

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



May 2017
Vol 17 No5

PALM SUNDAY AT EDWARDSTONE



Lenny Southgate as Jesus and Charlie the donkey lead the procession to Edwardstone church.

The Box River Benefice Holy Week started at Edwardstone, where the 10:00 Palm Sunday Service began outside the Temple Bar, the gateway into the grounds of Edwardstone Hall. From here the congregation processed along the drive to the church, a reminder of the journey Jesus made through the gates of Jerusalem and thus sealing his fateful journey towards his death and rising again. The procession was accompanied by a donkey (Charlie), as a symbol of the beast of burden Jesus chose to ride into the City with Lenny Southgate as Jesus.

The procession was followed by a five villages service in the church of St Mary the Virgin Edwardstone. The service was well attended and included many children.

BOXFORD PARKING

The Parish Council have been grappling with the issue of parking in the centre of the village and have raised requests to the Council for the yellow lines to be re-painted but there is a lot we can do as residents.

Could we ask you to be mindful of where you park when visiting the village centre; of particular concern is the swan street/broad street junction that has seen almost daily occurrences where the yellow lines have been ignored and stone street itself, where we have had occasions where vehicles have been stuck because of the challenging parking situation.

We continue to press for support from both District and County Councils and will ensure that the Parish are updated accordingly

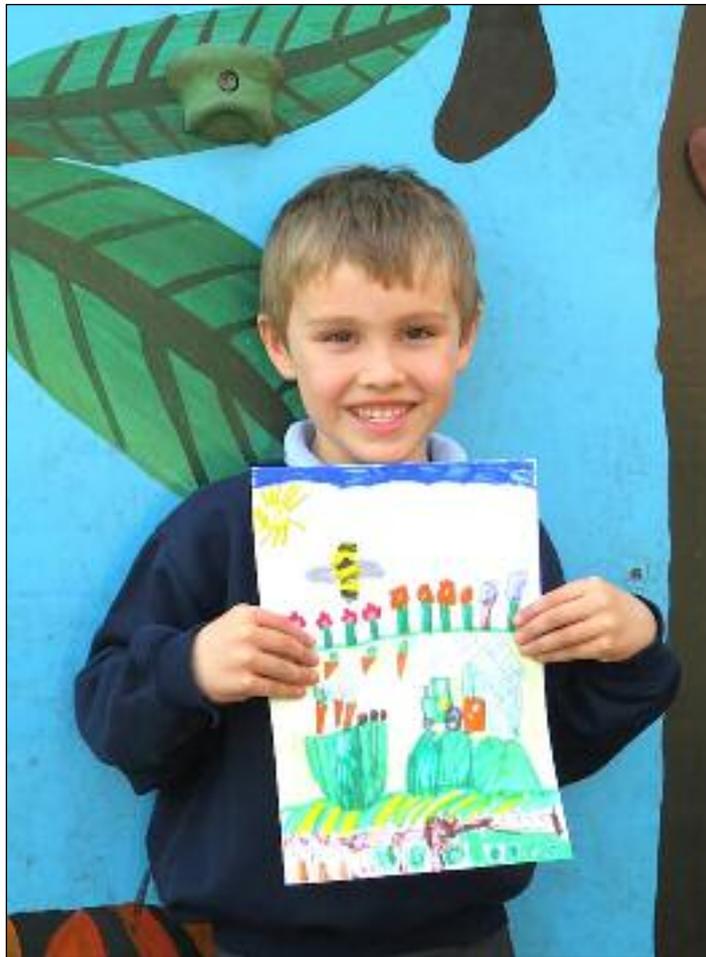
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ed.kench@btinternet.com

HENRY WINS FOR BOXFORD



Boxford School wins Art Competition.

The winners of the 2017 Hadleigh Show Programme cover competition have been announced. Each year HFAA ask local primary schools to design a front cover for the Hadleigh Show programme. This year judging took place at Hintlesham Golf Club where designs from 9 local schools were on display.

The overall winner was Henry, aged 5, from Boxford Primary School and his winning entry will be printed on the 2017 Show programme.

The top 20 covers will be on display in the Education Tent at the Show along with other art work on the theme of Gardening & Art.

Box River News

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

May 15th at noon

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GROTON'S QUIZ AND CURRY EVENING



Over 80 contestants took part in the 10th Quiz and Curry evening at the Groton Village Hall on Friday 7th April. It was a good fun evening enjoyed by all and provided plenty of exercise for the Grey Matter.

The selection of currys served in the interval were among the best I have had and the ladies who prepared the food are to be congratulated. I am looking forward to the eleventh Quiz And Curry evening in 2018.

BOXFORD WI APRIL 2017

We spent a wonderful afternoon in the company of the perennial Mr Potter (Bryan Thurlow). As a young lad in 1913 Horace Potter went to work at the big house owned by the Tindall Sisters. Old Efran Clark the Gardener soon got Horace working on the vegetable patch as well as taking cuttings from plants. When Efran died, Horace became the Gardener and together with his Brother Bertie who had returned safely from the War, continued to maintain the Garden. Horace took a shine to Rose who lived in the big house looking after the Tindall Sisters and when he and Rose married, they lived in the Bothy in the Knot garden. Many changes followed after the Tindall Sisters died and the property was sold but the couple continued to live in the Bothy even in retirement. What a lovely tale of a bygone age!

future events are in the diary

THE TULIP



Over 70 members of Boxford Gardening Society and their guests packed the Village Hall to hear a talk by Anna Pavord entitled 'The Tulip'. She told us how this flower has made man mad and caused greed, desire, anguish and devotion all beginning in the fifteenth century and then later brought to Europe via Turkey and the East India Company. Anna spoke of her six years roaming through Asia, India, Russia and the Ottoman Empire searching for the wild tulip, the origins of today's huge varieties and so much of her research was at the British Library and Art Galleries throughout the world where ancient manuscripts provided so much of the plant's history.

THE SUFFOLK WALKING FESTIVAL

13 May – 4 June 2017

This year, the Suffolk Walking Festival is celebrating its 10th anniversary and it promises to be bigger and better than ever before.

There really is something for everybody this year. Whether you're a novice or expert, young or old, walking with your family or walking alone, you are bound to find a walk that tickles your fancy.

There are a range of short walks that are between one and four miles. There are a range of walks between five and ten miles. There are also walks that are over fifty miles long for those who really want to challenge themselves.

You can take part in any of these walks at your own pace, with a group or against the clock.

The Suffolk Walking Festival is the perfect way for people of all ages and abilities to get out and enjoy the Suffolk Coast and countryside. Walking is also great for our physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. So come on, let's go for a walk!

Please visit www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk for further details.

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MAY 2017 Fridays doors 7:30pm music 8pm

12	<p>ALEX MERRITT Merritt's warm dry Getzian fluency is a joy! Alex Merritt TENOR SAX John Turville PIANO Sam Lasserson BASS Jeff Williams DRUMS</p>	£15
19	<p>PARTISANS Still thrilling audiences with their ground-breaking ferociously energetic performances. Phil Robson GUITAR Julian Seigal SAX Thaddeus Kelly BASS Gene Calderazzo DRUMS</p>	£16
26	<p>JONATHAN GEE TRIO One of Europe's most celebrated musicians, a prodigious talent. Jonathan Gee PIANO Rod Youngs DRUMS Ben Hazelton BASS</p>	£15

JUNE 2017

9	<p>MARK LEWANDOWSKI TRIO TRIBUTE TO FATS WALLER Mark brings his huge vibrant singing tone, amazing solos and great music. A brilliant trio. Mark Lewandowski BASS Liam Noble PIANO Paul Clarvis PERCUSSION</p>	£15
16	<p>SAM EAGLES SEXTET Young British alto saxist Samuel Eagles, the very fluent contemporary jazz bebop performer, makes a welcome return to Fleece Jazz. Sam Eagles SAX Duncan Eagles SAX Sam Leak PIANO Ralph Wyld VIBRAPHONE Max Luthert BASS Dave Hamblett DRUMS</p>	£18

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THIS MONTHS LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear friends,

Dear friends,

“Amo, amas, amat”.....or.....how’s your Latin?

Going to an all-girls secondary school (King Edward’s High School, Edgbaston, near Birmingham) in the late 60s and 70s – yes I am that old ! - meant that male teachers were something of a rarity and a novelty. In fact, in my time there, we only had four such brave souls. There was the young, slim, handsome, dark curly-haired maths teacher, who I and others fell for (it didn’t help my appalling maths, unfortunately...), the rather short-sighted scripture teacher (whose accent we mimicked outside his lessons – children can be so cruel can’t they?) and a physics teacher who looked a bit like an older ex RAF second world war pilot, complete with moustache. Last of all was our Latin teacher. Not at all the kind of academic, quiet stereotype you might expect, but a big, outgoing Yorkshire man with a ready sense of humour. He lightened what could have been very dull learning of Latin verbs by putting them in an entertaining context. I can never forget one of the very first phrases he taught us: “Salve nauta !” – in other words “Hello, Sailor!”. Quite when he thought we young girls would have the opportunity to make use of this phrase, I can’t imagine...



All this comes to mind because, once again, we come to the time of the church year called Rogation, and I delve back into my Latin to remind myself of the origins of the word. “Rogare” is Latin

for “to ask” and so, at Rogation, we ask God’s blessing on our land. We have had some wonderful outdoor Rogation Services over the last few years, asking God’s blessing on the fields and crops, thanks to our very kind local farmers and their families, who have generously hosted us. But this year, I am hoping to try something different. Rogation also often involved “beating the bounds”, when people from a parish would walk their parish boundaries to remind themselves and others of where their land began and ended.

Recently, several groups of new homes have been added to the village of Boxford. Some of these are occupied by people who were already in the village, but who now have their own homes for the first time, others have moved here for the first time. There are small groups of new homes too in Little Waldingfield and Newton too, and single new homes going up elsewhere in the benefice.

