road

v. there have been reports of aggressive behavior by the applicant towards Newton residents using the access road.

b. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/14/01229 Jarvis Farm, Assington Road - Erection of conservatory and removal of window and resolved to support the application.

c. A further planning application had been received since the agenda was posted. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/14/01020 Hollyhocks, Church Road - Application for Listed Building Consent - Rebuild exterior chimney and add two ceramic pots; Internal alterations, comprising installation of new bathroom (following removal of existing) and resolved to support the application.

d. The status of previous applications, reviewed by NPC were as follows:

Playground and Asset Maintenance Programme: The councillors reviewed the RoSPA report following the recent inspection of the play equipment and resolved that Cllr Gardner resets the fence post identified as being loose. Replacement lights are required for the two Christmas trees this year and the councillors resolved that a hedge be planted around the QDJ bench in the playing field.

Parish Survey: The councillors reviewed the following issues and agreed the following actions and review dates:

A134 Safe Haven A134 road safety questionnaire completed. Priorities to be taken forward with SCC Highways.

NPC Byelaws: The Clerk reported that on the 15th September 2014 the Department for Communities and Local Government confirmed NPC's Byelaws for the Green. With the Byelaws coming into force on the 15th October 2014 it was also confirmed by the Clerk that enforcement of the Byelaws became effective on the 3rd November 2014. The Clerk also confirmed that "a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale" contained in the Byelaws relates to the Criminal Justice Act 1982 s 37 and so means a maximum fine of £500. In addition NPC would be submitting a claim for its costs in any prosecution.

Local Housing Needs Scheme: NPC's preferred partner for the Local

Housing Needs scheme, Hastoe, is still in discussions with landowners on the availability of land for the proposed scheme.

Fit Village: A circular is to be distributed with the December Newsletter outlining the objectives of the Fit Village scheme and looking for groups to be established in the village.

Fireworks: There was a good turnout for the Fireworks on the 8th November but early indications were that both the ticket and refreshment sales were down on the previous year.

A134 Road Safety Questionnaire: The councillors agreed that a sub-committee of Cllrs Presland, Schwenk, Taylor and Vince meet James Finch and Steve Merry of SCC Highways in order to review the outcomes of the Newton Road Safety Survey. The Clerk to arrange meeting.

Street Name for track on Village Green: The councillors were disappointed that only 4 of the 10 households written to in relation to the proposal to name the track on the Green had responded. As NPC require a 100% agreement from the households in order to progress the proposal with BDC, the Clerk was asked to write to the households confirming that NPC is unable to proceed.

NPC Standing Orders: The councillors reviewed the proposed changes to NPC's Standing Orders and resolved to accept them.

NPC Policies and Procedures: The councillors reviewed the list of additional policies and procedures, required by a council that is considering an application for Quality Status, and agreed that the Clerk prepare drafts for their consideration.

Village Hall and Trust representative updates: The Village Hall Committee are reviewing quotations for repair work to the entrance of the car park and will be meeting on the 3rd December. The Trust has held a meeting with the residents of Little Green in order to discuss the track used for access and a meeting with SCC Highways is being sought in order to identify a suitable solution. The Trust and Golf Club have agreed a programme of ditch clearing.

Questions to the Chair: None were raised.

NPC Meeting dates

The following NPC meeting dates were agreed for 2015:

- 14th January • 11th March • 13th May - Annual Meeting of NPC
- 8th July • 9th September • 11th November

The annual Parish Assembly will be held on the 22nd April.

Exclusion of Public: The councillors resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the Clerk's Contract of Employment. The councillors reviewed the changes to the Clerk's Contract of Employment in relation to the resolution that from the 1st April 2015 the hours of work be increased from 5 to 6 hours per week and resolved that the Chairman may sign the changes on NPC's behalf. The councillors also reviewed the Contract of Employment and resolved that the Clerk's NJC salary point be increased to 23 from the 1st April 2014.

The meeting closed at 10.24pm.

Appendix A Public Forum

James Finch updated councillors on Suffolk Skills, the Blue Light Partnership, Broadband and Adoption Week. James Cartlidge updated councillors on Babergh's review of accommodation for its and Mid Suffolk staff.

Appendix E Budget Proposal

Income: Income sources for 2015 / 2016 have been based on those for 2014 to 2015. I have assumed that SCC will again agree to grant NPC £200 so that you can cut the footpaths twice a year.