These new houses are now firmly part and parcel of our parishes, and the people within them are part and parcel of our village communities, members of our village families, as it were. It seemed to me that there could be no better way to extend a proper welcome to the residents of these new homes than to include some of them, at least, in a Rogation Walk. The logistics and route have yet to be worked out, but I am hoping very much that, on Rogation Sunday, 21st May, hosted this year by Boxford Church, many of you will join the church family on what we might think of as a “Walk of Welcome”, followed, weather permitting (or if not, perhaps in church. cafe-style), by a “bring your own” picnic. Watch out for further details announced in church or placed on church noticeboards.



Both the God of the Old Testament and Jesus himself in the New Testament placed huge emphasis on the duty (and joy) of hospitality, which was especially to be extended to those newly settled in the land. This is most surely a theme that has deep resonances for all of us in today’s world, and for today’s society, made even more starkly evident as we witnessed with horror the brutal treatment meted out at a bus stop to a young asylum seeker in recent weeks. Please join us to show your support for a different way of living and loving - the Way that Jesus calls each of us to follow.

Blessings, *Revd Judith*

THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ BY DAVID LAMMING Colour Bar” by Susan Williams



‘Colour Bar’ is a love story. It is also a true story. It is the story of the romance between Seretse Khama, the heir to the chieftanship of an African tribe (the Bamangwato) of over 100,000 people and Ruth Williams, a white English insurance clerk and how, ultimately, they triumphed over racial prejudice and political machinations both in Africa and London in the middle years of the 20th century. It has been described by Julius Nyerere, former president of Tanzania, as one of the great love stories of the world.

Those who have seen the 2016 film A United Kingdom, based on the book and featuring David Oyelowo as Seretse Khama (it was the digital film of the month at Polstead in April) will

be familiar with the story. Seretse was a law student in Oxford when he met the 23-year-old Ruth at a reception in London in 1947. They instantly fell in love. In September 1948 they married in Kensington Register Office, defying the combined efforts to stop them of the British High Commissioner in South Africa, the Colonial Office, the Church of England, the London Missionary Society, and lawyers in both South Africa and Britain. They went back to Seretse’s home territory of Bechuanaland, then a British Protectorate. The British government, aided and abetted by the South African Prime Minister, Danial Malan, then did all they could to prevent Seretse taking his rightful place as head of his tribe. Ruth was soon to be accepted by the Bamangwato but the favourable conclusion of a judicial inquiry (the Harrigan inquiry) to determine whether Seretse was a fit and proper person to discharge the functions of Chief was suppressed. Seretse was tricked into going to London while Ruth (then pregnant with their first child) stayed in Africa. Once in England an order was made by the then Labour government exiling Seretse from Bechuanaland for five years. Neither the then prime minister, Clement Atlee, nor Winston Churchill, who succeeded him after the 1951 general election, come well out of the story – Churchill reneging on a commitment made while in opposition to reverse the ban: instead it was extended for life.

Eventually, however, justice, as well as love, defeated the prejudice, lies, dissembling and trickery of the British government and civil servants. In 1956 Seretse returned from exile. In 1960 Harold Macmillan gave his famous ‘wind of change’ speech, and in September 1966 Bechuanaland became independent as Botswana, with Sir Seretse Khama (made KBE by The Queen) its first president. Seretse died in 1980, aged only 59. In 2000 Nelson Mandela called him “that great son of Africa.” Ruth stayed living in Botswana until her death in 2002.

This is not the first book to tell the story of the ultimate triumph of the Khamas. A Marriage of Inconvenience by Michael Dutfield was published in 1990 and has recently been reissued. This account by Susan Williams (an historian who grew up in Zambia) is meticulously researched (there are 46 pages of notes at the end), but it is eminently readable and a true ‘page-turner’: do read it.

Colour Bar was first published in 2006 by Allen Lane; the current paperback edition was published in 2016 by Penguin Books, price £9.99.

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Chase me up Farndale Avenue, s'il vous plait



Photo's Trudi Wilde

L to R Felicity (Frances Korablik), Roger or is it Jacques (Elaine Carpenter), Mrs Reece (Monica Murphy, George (Linda Rice), Thelma (Coralie Marshall)

Once again, the Boxford Drama Group Ladies turned to the Farndale Avenue series of plays for their Spring production having previously produced two of the side-splitting Farndales, 'The Haunted Through Lounge' and 'Recessed Dining Nook at Farndale Castle' with 'Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait,' which sees the hapless ladies of the Farndale WI attempt a French farce.

As always with the Drama Group, the performers couldn't be faulted for their enthusiasm and energy, with all the usual plot twists and a small cast of five playing what seems like hundreds of roles, confusion ensued.

The tone was set from the start, as the lights failed to go down, the music came in at the wrong time and the set was revealed with doors in the wrong places, and the opening scene being interrupted almost immediately! What followed was a riot of under-rehearsed farce, with some very well-timed moments of slapstick - one of the highlights for me being the collapsing door, which worked perfectly. By the time I lost track of who was playing whom, the play within a play began to break down as false moustaches and wigs fell off, with a smattering of gags, pratfalls and double entendres. It was a light romp that warmed the cockles like watching a Carry On film on a rainy day.

. This was a very challenging play with a small cast but these formidable ladies did it like no one else! The Farndale drama society (BDG) showed just how much an amateur drama group can get wrong in a two act production. An unintelligible plot, a plethora of doors and a grand range of characters made this Farndale offering as bubbly as a glass of champagne.(sic)...



This was Coralie Marshall's Swan Song. Coralie has been a loyal member of the Boxford Drama Group for more years than I care to remember and like a true trouper has barely missed a production and accepted everything that was offered, whether comedy, panto or drama, with great enthusiasm. Who can forget her performances in 'A Fish Out Of Water' in 1985 and the Importance of Being Earnest staged at The Quay Theatre in 1987 or her hilarious performance as Mrs Overall of Corny Antiques in the Ruby Review. She has performed in numerous productions over the years and will be hard to replace. We wish her all the best and hope to see her in the audiences of future productions.



A neat pratfall



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HENRY ADAMS CUPPER - A SUFFOLK PIONEER

A Talk by Geoffrey Robinson

Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome Geoffrey Robinson, secretary to the Worlingworth Local History Group and Records Secretary to the Suffolk Local History Council, to talk to us about Henry Adams Cupper, a pioneer who emigrated with his family to America during the latter part of the 19th century.

Henry Adams Cupper was born in 1845 at Benhall, a small hamlet 10 or so miles distant from Geoff's home of Worlingworth. Piquing Geoff's interest, Henry was a direct descendant of a Worlingworth churchwarden; he was brought up in Benhall and then Framlingham, educated at a private school in Yoxford and then trained in farm management by his uncle, William Mudd. He married Cordelia Harriet Capon in 1872 - see below. Cordelia was born at Red House Farm in Framlingham in 1849, hailing from a well-respected farming family, so the marriage merged two Suffolk farming dynasties.



In 1873 Henry went into partnership with his brother-in-law William Miles Page, renting 330 acres at Virtue's Farm in Hollesley. The country was suffering from a long agricultural depression, whilst since 1850 emigration had become popular, peaking from the 1870s as British markets were flooded with foreign corn. Encouraged by newspaper adverts offering large tracts of good quality farming land at cheap prices, Henry decided to leave Britain to seek a new life in the New World.

Geoff told us that in January 1877, Henry, pregnant wife Cordelia and their three young children boarded the steamship *Abyssinia*, a British mail liner operated by Cunard, in Liverpool. Henry had to say farewell to his mother and four sisters, so their recent Christmas celebrations were probably somewhat subdued. The fare for the family was 60 guineas, approximately £7,000 in today's money and a huge amount; it also seems that the winter weather was the worst in decades, so the family had to endure a 14-day storm-ridden journey across the Atlantic.

Arriving on January 29th 1877, the intrepid pioneers then took the railroad across the New World on a nine-day journey: NY to Chicago, Omaha, Laramie, Salt Lake City, Sacramento and finally to Redding in California; Cordelia gave birth during this journey, on the 2nd February.



From Redding,

Henry and his family took a wagon train north to explore potential settlement sites, before moving into the wild expanses of Oregon. Geoff advised us they stopped at Ashland, where Henry took a job of sorts; sadly the newborn baby died aged just three weeks. As spring arrived, Henry bought a wagon and team to take the family north once more; he was looking for an ideal place to put down roots, but in this process, he realised they had travelled too far north, so they had to turn southwest. In all, the journey took some 18 months.

They eventually settled at Monument in Grant County, obtaining a ranch with some land by "squatters rights", a few miles northwest in what is now known as Cupper Creek. We were told that a Native Indian uprising forced the family into Fort Heppner in 1878, where Henry helped in the defence of the fort. At this time, Geoff told us that Custer had made his "last stand" just two years earlier, so clearly times were dangerous, particularly for a large young family. The ranch was subsequently re-built, though it is not known if this was because the original had been burnt down during the uprising. Personal connections forged by Geoff with Cupper descendants

have unearthed family photographs from these early days in Oregon, which was taken around 1895.



Henry is in the back row on the right

Henry returned to Suffolk in the mid 1880s with his family, which now included two more children, to deal with the estate of his mother who died in 1885. He also took stock back to Oregon, which included three Suffolk Punch horses, some cattle and other animals purchased at the sale of Robert Capon's Dennington Lodge Stud in 1887. Henry spent over 100 guineas, or some £13,000 today, but unfortunately the two stallions died on the journey back, ending hopes for a stud.

During the 1890s Henry had two relatives with their families join them in the community in and around Monument, and in 1900 he gained the water rights to Cupper Creek (some 3,000 acres), satisfying the needs of a very large herd of cattle, a herd of sheep and a comfortable home.

Lastly Geoff told us that the "Suffolk" ranch on Cupper Creek remained the home of Henry and his family for nearly 40 years, until he retired to Salem; the couple's sixtieth wedding anniversary at Salem was then also captured on film - below.



Henry is fourth from the left in the front row

The talk represented a personal success for Geoff, who personally unearthed the tale following meticulous research over many years, and was hugely enjoyed by the 35 plus audience; as he said "it's the wonder of local history, going down branch lines (of research" with hope but no certainty of success".

Our next events will be at 7.30 in The Parish Room on:

19th April: The brilliant Ashley Cooper will tell us all about the myriad connections between Suffolk and India - it should be absolutely fascinating.

17th May: Mark Bills, a director of Gainsborough's House, will discuss the life and art of the great man - it should be really interesting and informative.

Both events are going to be great and we look forward to welcoming guests new and old to the Parish Room.

Andy Sheppard

Edwardstone & Groton's 'Lent Lunch' on Thursday 23rd March at Groton House (Pat Kennedy Scott's home). I'll leave you to select which one to use in the May Box River News.

About 20 people attended and £160 was raised for the 'Tear Fund' emergency appeal for funds to help relieve the famine crisis in East Africa Edwardstone & Groton's 'Lent Lunch' on Thursday 23rd March at Groton House (Pat Kennedy Scott's home). I'll leave you to select which one to

EDWARDSTONE & GROTON'S 'LENT LUNCH'



Photo David Lamming

Edwardstone & Groton's 'Lent Lunch' was held on Thursday 23rd March at Groton House (The home of Pat Kennedy Scott). 20 people attended the event and £160 was raised for the 'Tear Fund' emergency appeal for funds to help relieve the famine crisis in East Africa.

The Tearfund is a Christian charity called to follow Jesus wherever the need is greatest. They work tirelessly to help communities around the world escape the very worst effects of poverty and disaster.

They believe that the same people facing these troubles, also have the best idea as to how they can overcome them. Tearfund listens: helping people to rise out of their poverty, utilising their resourcefulness and determination. Tearfund works alongside local churches and other locally-based organisations to help realise these plans for a better future.

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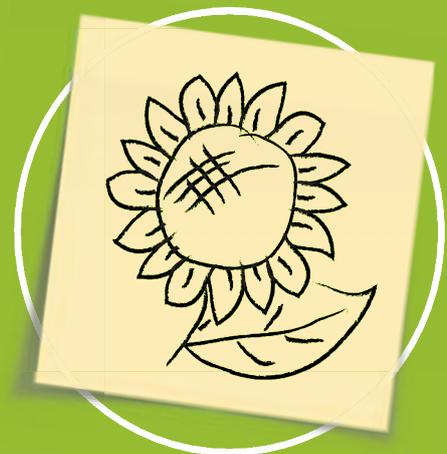
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NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

FIREWORKS 2017

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

The Boxford Village Hall website

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

3PR Stats for March

Hours covered were out of 744hrs they were on duty 605hrs with 18 activations

Harry Buckledee

Following a recent spell in hospital after not being too well for a while, Harry decided he could no longer live on his own. Being Suffolk borne and bred, he did not want to move to live with his daughter in Somerset but decided he would like to be in a care home in the Sudbury area so that he would not be far away from his many friends. As he will be 98 in July, it is time for him to enjoy being looked after.

He is now settled in at St Joseph's Care Home, The Croft, Sudbury, CO10 1HR - Tel: 01787 888460. He is looking really well and enjoying the company. Visiting is at any time. You can even join him for lunch as long as they have been given prior notice. It is a lovely home in the prettiest part of Sudbury and everyone is very welcoming. You can also use the above number to speak to him - the staff just give him a handset.

He is looking forward to visits from his friends and will happily dispense gardening advice if required.

Janet Dodwell (Harry's daughter)

AGM of the Boxford Playing Fields Committee,

You are most welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Boxford Playing Fields Committee, which is being held on Wednesday, 24th May at 7.30pm at the Pavilion. If there is anything you would like to discuss or have any comments regarding the playing fields, allotments, play area and tennis courts, please do come along. If you are interested in becoming a committee member, we would be happy to hear from you. For further information, contact Chairman David Burden on 01787 211926.

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- Organise a Neighbourhood Watch Group
- Track down a trustworthy babysitter
- Find out who does the best paint job in town
- Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- Find a new home for an outgrown bike

Finally call that nice man down the street by his first name
Nextdoor's mission is to provide a trusted platform where neighbours work together to build stronger, safer, happier communities, all over the world.

Our mission

We created this company because we believe that the neighbourhood is one of the most important and useful communities in a person's life. We hope that neighbours everywhere will use the Nextdoor platform to build stronger and safer neighbourhoods around the world."

POLSTEAD COMMUNITY SHOP

AFTERNOON OF CELEBRATION

The (usually brief) Annual General Meeting for Polstead Community Shop will be held on Saturday 13th May at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. It will be followed by an 'Afternoon of Celebration', to mark the completion of the Shop's recent make-over.

The Shop has undergone a lot of changes over the past year and it is hoped that as many people as possible will wish to join us on this occasion to help celebrate our new-look.

We will endeavour to keep the Shop open all day and during the afternoon there will be special offers and tastings for all our customers, including a free glass of bubbly in the Shop.

We have had to order a new batch of Polstead souvenir mugs, as our present stock has almost run out and we have taken this opportunity to create a new design, which should prove popular with locals and visitors alike.

Tea and cakes will be available in the Hall from the end of the AGM and a Celebration Cake (a Daphne's special) will be cut at 3.00pm.

DO COME AND JOIN THE PARTY!

Do you know an inspiring young person?

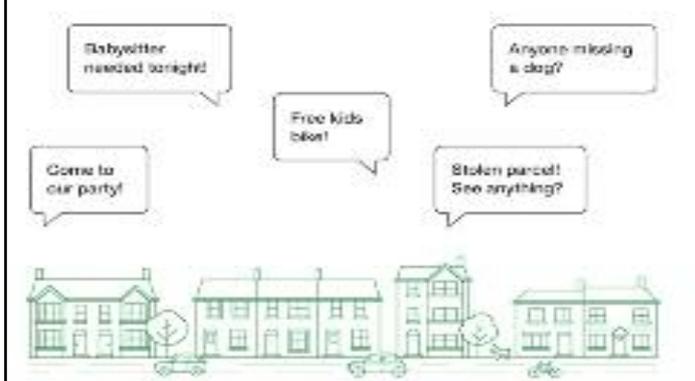
The K&S Cup is back!

To celebrate Boxford's brilliant youngsters, The K&S Cup is given annually to a young person in the village that has made a positive difference to the Boxford community over the last 12 months.

The winner receives £50 in cash and gets awarded the cup with their name engraved on it.

Do you know of anyone aged 19 or under that you feel would be an ideal winner this year? If so, let us know by nominating online at <http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/KandSCup.cfm>

The deadline for nominations is Saturday 15th July and the winner will be announced at the Boxford Playing Fields 50 event on Saturday 29th July.



Please join your Boxford neighbours on Nextdoor

Nextdoor is the trusted online social network just for Boxford neighbours. On our new neighbourhood site and app, we can share recommendations for trades, plan neighbourhood events, discuss safety, and things for sale and much more.

Sign up to Nextdoor today and help build a better online village community in Boxford and surrounding villages.

Sign up for Nextdoor today.

Download the Nextdoor app on the App Store or Google Play.

<https://nextdoor.co.uk>

Invite code: Z5RBYM

Nextdoor

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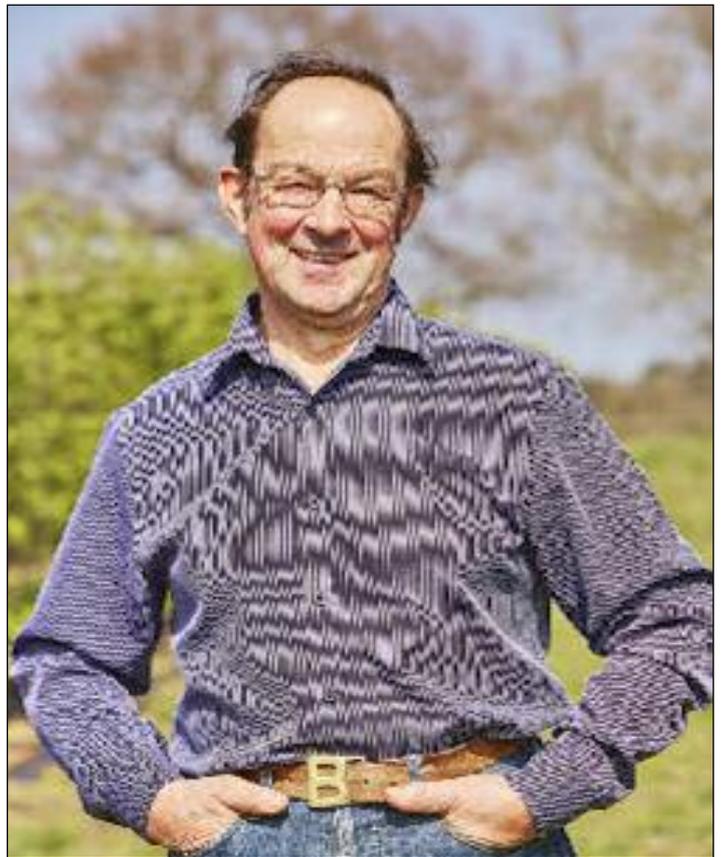
JAMES FINCH - Caring and Speaking for our Community

It has been a privilege to have been your Conservative County Councillor for nearly eight years here in the Stour valley – a most beautiful area which we need to protect. I am asking for your vote to allow me to continue as your county councillor for another four years. I have lived and worked in Suffolk for over 34 years, and am well known to many of you with a reputation for “getting things done”.

I am successfully leading campaigns to improve rural road safety, to reduce speeding through our mediaeval villages, and I am committed to protecting our villages from the ever increasing heavy traffic.

As a lifelong Christian Conservative, I hold strong “social” conservative principles which primarily protect the vulnerable backed by firm policies for strong financial management.

I will continue to work for local economic growth and local jobs, high educational standards in our local schools, care of the elderly, fast local broadband for the outlying villages still not connected, undergrounding of any future additional power lines and the protection of our ‘AONB’s’ in Suffolk.



BRYN HURREN Putting People before Politics

I have been selected to stand as your Liberal Democrat candidate across the twelve villages that make up the County Council Division of Stour Valley.