Expenditure:

The following should be noted

- The Clerk's hours increase to 6 per week from 1st April 2015.
- There is an assumption that the Clerk will be offered a 2.2% cost of living increase for 2015 / 16
- A budget of £1,000 is available for any project that the councillors wish to undertake during 2015 / 16 • NPC is asked to consider a total expenditure budget of £11,185 for 2015 / 16.



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CHRISTMAS WITH THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED

This Christmas we are asking everyone to check in with the elderly and disabled in our Benefice who may be at risk. Everyone has a role to play to ensure that every older and disabled person in the Benefice is looked after during the difficult winter months. A quick visit to check on levels of heating and food, or just to spend some time with them can really make a huge difference." Here are our 10 top tips on how to look after our them this winter.

Visiting: There can often be a heightened the sense of loneliness and isolation around this time of year. Loneliness has been identified as being as bad for your health as smoking, obesity or alcohol abuse. However on the flip side, research has shown a clear link between increased social interaction and living longer so a real difference can be made by simply visiting an older person who lives alone.

Heating: Many older people can feel the pressure of fuel bills at this time of year and are often reluctant to use their heating. However it is vital that their living area should be kept at around 21 degrees as inadequate heating can lead to colds, flues and even pneumonia. You can ensure that draughts are blocked and advise them to close their curtains after dark to retain the heat. If the older person is having difficulty paying their bills you should advise them to speak with their energy providers for advice or assistance.

Clothing: It is important for older people to layer up during the winter months. Several thin layers will keep them a lot warmer than one thick layer as the layers trap warm air. You could also get a shawl or blanket for your older friend that will provide them with extra warmth while they are sitting.

Food: Food is an important source of energy which helps to keep the body warm. It is vital that older people eat nutritious, hot meals during the winter months. Offer to go shopping for them and ensure they always have enough food in the cupboards to last them for a few days.

Exercise: Keeping active is not only good for an older person's physical health but also their mental well being. Many older people like to get outdoors but can be apprehensive due to the dark evenings or inclement weather. Suggest going for a walk with them or strolling to the local shops.

Medicine: It is very important that older people keep up to date with their medication. If they need prescriptions or tablets, you could offer to

collect them for them from their doctors or pharmacy. You should also encourage them to get the flu jab if they have not had it yet.

Security: The dark evenings can be an anxious time for older people living alone. You can help by ensuring they have proper locks, bolts and chains on their doors. Encourage them to apply for a pendant alarm if they don't have one.

Safety in the Home: Various forms of fuel are used during the winter months to heat homes, and if vents are blocked this can increase the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. You should ensure that your older friend has a carbon monoxide alarm installed. There is also an increased risk of house fires at winter so make sure they have a working fire alarm. You could also advise them to unplug electrical devices before they go to bed.

Housing: Check that the living conditions are suitable for their needs. If they have mobility issues, check to see that their bedroom and bathroom are age friendly i.e. on a ground floor/proper railings etc.

Have fun – Listen, learn and laugh! Older people are a wealth of information, knowledge and experience. They see the world through experienced eyes and are always great for honest answers and alternative views. If you go in with an open mind, and not as a charity crusader... you will benefit by making a new friend who will enrich your life.

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Readers Letters

Sir

Brian Tora's December Soap Box really rang a bell with me, though happily not the telephone bell. I am sick to death of being offered a new gas boiler (no gas here), solar panels (my house is listed) and cavity wall insulation (the walls are wattle and daub), not to mention those calls purporting to help me with my unsecured debts, payment protection plan, accident claim, etc.

The last straw was when I was woken up a week or so ago by someone wanting to talk about my computer at 7.27 in the morning.

Grumpy of Groton

Sir

Brian Tora has asked for people to let the BRN know whether cold calling phone calls is a nuisance. In my view it most certainly is, and I believe its high time the practice was made illegal in this country, along also with the practice of selling lists of telephone numbers, many of which are hopelessly inaccurate because they are many years old.

Perhaps the BRN could start a campaign that involves local MPs, because nothing will get done without their help - an on line petition possibly - what do you think?

Andy Shepherd

Little Waldingfield

Sir

Poppy Appeal 2014

Once again the parishioners of Boxford, Edwardstone and Groton have risen admirably to the challenge in the recent Poppy Appeal. Total receipts exceeded £2300, about £180 more than in the previous year, making a magnificent contribution to the work of The Royal British Legion.