If my name sounds familiar, it is because I have stood as a candidate for this seat in three previous elections. On one occasion, I narrowed the Conservative majority to only 44 votes to make this a very marginal seat. If, like me, you do not like the way your County Council is run, then a vote for me may well make a difference for you, your village and your county. Since I stood four years ago, I have witnessed the decimation of our education services and growing pressure on our teachers. Social care is in a terrible state and starved of money, our police are largely invisible in our villages, towns and rural areas and our roads are crumbling, potholed, overgrown and poorly maintained. All the time this is going on we are being fed a host of statistics to the contrary and the situation is getting worse while the current administration builds up reserves for a rainy day which might just be here already.

I am a very experienced campaigner and have spent eight years as a Parish Councillor, eight years as a school governor and eighteen years as a District Councillor on Babergh representing the Boxford ward (the five villages in the north of this County Council Division). I will endeavour to meet as many of you on the doorstep as I possibly can but I recently had a total knee replacement and walking long distances may be a little difficult this time. If you would like to chat and find out what I can do for you, your school, your business or your village please get in touch and I, or one of my team, will contact you personally. If you need a lift on polling day please contact me and I will happily arrange that for you.

Remember

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

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

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Based in Boxford, Suffolk, ITworx provide computer support, repair and tuition to domestic customers.

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- Commercial property - Commercial German legal services
- Employment - Environmental Law -
- Estates, trusts and wills - Family and children
- Farming and rural business affairs
- Health and safety - Licensing - Litigation/mediation
- Residential property - Rural business affairs

Bates Wells & Braithwaite Solicitors

27 Friars Street Sudbury C0102AD
T: 01787 880440 E: solicitors@bwblegal.com

Wot's On

LWHS Programme of Events - 2017

19th April

Connections between Suffolk and India by Ashley Cooper.

Ashley is a brilliant speaker and this talk will be full of surprises.

17th May The Life and Art of Thomas Gainsborough by Mark Bills.

Mark is a director of Gainsborough's House, so who better to speak to us.

14th June The life and times of Joan of Arc by Joy Bounds.

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

SHOPPING DAY

in aid of Cancer Research UK Wed 26th April 2017 10am-2pm

Chamberlin Hall, Chamberlin Close, Wattisham Road, Bildeston, Hot Footed ladies quality shoes & sandals, ladies clothes, jewellery, accessories for all and more...

£3 Entrance to CANCER RESEARCH UK (£2 after 1pm)

Refreshments & light lunches available available.

Our Facebook link is: <http://www.facebook.com/charityshoppingday>

KERSEY PLANT SALE

A plant sale is being held on Saturday 13th. MAY. 2-4 pm in St.Mary's Church

Perennials,annuals,basket and vegetable plants plus much more Refreshments available. In aid of church funds.

Nayland Church Fete

Monday 29th May at The Nayland Playing Field

Raffle £150 1st Prize, Classic Vehicle Display, Children's Sports

Novelty Adult Sports Tug-of-War, Sideshows for all ages

Stalls include: Plants, Jewellery, China, Toys, Vintage, Glass, Garden Tools

Ice Cream, Homemade Teas, Hot Dogs, Strawberries & Cream

Admission: Adults £2, Children 50p, Concessions £1

FREE PARKING

BOXFORD
GARDENING SOCIETY

John Cullen of John Cullen Gardens Limited

Plants for pollination, scent and taste

All lovingly grown in Lincolnshire



Tuesday 2nd May 7.30pm
at Boxford Village Hall



GAMES
FUNFAIR
FOOTY
Demonstrations
BEER TENT
GOLF
BBQ
Bouncy Castle
Fish & Chips
Handbells
CRICKET
CYCLE CLUB
TENNIS

1967-2017
Playing Fields 50

BOXFORD'S
GOLDEN
FUN DAY!

THE BEAVERS

SATURDAY 29TH JULY

Celebrating 50 years of the Playing Fields
& the Community Council

Starts: 2pm/Bands: 5pm/Ends: 11pm

Reg. Charity 2046102

BOXFORD
GARDENING SOCIETY

PLANT SALE

At The White Hart Boxford



Saturday May 13th 10am till 12 noon

ALL WELCOME!!

Wot's On

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES

MAY 2017

Thursday 4th	7.00 am	Suffolk County Council election
Saturday 6th	10.00 am	Church coffee morning and gift day
Tuesday 9th	2.30 pm	Fireside Club – bird quiz
Wednesday 10th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 23rd	12.30 for 1.00 pm	Fireside Club – Easter lunch and raffle

The Edwardstone Art Group

The Edwardstone Art Group are a group of friends who meet up in Edwardstone Parish Hall on a Wednesday to paint and exchange ideas. They paint in all mediums and styles producing a varied show. This is the first exhibition they have put on. There will be teas with homemade cake too, so please come and browse.

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday, May 13th, at 2.00pm at Groton Village Hall.

The Groton Church fund-raising team have decided to go back in time and hold a Jumble Sale; there will be toys, bric-a-brac, cakes, plants, a raffle and teas as well as Jumble, so please do come along for a bargain. Any jumble can be left in the inside room at Mary's House, Swan street, Boxford, which is usually open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. All proceeds of the sale to St. Bartholomew's Church.

CASTAWAY

Saturday, June 17th, 7.30 at Groton Village Hall.

This should be a great evening! The Reverend Judith Sweetman will be interviewed 'Desert Island Discs' style, including her choice of music of course. The interview will break half way through for a meal, and Groton is renowned for its food! The theme throughout will be "Tropical Island". We hope that this will appeal to everyone across the benefice, so please put the dates in your diary now; the tickets will be £12 a head, available soon, and so if you wish to reserve tickets, please phone either Pat Kennedy Scott [210319] or Jayne Foster [211360]

Edwardstone Art Group invite you to their



ART EXHIBITION

**Sat 6th & Sun
7th May**

Boxford Village Hall 10 – 5

Free Entry, Refreshments Available,
Donations from proceeds to Boxford Community Council.

BOXFORD Gardens Open

Sunday 4th June 2017 11.00am-5.00pm

- Gardens open in Boxford, Groton & Edwardstone
- NEW! Allotments open to view
- Refreshments, Light Lunches and Cream Teas in Boxford Village Hall
- Plant and cake stalls outside the school
- Church tower open - breathtaking views
- Free shuttle bus from village centre

Tickets £5 (children under 16 FREE)
Main ticket desk at the Church or look out for the 'Garden Open' signs and pay at the first garden you come to

For more details contact:
Anna Smith 01777 311462
See details on anna@boxford578@gmail.com

All fresh natural produce
At Mary's Church Hospital

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FRIENDS OF BOXFORD SCHOOL

**BOXFORD
SALE
TRAIL**

Sunday 7th May
12pm - 4pm

STALLS £7.50
MAPS £1.00

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Do you have lots of bric-a-brac, clothes, books, toys, furniture or vegetables - from your garden that you'd like to get rid of?

Perhaps you're an artist, dollie maker, knitter, baker, jam maker, craft maker and would like to sell your creations?

Well look no further, FOBS are championing a sale trail in the Boxford area.

This is a community event, organised by FOBS and open to everyone, it's easy to be involved, simply set up a stall in your front garden selling your unwanted items or your creations.

Stalls can also be rented inside the school hall.

Stalls are priced at £7.50 and all the profits you make are yours.

Maps will be available for £1 from the school Hall on sale day.

For more information and to book a stall please email emmelheapple@sky.com

Wot's On

Boxford Drama Group

Next production 15th/16th/17th June at 7.30pm. Tickets £13.00, price includes supper, from early May at Boxford Post Office

WE DONT WANT TO LOOSE YOU (but think you ought to go)

July to November 1917 saw one of the most costly and, by many, considered pointless battles of WW1 The Battle of Passchendaele.

>On this, the 100th Anniversary of this battle, the Boxford Drama Group will be paying tribute to those people who took part by performing a brand new Musical, 'We Don't Want to Lose You (but we think you ought to go)' which will include many familiar songs. This will be preceded by a short play - The Reunion - which takes place in a 1960s Suffolk pub where two childhood friends, meet for the first time since the end of the War. Tom returned from the War to marry his childhood sweetheart whilst nothing was heard of Ted, was he killed? Was he one of the thousands who just disappeared? Has he a secret?

As the play unfolds the true reason for his absence becomes clear.

This is a very personal and moving account of one man's struggle to come to terms with the horrors of War. By the end of the evening you will have a smile on your face and a tear in your eye.

AGM of the Boxford Playing Fields Committee,

You are most welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Boxford Playing Fields Committee, which is being held on Wednesday, 24th May at 7.30pm at the Pavilion. If there is anything you would like to discuss or have any comments regarding the playing fields, allotments, play area and tennis courts, please do come along. If you are interested in becoming a committee member, we would be happy to hear from you. For further information, contact Chairman David Burden on 01787 211926

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY - a note for your diaries

A CREAM TEA on Sunday 23 July, 2.00pm onwards, will be held at Corner Cottage, Polstead Road, CO10 5JW (the home of Barbara and Bernard Golding). They will be opening their beautiful garden for this event and all proceeds will go to the Society.

£4.00 per person.



MILDEN SINGERS MUSICAL MIX

Enjoy a mix of pop, classical & musicals

From The Beatles, Tom Jones, Sound of Music, Offenbach & a James Bond Theme

Friday 5th May

Doors open 7pm with a buffet after the show

Saturday 6th May

Doors open 1.30pm with Afternoon Tea
Both Performances with Licensed bar and Raffle for charity.

Tickets £6 from Pearl 01449 741

At and in aid of Milden Pavilion



Polstead WI COFFEE MORNING



in Polstead Village Hall

Wednesday 26 April 2017
from 10.00a.m. until 1.00p.m.

Enjoy coffee with cake and biscuits

Stalls include cakes, books and jewellery

Everyone will be most welcome

Boxford Drama Group present

WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU (BUT WE THINK YOU OUGHT TO GO)

A New Musical & Play Inspired by
The Great War

June 15th, 16th and 17th at 7.30
at Boxford Village Hall

Tickets £13.00 from Boxford Post Office
from early May

UNMISSABLE
ONE OF THE BEST
FILMS OF THE YEAR

THE TRUE STORY OF A LOVE THAT SHOOK AN EMPIRE

DAVID OYELOWO A ROSAHUND PIKE

UNITED KINGDOM
AN AHMA ASANTE FILM

LEAVENHEATH CINEMA SATURDAY 8TH MAY
Tickets Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266)
£3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person

A CONCERT BY

LANDERMASON

Thursday 8 June
at 7.30pm

St. Lawrence Church
Little Waldingfield

Northumbrian based song-writing duo LANDERMASON are Fiona Lander (vocals, piano, whistles, saxophones, clarinet, recorder) and Paul Mason (guitar, vocals). Together they have developed a unique sound which combines both traditional and contemporary folk with jazz and other styles.

TICKETS £10
Nancy Roser (01787) 882897
M 07792 299618
Vicky Nicholls (01787) 249741
or at the door

Bar and Raffle

"Lander showed impressive command of multiple instruments, whilst Mason's jazz-tinged folk guitar playing was exceptional."
Edinburgh Fringe

"A SUN-DRENCHED MASTERPIECE"
"THE MOST ROMANTIC FILM OF THE YEAR"
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★
"THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR"
"EMMA STONE AND RYAN GOSLING ARE SIMPLY SUPERB"
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★
"EFFERVESCENT AND EFFORTLESSLY COOL"
"SHEER PERFECTION"
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★
"IT WILL BE A CLASSIC OF THE FUTURE"
"I LEFT THE CINEMA FEELING EUPHORIC"
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★
"ACHINGLY ROMANTIC... A SPELLBINDING MASTERPIECE"

RYAN GOSLING
EMMA STONE
LALALAND
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF WHIMSLAY

Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 19th May
Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029
All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm

A Summer Concert at Edwardstone Church
on Saturday May 13th at 6pm

MUSIC for MONARCHS

Derek Grover – Organist
The Gainsborough Singers – Conductor Michael Aves

A Concert celebrating Edwardstone's special 'Father' Smith Organ. 'Father' Smith (1630-1709 and originally from Germany) became organ builder to five British Kings and Queens and much of the music will be by the composers of the period including Purcell and Handel.

Tickets £15 (including a glass of wine and canapés)
available from Boxford Post Office
Sudbury Library
and
Etain Todds 01787 210344
Liz Henderson 01787 211417

All proceeds to Edwardstone Parish Church

Wot's On

Wormingford Annual Flower Festival

Wormingford Annual Flower Festival at St Andrew's Church which takes place over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend, May 27th, 28th and 29th this year. We have lovely teas and cakes and other refreshments and our usual Bric-a-Brac sale, so there is really something for the whole family to enjoy.

OPEN GARDEN

'TREETOPS', CEMETERY LANE, EAST BERGHOLT CO7 6RZ
'A small but interesting garden packed with plants and with no lawn to mow' For St Elizabeth Hospice and Suffolk Bereavement Support Sunday 4th June 11AM-5PM. Hospice plant and craft stall. Refreshments ENTRY £5 - CHILDREN FREE Free parking in village car park www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk www.suffolkbereavement.org.uk

ISBN Arts and Literary Festival

Tickets for the ISBN Arts and Literary festival to be held in Stoke-by-Nayland over the weekend of 10/11th June are now available from The Mercury Theatre box office. You can book by phone, online, post or, should you be passing the theatre, in person. Details of events can be found on www.isbnartsfestival.com as well as in the brochures.

Nayland Open Gardens

Sunday 11th June 2pm-6pm

Tickets £5 per person, children free

Free parking at the Village Hall Teas in the Village Hall

LAMARSH VILLAGE FETE

SHRUBS FARM, LAMARSH, SAT. JULY 15TH 12 - 4 pm
Including BBQ, Bar, Raffle, Teas, Dog Show, Maze, Street Dancing, Ice Creams

£1 Entry Inc. Ticket for Prize Draw Under 14s Free

Disabled access and toilets, Free Parking

Lots of other activities inc. Sports/Games for ALL ages

Proceeds to Church and Village Hall Registered Charity no. 301351

BOXFORD'S BIG BREKKIE

Come along to
Boxford Village Hall
on Saturday 20th May 2017

From 8.30 till 10.30 to enjoy

a full English breakfast (veggie optional
available)

Lighter breakfast such as scrambled egg
or beans on toast will be available.

All proceeds going to Christian Aid

This is to replace the street collections

Suggested donation £5

Little Waldingfield COFFEE MORNING

With a display of
PHOTOGRAPHS
By Fran Gregor-Smith

On Saturday 20th MAY

TO BE HELD IN THE PARISH ROOM

Church Road

Lt. Waldingfield

10.30 – 12.00

EVERYONE WELCOME

PROCEEDS TO 'CHRISTIAN AID'

hhhh

Little Waldingfield

The 178th **HADLEIGH
SHOW** 

Saturday 20th May 2017

Holbecks Park
Hadleigh
Suffolk
IP7 5PE



Information and tickets online:
www.hadleighshow.co.uk

Gates open 8am Free parking

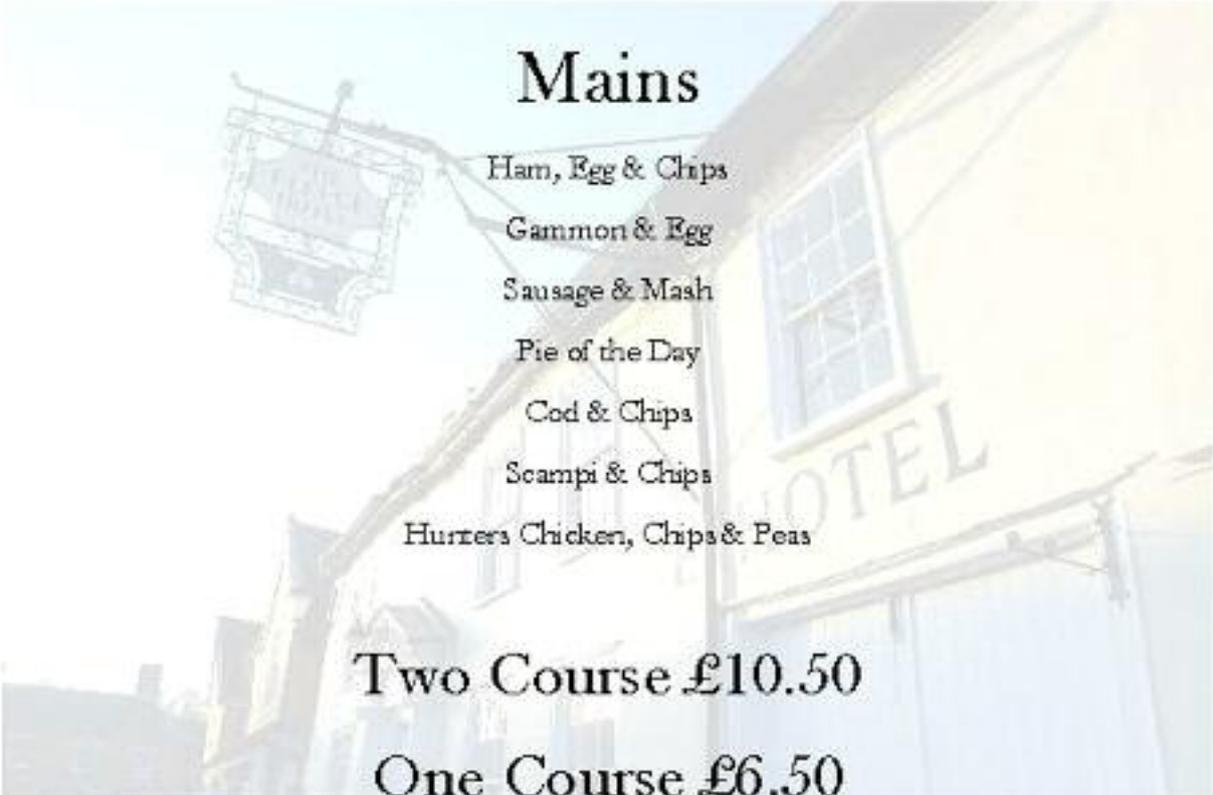


The Silver Club

Starters

Soup of The Day
Prawn Salad
Chicken Liver Pate
Vegetable Croquette

Mains



Ham, Egg & Chips
Gammon & Egg
Sausage & Mash
Pie of the Day
Cod & Chips
Scampi & Chips
Hurrers Chicken, Chips & Peas

Two Course £10.50

One Course £6.50

Available Monday to Friday

12pm till 3pm

01787 211183

Forthcoming Events Diary

April

19 Little Waldingfield Hist Soc	Connections between Suffolk and India	Parish Room	7.30pm
29 Boxford Society	The Great Detective-Sherlock	Boxford School Hall	7.30pm

May

2 Boxford Gardening Society	Plants for POLLination	Boxford Village Hall	7.30pm
3 Boxford WI	AGM and Resolution Meetings	Boxford Villafe Hall	2.pm
5/6 Milden Singers	Milden Pavilion	Milden Pavilion	7pm and 1.30pm
6/7 Edwardstone Art Group	Art Exhibition	Boxford Village Hall	10 to 5pm
7 FOB's Sale Trail	Friends of Boxford School	School Hall	12 to 4pm
10 Boxford WI	Walk in Coggeshall	Coggeshall	
13 Plant Sale	Boxford Gardening Society	White Hart, Boxfprd	10.00
13 Jumble Sale	Groton PCC	Groton Village Hall	2.00pm
13 Music for Monarchs	Edwardstone Parish Church	St Mary the Virgin Church	6.00pm
17 Little Waldingfield History Soc	The Life and Art of Thomas Gainsborough	Parish Rooms	7.30pm
24 Boxford Playing Fields AGM		The Pavilion	7.30pm

June

4 Boxford Gardens Opean			
7 Boxford WI	Couture Millinery	Boxford Village Hall	2.00pm
8 Little Waldingfield	Concert by Landermason, Folk/jazz duo	St. Lawrence Church	
14 Boxford WI	Walk		tba
14 Little Waldingfield History Soc	The life and times of Joan of Arc	Parish Rooms	7.30pm
17 Castaway (Desert Island Discs	Groton PCC	Groton Village Hall	7.30pm
28 Boxford WI	Book Club	Village Hall	2.00pm

July

5 Boxford WI	Being a Town Guided	Boxford Village Hall	2.00pm
12 Boxford WI	Walk		tba
15/16/17 Boxford Drama Group	We don't want to lose you	Boxford Village Hall	&,30pm
15 Little Waldingfield	Village Yard Sale, Refreshments in Parish Room		
29 PF50 - 50th Anniversary of the Playing Fields and Boxford Community		Playingfields	7.30pm

September

9/10 Little Waldingfield Flower Festival	St Lawrence Church
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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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01787 211528 or e-mail: info@churchillbrothers.co.uk
www.churchillbrothers.co.uk



The Bell Inn

The Sreet, Kersey, Suffolk, IP7 6DY
Tel: 01473 823229

Sunday's we are now doing our roasts all day
from 12pm till 7.30pm.