Sincere thanks are due to the tireless efforts of the House to House collectors and to the local businesses who display a collecting box. There was another large increase in the already significant contribution from the congregation at the Remembrance Sunday service at St Mary's Church

Brian Jones

Local Poppy Appeal Organiser

Sir

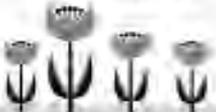
Von and Eileen Wish all their friends and relatives a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

They will not be sending cards this year but will instead be making a donation to 3PR.

Von and Eileen Whymark

Hagmore Green

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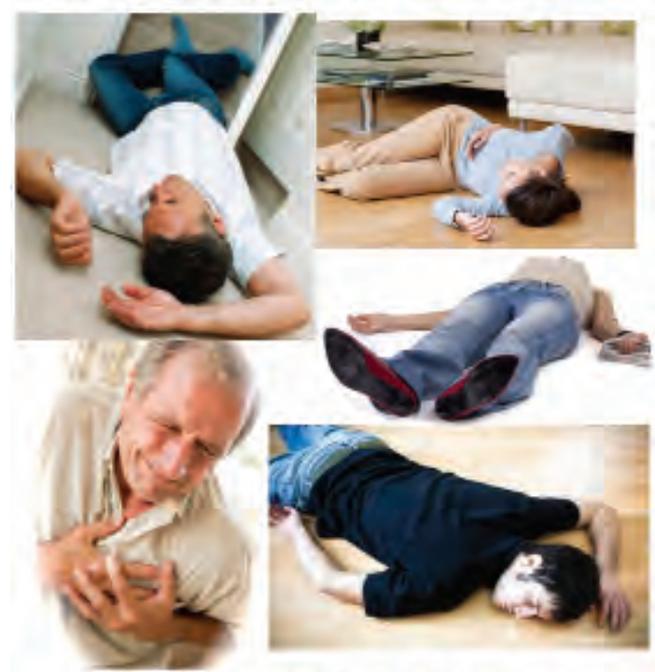
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Box River Benefice, Parish Councillors

Boxford Parish Council

Michael Norman	13 Gunary Close	210229
Julian Fincham-Jaques	42 Homefield	210376
Roger Balls	19 Daking Avenue	210136
Richard Gates	2 Brick Kiln Hill	210432
Robert Hobbs	7 Boxford Lane	211529
Cecil Hughes	Kiln Place, Cox Hill	210685
Sue Green.	34, Swan Street.	210603
Suzanne Impett	Amberley, The Causeway	210035
Cheryl Wilson	13 Swan Street.	211692
Debbie Hattrell	(Parish Clerk)	210943
Bryn Hurren	(BABERGH District Councillor.)	210854
James Finch	(Suffolk County Councillor.)	01206 263649

Groton Parish Council

Carey Fraulo	Groton Manor Farm,	210391
<i>Chairman</i>	Castlings Heath	
Jeremy Osborne	Waterside Barn	211960
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Groton Place, Groton CO10 5EE	
Gerald Smith	7 Castlings Heath	210958
Adam Dixon-Smith		210007
	Castlings Hall, Castlings Heath, Groton	
Nick Cox	3 Groton Place, Groton Street	210339
Rona Kelsey	Winthrop Cottage, Church Street	211799
Anita Robinson	Logan Cottage	
<i>Parish Clerk</i>	Boxford CO10 5NP	211673

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

Andy Shepperd	School House, Church Road	247980
<i>(Chairman)</i>		
Stewart Braybrook	Cypress House Church Road	247043
<i>(Vice Chairman)</i>		
Mike Ewen	Cobweb Cottage, High St Farm	211466
	CO10 0SS	
Dominic Kiddy	Green Farm,	
	Newmans Green CO10 0AB	07976577205
Barbara Campbell	Appleton House, Church Rd	
Matt Foster	Surprise Cottage, Church Road,	07779 003635

Edwardstone Parish Council

No confirmation of make up of new council yet

Sharon Norman	(Chairman) Dormers, Sherbourne Street	210386
Claire Britcher	(Vice Chairman)	211234
Melanie Childs	Edwardstone Lodge,	
	Sherbourne Street	211215
Paul Clarke	Hazel Cottage	210689
Shirley Flack	Mill Cottage, Mill Green	210050
Ian (Jim)Robinson	Logan Cottage, Groton Street	211678
Anita Robinson	Parish Clerk	211673

Newton Green

Roy Gardner	Vice Chairman	312346
Alan Vince		373963
Rita Schwenk		210838
Lee Parker		376073
Paul Presland	Chairman	379204
Philip Taylor		211265
Deborah Williams		378437
Clerk David Crimmin		375085
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