New menu out soon

Pudding and pie day on Wednesday.

It's Fish Friday every Friday.

A glass of prosecco
with every fish and chip meal.

Booking advisable.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

our menu is on our website www.kerseybell.co.uk

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE AROMATHERAPY THE BOWEN TECHNIQUE

THE BOWEN TECHNIQUE IS A GENTLE, NON-
INTRUSIVE THERAPY WHICH HELPS TO BALANCE
AND HEAL THE BODY.

IT CAN BE USEFUL IN TREATING A VARIETY OF
DIFFERENT CONDITIONS INCLUDING: BACK AND
SHOULDER PAIN, MIGRAINES, ASTHMA, TENNIS
ELBOW and KNEE PROBLEMS.

For a professional, caring treatment with a
therapist who has over 20 years post
qualification experience contact:

Linda Rice on Boxford (01787) 210850

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE!

THE BOXFORD

Broad Street, Boxford, CO10 5DX Tel: 01787-211071



We now offer food delivery 7 days a week (5-9 pm)

Pizzas all thin based

All our pizza are hand made

Margherita - Topped with mozzarella and fresh basil £6.95 (v)

Meat Feast - Topped with mozzarella, ham, bacon, pepperoni and salami £8.95

Spicy - Topped with mozzarella, pepperoni, jalapeflo peppers and red onion £8.95

Hawaiian - Topped with mozzarella, ham, mushroom and pineapple £7.95

Veggie - Topped with mozzarella, mushroom, red onion, peppers and tomatoes £8.50 (v)

White Hart -Topped with mozzarella, goat cheese, mushrooms & caramelized onions £8.00 (v)

Rocket- Topped with mozzarella, cherry tomatoes, rocket & parmesan £8.00 (v)

Make your pizza- 2 topping for £7.00 extra topping £1.00...choose from-

Ham, pepperoni, bacon, salami, chicken, mushrooms, pineapple, fresh basil,

Onions (white or red), extra cheese, jalapeno peppers, goat cheese, garlic,

Peppers, rocket, spinach, pesto, pine nuts

Burgers and chicken

Chicken burger with brie & bacon £7.50

Homemade Burger £7.50 (add cheese or bacon for £1.00)

Veggie burger £3.50

Chicken wings (10 pes) £5.25 Spicy or bbq

Sides (£2.50)

Chips, Sweet potato fries, Garlic bread, Mixed leaf salad, Onion rings

Drinks (£1.00)

Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Sprite, Tango

Free delivery for orders over £12.00

Boxford, Groton, Edwardstone, Newton, Little Waldingfield, Milden, Kersey, Assington, Leavenheath,

Gt Waldingfield, Polstead, Shelley, Stoke by Nayland, Nayland.

Call 01787 211071

NEW LOCAL BUSINESS LAUNCHED



Long-time local friends Lee and Gary have recently started working together and are offering general welding, fabrication, repair work, gates and fencing, bespoke items and mobile/on site welding.

Lee has over 20 year's experience in the fabrication industry from making heavy machinery, structural steel, site work to bespoke items.

Gary has for the past 18 years been busy doing ground work, trenching, site work and fabrication.

They have worked together in the past and their friendship was forged through their interest in off road and Enduro motorcycling which they both still enjoy doing in Wales and the Peak District. Lee can be contacted on 07747 804579 / 01787 20390 and Gary on 07810 801021 / 01787 211775



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The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton

Priest in Charge:

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

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

NSM:

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

Reader:

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

Lay Elder:

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

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

Benefice house:

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

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

Happy Birthday Judith

GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

Week of Prayer, 25th May to 4th June 2017 – “Thy Kingdom Come”:

A message from Bishop Mike

Following the success of the call to prayer in 2016, Archbishop Justin is calling for prayer between Ascensiontide and Pentecost 2017 with the aims of:

- *joining in prayer with the whole family of God the Father*
- *praying for the empowering of the Holy Spirit*
- *praying for individuals known to us to come to a knowledge of Jesus Christ*

Archbishop Justin's urge is to “Just pray. Pray your way but just pray.”

*In this diocese we are launching the week at the Cathedral the day before Ascension Day, **Wednesday 24th May from 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm**. You are welcome to come to some or all of the evening. You also might want to browse the national website, www.thykingdomcome.global, which has excellent materials and ideas to tap into for inspiration, as well as our own diocesan website's webpage with ideas more locally.*

John Bell visiting Hadleigh

John is a minister in the Church of Scotland, a member of the Iona Community and a prolific hymn writer. Last year John was due to visit the Diocese but had to postpone the visit for health reasons. Thankfully he is now able to come here and will be visiting St Mary's in Hadleigh on **20th and 21st May** where he will be leading three workshops. Tickets for each session will be £5 and are available from Trish Pitt on 01473 828393 or trish17@sky.com and David & Wendy Atkins on 01473 822535 or atkins.d@hotmail.co.uk It truly is an event for everyone – even for those who feel they can't sing. It's an opportunity not to be missed.

Diocesan e-News

Don't forget that you can sign up to receive (free) the weekly diocesan eNews, which gives details of forthcoming events in the diocese, as well as other news. Go to www.cofesuffolk.org/publications and click on the link at the foot of the page.

Churches Together Prayer Breakfasts Saturdays 8.00 am to 9.30 am.

CTIS&D prayer breakfasts in May, to which all are welcome, will be held at the following venues:

- 6th** Suffolk Road Church, Sudbury
- 13th** All Saints' Church Hall, Church Street, Sudbury
- 20th** Living Waters Church, Gregory Street, Sudbury
- 27th** All Saints' Church, Little Cornard

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

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

Please, NO LATER THAN 12th May 2017

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

Thank you. Rev'd Judith. 01787 210091

email address: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com

THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwarden:

Peter Dilnot

Assistant Churchwarden:

Michael Gray

Mobile: 07931 043926

Email: boxford.warden@btinternet.com



Cafe Church: Sunday May 7th at 11.00 am An informal service with lots of good coffee and pastries. Craft activities for children and adults too! Everyone is welcome

Paying our way at St. Mary's Parish Church At the Annual Meeting on April 2nd it was made clear by the PCC treasurer that additional funds are needed, perhaps by way of gift aid or through holding fundraising events.

It is now vital that much more help with organising fundraising events is needed over the next year to support the church.

If you can help in any way please do let the Revd Judith know or any PCC member.

Rogation Sunday May 21st We are planning a special outdoor (if fine) family service with a bring and share lunch. More details will be announced in church.

Christian Aid Events 2017

The **11.00 am** Service on **Sunday 14th May** will have a Christian Aid theme.



We are holding a **Big Brekkie** in the village hall on **Saturday 20th May 8.30 am to 10.30 am**.

A suggested donation of £5.00 for a delicious full english breakfast -- do come.



A Coffee Morning for Christian Aid is being held at the home of Jennie and Ian Lindsley, Cox Hill, Boxford, on **Saturday 13th May 10.00 am to Noon**



The **Bible Study Group** meets at Russets, 47 Swan Street on 2nd and 4th Monday each month by kind invitation of Margaret & Peter Holden. All are welcome to this hour of fellowship.



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:
Vacant

Rota for May

Sunday 21st Holy Communion

Sidesman/Coffees Bill Dastur/Caroline Williams
Flowers To be arranged
Cleaning Emma Driscoll

Remember to keep **Saturday May 13th** for **Music for Monarchs** a concert in Edwardstone Church to celebrate our fine Father Smith organ and its musical period, with Derek Grover, organist and the Gainsborough Singers conducted by Michael Aves. Tickets £15 include a glass of wine and canapes, available from Boxford Post Office, Sudbury Library, Liz Henderson 01787 211417 and Etain Todds 01787 210344

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on **Thursday 27th April at 7.30 pm** at the White Horse Inn, Mill Green, Edwardstone. Please see the Benefice News section for more details about the meeting.



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens:
Vacant

Churchwardens For the second year running no one was elected to be churchwarden at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners on 4th April 2017.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2017 At the APCM on 4th April, which followed the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, Jayne Foster was re-elected to represent Groton on the deanery synod for the next three years. The following were re-elected to serve on the PCC for the year 2017-2018: Sheila Gooderham, Pat Kennedy Scott, Howard Knight, and Diana McCorkell. They join the Revd Judith (chairman), David Lamming (ex-officio as a member of the General Synod) and Jayne Foster (also ex-officio as a member of the deanery synod.) Sue Knight stood down, having been elected to the PCC at Rattlesden, where she and Howard now live. However, they continue to worship regularly in the benefice, as well as at Rattlesden. There remain one vacancy on the deanery synod and two vacancies on the PCC: these vacancies can be filled during the year by the PCC if anyone eligible and interested to serve comes forward.

PCC Meeting: Tuesday 16th May 2017, 7.00 pm at Mary's House. Items for the agenda should be notified to the secretary, David Lamming, by **Sunday 7th May**. [E mail djlamming@hotmail.com]

Christian Aid Week 2017, 14th—20th May.

Christian Aid Week is Christian Aid's main fund-raising event. If you are able to and would be willing to help with a house-to-house collection in either Groton or Little Waldingfield, please contact me on 01787 210360. Whether we are able to carry out a house-to-house collection this year will depend on the level of support. David Lamming.

Jumble sale

Saturday May 13th at 2.00 pm at Groton Village Hall.

The Groton Church fund-raising team have decided to go back in time and hold a Jumble Sale; there will be toys, bric-a-brac, cakes, plants, a raffle and teas as well as Jumble, so please do come along for a bargain. Any jumble can be left in the inside room at Mary's House, Swan street, Boxford, which is usually open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. All proceeds of the sale to St. Bartholomew's Church.

Castaway

Saturday June 17th at 7.30 pm at Groton Village Hall.

This should be a great evening! The Reverend Judith Sweetman will be interviewed 'Desert Island Discs' style, including her choice of music of course. The interview will break half way through for a meal, and Groton is renowned for its food! The theme throughout will be "Tropical Island". We hope that this will appeal to everyone across the benefice, so please put the date in your diary now; the tickets will be £12 a head, available soon, and so if you wish to reserve tickets, please phone either Pat Kennedy Scott 01787 210319 or Jayne Foster 01787 211360



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens
Vacant

Rotas

	Sidesmen	Flowers
7th May	Mr. Duffy and Mrs. Nicholls	Mrs. Duffy
14th May	No service	Mrs. Eddington
21st May	No service	Mrs. Gregor-Smith
28th May	Mr. and Mrs. Simpson	Mrs. Roser

18th March Family and friends of Mrs. Betty Rattee gathered for a simple service of Interment of Ashes. We were given refreshments in the church by Betty's son and daughter, and the opportunity to share our memories of her.

25th March Reverend Judith performed a double Christening of Henry Foster and his cousin Penelope Stimson. Their friends and families filled the church. It was a very happy occasion, and they generously contributed £47 for the church fund.

2nd April Before celebrating Holy Communion, Reverend Judith welcomed Henry Foster and Penelope Stimson into the congregation.

Some dates to remember

Christian aid week, 14th—20th May Please see the paragraph in the Groton section.

A **Coffee Morning** and **Photographic Exhibition** for **Christian Aid** will be held in the Parish Room on **20th May from 10.00 am to Noon**.

Thursday 8th June Landermaison, a folk/jazz duo, will give a concert in St. Lawrence Church. Tickets £10 from Nancy Roser, tel. (01787) 882897, mobile 07792 299618, or at the door. See advertisement for further information.

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

9th and 10th September Flower Festival in St. Lawrence Church.



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

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

Our Mothering Sunday Service was conducted by Revd. Judith and she was delighted to welcome the congregation consisting of friends from other churches joining us for this special service. In her Address, Revd. Judith told the story of the birth of a baby whose mother made the sacrifice of hiding her baby in a basket and placing it in the bulrushes to hide him from the Pharaoh who had commanded that each Hebrew baby boy to be cast in the Nile. The daughter of the Pharaoh found the baby and rescued him and paid a woman to nurse and look after him and he was named Moses. The story was illustrated beautifully with the help of a girl from our village. Little pots of flowers, given by a member from Edwardstone, were handed out to all and were much appreciated.

After the service, we all enjoyed a piece of Simnel Cake made by one of our members. This was a tradition for serving girls to make one and take it home to their mother on the one day that they were allowed to go home. The whole service made us aware of sacrifices made in life and this is more so in the Easter story to come.

Sunday 28th at 11.00 am Holy Communion

BENEFICE NEWS

Ministry Team Meeting The ministry team meets at Mary's House at **2.30 pm on Monday 8th May 2017**. Please note the new date and time.

Archdeacon's Visitation 2017 Those elected as churchwardens in the Sudbury deanery will be formally admitted to office by the Archdeacon of Sudbury, the Ven Dr David Jenkins, at a service in St Gregory's Church, Sudbury, at **7.30 pm on Wednesday 24th May 2017**. The service is open to all: please come to support the churchwardens from our benefice (albeit few in number) at this annual service which acknowledges and affirms their vital rôle in the life of the local church.

MAY 2017

Church Services in the Box River Benefice

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

Special services this month

CAFÉ CHURCH 7th

CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE 14th

ROGATION SERVICE 21st

Wednesday 3rd
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion (Mary's House) Revd Judith

Thursday 4th
Lt Waldingfield 15.00 Holy Communion (Reserved Sacrament) Lay Team
(Newman's Hall)

Sunday 7th	3rd Sunday after Easter	(W)
Boxford 08.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Lt. Waldingfield 09.30	Morning Worship	Revd Judith
Boxford 11.00	<i>Cafe Church (Informal worship)</i>	Revd Judith
Boxford 18.30	Evensong	Christopher Kingsbury

Wednesday 10th
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion (Mary's House) Revd David Abel

Sunday 14th	4th Sunday after Easter	(W)
Groton 09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford 11.00	Holy Communion <i>Christian Aid Service</i>	Revd Judith

Wednesday 17th
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion (Mary's House) Revd Judith

Thursday 18th
Lt Waldingfield 15.00 Compline (Newmans Hall) Lay Team

Sunday 21st	5th Sunday after Easter (Rogation Sunday)	(W)
Edwardstone 09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford 11.00	<i>Rogation Family Service</i>	Revd Judith
<p><i>** Weather permitting this will be partly an outdoor service followed by a picnic lunch **</i></p> <p><i>Location and details to follow - announced in church - or look on noticeboard outside church</i></p> <p><i>** See also Revd Judith's letter on page 3**</i></p>		

Wednesday 24th
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd David Abel

Sunday 28th	Sunday after Ascension	(W)
Lt Waldingfield 08.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith
Boxford 11.00	Morning Worship	Christopher Kingsbury
Newton 11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith

Wednesday 31st
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd Judith



Soap Box

There was an interesting story on the national news recently regarding a so-called grammar vigilante. The gentleman in question lived in Bristol and devoted a fair amount of his spare time to correcting punctuation errors on hoardings and shop signs. You know the sort of thing. Mortons Motors should more correctly be styled Morton's Motors, with the apostrophe denoting the possessive case.

Such was his enthusiasm for this self-imposed task that he had equipped himself with the necessary tools to make the needed corrections. As well as a useful ladder and a selection of sticky backed plastic (shades of Blue Peter there I feel), he had a long pole with a device on the end for putting the absent apostrophe in place or eliminating that annoying comma. Those whose signs he changed seemed generally grateful, though he confessed he'd rather remain anonymous.

This put me in mind of a book I'd read not so very long ago by the journalist and author, Lynne Truss. Entitled *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*, it served in a humorous way to underscore how incorrect punctuation can completely alter the meaning of a phrase or sentence. *Eats shoots and leaves* described how a particular animal fed itself. Add in the comma and it becomes a diner discharging a weapon and exiting the establishment. Punctuation is more important than you might think.

Like the grammar vigilante, I deplore the way in which English is misused. Not only can it be annoying to see an omitted apostrophe – or worse, one that shouldn't be there – but incorrect word usage can also be upsetting. Why do people reply to the question, how are you, with the reply "I'm good"? I am good sounds like a statement of moral commitment. I'm sure this is a recent addition to popular English – and it is not the only one.

Being a broadcaster, I am conscious of what I might term "unconscious repetition". One of the commonest (and most annoying) examples of this used to be "you know", which would be dropped into conversation – or broadcast interviews for that matter – with monotonous regularity. The up market version of this was "actually" which would pepper conversation without adding anything to the meaning or enjoyment of what was said, other than perhaps giving the speaker a brief pause to gather his or her thoughts.

Today "you know" seems to have been replaced with "like" – equally aggravating and just as mindless. I'm sure there are other words or phrases that grate on people's minds, but these happen to be the ones that I have chosen to focus on. There are plenty, I am sure, of words or phrases that will eventually pass into accepted everyday usage, but in the meantime I am happier sticking to the type of English which I was taught at school.

It will be 56 years this June since I sat my O Levels. English Literature and English Language were separate subjects that my school insisted all pupils sat. Fortunately I passed both and went on to gain English A Level too, though heaven knows how, given the challenging selection of set books we had to read and the

competing attractions of girls, pop music and coffee bars.

Being an avid reader, I would sometimes introduce a word or phrase into an English essay that had taken my fancy, usually evoking the wrath of my English master who would spot the lack of originality. Perhaps my proudest moment, with the benefit of hindsight, was when an entire essay was dismissed by having a red line drawn through the entire effort and the single word "Journalese" written at the end, followed by an exclamation mark. Little did he know how I was eventually to earn my living.

Writing, as I do, frequently and on a variety of topics, I now have the confidence to bend the rules on both grammar and word usage, so perhaps I shouldn't be too critical on how other people murder the English language. You will often find me starting a sentence with "and" or "but" – both of which would have been banned at school. Ending a sentence with a preposition I find harder, but it has its place. "Up with which I would not put" sounds more stilted than "I would not put up with".

As for punctuation, I recall a problem given to me in my schooldays which I have never forgotten. The sentence in question read as follows – "Jones where Smith had the examiner's approval. Properly punctuated, this makes sense. Answers on a postcard, please.

Brian Tora is a local writer and broadcaster.

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GARDENING IN MAY INSPIRED BY HARRY BUCKLEDEE

Sow runner beans and dwarf French beans outside, by the time they are through the danger of severe frost should be over. It is still too early to plant out those raised under glass unless some form of protection from frost can be given.

Spinach beet and Swiss chard can be sown in rows 18" apart putting a pinch of seed at intervals of 9". Both of these are highly productive crops - the spinach beet will provide pickings of nutritious leaves for the next 12 months and the Swiss chard has the advantage of the broad stems as a vegetable and the leaves as spinach, but unlike spinach beet it is not frost hardy. Sweet corn seed can be sown outside at about the middle of the month. Sow in a block of short rows rather than one long row as an aid to better pollination.

Plant up hanging baskets right away to give the plants time to establish before hanging outside at the end of the month. Make sure that brackets are well secured to walls as the weight of a fully grown basket can put quite a strain on them. To get the best from your baskets regular feeding and watering is necessary. Do not allow the compost to become impoverished before you start feeding as the plants will have suffered damage which will take weeks to correct. Modern composts have only sufficient nutrients to maintain good growth for about a month, so feeding should start about two weeks after planting. For the first few weeks use a high nitrogen feed to get good healthy growth changing to one of high potash nearer flowering time. It is a good idea to sprinkle some slow release fertiliser granules on the compost. Moisture unlocks the fertiliser in the granules over several Months to gently feed the plants over the whole season.

Don't neglect to water newly planted trees and shrubs. Give them a good soaking once a week to ensure that moisture gets deep down into the soil to encourage new root growth.

Large clumps of bluebells can be lifted now and divided up and replanted. Choose a site in dappled shade where nothing else grows in summer. Bluebells in a border of rich well cultivated soil can become quite invasive by multiplying rapidly and self seeding to completely take over the bed.

Leaf cuttings can now be taken from African Violets which do not produce a stem and their flowers and leaves grow from a central crown.

Remove healthy young leaves with a sharp knife, trim the stems to one inch and insert the cuttings into the rooting compound. This should be a mixture of 50/50 peat compost and sharp sand or perlite. Water cuttings in tray or pot and cover with a clear plastic lid to retain moisture. Give a bit of bottom heat and cuttings should root in about three weeks. The little plantlets that develop at the base of the leaf cutting can be separated and potted up.

Grape vines will need constant attention now and through the summer months. The secret of good grape growing is keeping the vines under control so that all the energy goes into producing a limited number of bunches. The overall growth of the plant must be controlled or it will produce nothing but a tangled mess of leaves and shoots. Growths will appear from each spur on the main rod and these should be reduced to one shoot on each spur. The single shoot should be allowed to grow until a bunch of flowers have formed and should then be stopped two leaves beyond the bunch.

As bulbs fade and herbaceous borders grow in leaps and bounds, it is now clear that summer is approaching. Sowing and planting out bedding can begin, depending on regional weather variations, and you can take softwood cuttings. It's also time to get back into the lawn mowing regime, as the lawn will be loving the warmer temperatures this month brings.

Top 10 jobs this month

- 1 Watch out for late frosts. Protect tender plants
 - 2 Earth up potatoes, and promptly plant any still remaining
 - 3 Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (except in cold areas)
 - 4 Water early and late to get the most out of your water, recycle water when possible
 - 5 Regularly hoe off weeds
 - 6 Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days
 - 7 Mow lawns weekly
 - 8 Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges
 - 9 Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs
 - 10 Watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs
- Remember, find the time to enjoy your garden, where is the pleasure if you are working all the time!

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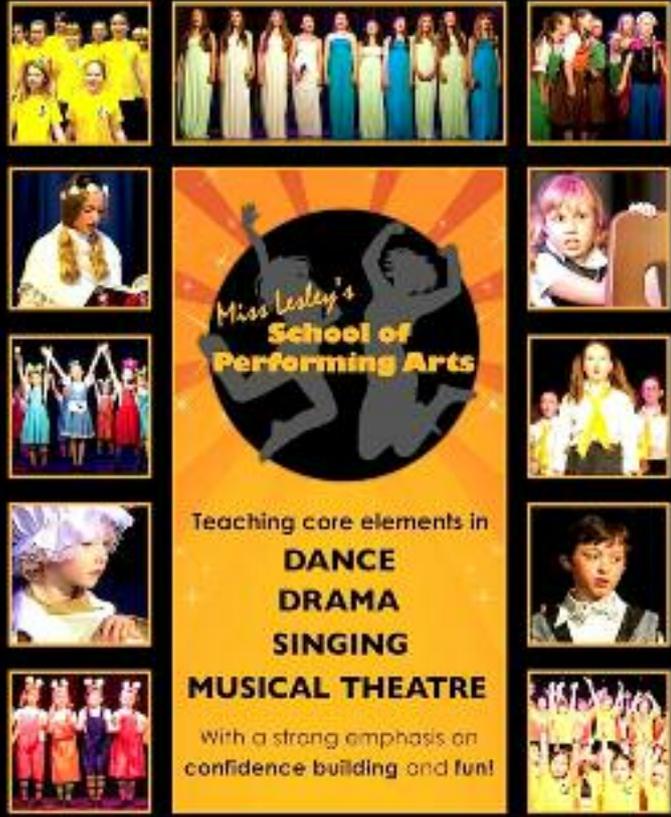
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PETER HIBBEN'S SOLDIER FATHER

Evacuated from Dunkirk on H.M.S. Greyhound in May 1940.



Peter Hibben has made a great contribution to the life of Boxford and we were all saddened to learn of his illness. He recently had the opportunity of reading a letter from his father to his grandmother, written after his father's evacuation from Dunkirk during World War II. We would like to pay a tribute to Peter through the telling of his father's interesting letter and life story.

William Alfred Hibben (1901-1983) came from an army family, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather all being army men. He was born in Dublin. His mother, Isabella Jane was Irish and from Limavady, Co. Derry. He was the third of five children - four

boys and a girl. His father died when William was still a boy. His eldest brother Ernest was in the First World War and survived, but the next brother, Len, died from influenza the day after the Armistice was signed in 1918.

William (known then to his family as Alf) went to the Hibernian Military School in Dublin at 11 years old and then went into the army as a boy soldier at the age of 14. Very little is known about him from then until he married. However, it is known that he was a member of a military dance band called 'The Larkadians', playing the saxophone when he was stationed at Lark Hill in Kent some time during the twenties.

In 1936 he was posted to Bermuda, a British Protectorate, as a Master Gunner in the Royal Artillery and there met Dorothy Elizabeth Christianson. He was known then as 'Bill'. They were married at St Peter's Church, St Georges, Bermuda on 16th September 1937. He returned to the UK in 1938 with his wife. At some point he transferred to the RAOC. In early 1939 his daughter, Sylvia, was born in Aldershot. At the outbreak of war he was posted to France from where the letter below was written. He was evacuated from Dunkirk in May 1940 in the destroyer HMS Greyhound and went to Blandford in Dorset. In April 1941 his son John was born in Perham Down, Wiltshire and in 1942 Peter was born in Tidworth, Hampshire. William was posted soon after to the War Office and was now a Lieutenant. The family moved to Merton Park, SW19 where they lived through the rest of the war. In 1945 at the end of the war, William was promoted to Captain and posted to Lagos, Nigeria, where he served for six months. He returned to England and after a short leave was posted to Singapore, being promoted to Major soon after. The family joined him in Singapore in 1947, when Peter was 5, returning to the UK in October 1949.

William was posted to the RAOC, Old Dalby in Leicestershire and once married quarters had been found, the family joined him there in August 1950. William retired from the army in 1956. Neither of his sons or his daughter followed him into the army, so ending the involvement of 4 generations in Army service.

He and Dot moved into the village of Old Dalby and Bill took up a post with the Civil Service in Nottingham for the next ten years. During this time he bought a cottage in the village and retired in 1966. Bill and Dorothy involved themselves in all sorts of village activities, e.g. whist drives, organizing the local gymkhana, helping to run the infant welfare in the army camp, church, etc. Peter Hibben has carried on this tradition by being fully involved in the life of Boxford. Bill, like Peter, loved his garden and spent many hours keeping it looking beautiful. Bill, died suddenly at home on 17th December 1983 at the age of 82.

His interesting letter home in 1940 at the time of Dunkirk follows:

1411175 Cdr. W. A. Hibben, R.A.O.C.,
302 I.T.C. Room 17, Blandford Camp, Dorset. 31/5/40

Dear Mother,

No doubt you received my card written on the station at Salisbury on my way here. I had thought of sending a telegram but that might have alarmed you! It's a terrible business this, to think that the magnificently equipped B.E.F. has been reduced to ruin and in such a short time. If anyone had told me a few weeks ago that I would be in England under such circumstances, I would have laughed at them. Let us hope the country can recover from this terrible blow and go on to victory.

The lightning actually started when I was on leave last and instead of the train going to Dover when I was returning, it went to Southampton and across to Cherbourg instead of Boulogne. Then followed 14½ hrs. in the train to a place called Cantin which was the railhead for my Corps. We were put up in huts there and then had to march next day to a village seven miles away called Montigny which was the reinforcement camp for the 2nd Division. After spending a night there I was picked up by one of our lorries specially sent down from Belgium to take me up. It's a lovely country Belgium, just like England with fine roads and beautiful countryside. I drove the lorry part of the way and thoroughly enjoyed it. We had several air raids on the way but were not attacked and finally reached our destination in a wood just outside

Brussels, to find a big dog fight taking place between our planes and the Germans.

Our office was situated in a beautiful chalet in the heart of the woods. I was almost afraid to walk about on the beautiful carpets. Everything was of the highest quality, oak and walnut furniture, lovely divans, oak panelled walls, concealed lighting, wireless set, cocktail bar and, outside in the garden, a swimming bath. I slept on the divan that night and next day we moved to another place and after that we kept on the move continuously, rarely stopping in one place more than two nights. Whilst I was in Belgium I had the opportunity to visit Brussels as we had to go in to get some petrol cookers. I found it a very nice city indeed with its cream coloured tramcars and well laid out streets. Belgium, however, was a hotbed of spies and reports came in from our troops that they had been fired on by civilians.

In no time it seemed we were back in France just over the border. It was here we learned that the cause of our retreat had been the French letting the Germans through on our right and then neglecting to blow up the bridges over the Meuse. Consequently Jerry had pushed through an armoured mechanised division with fast tanks and armoured cars, and followed it up by pouring heavy reinforcements into the gap. In no time the news came through that Arras had fallen and very disturbing news it was because we had a big Ordnance Depot there with thousands of pounds worth of stores. Later we heard he had got through to Boulogne but thought he would be cut off as his lines of communication were very long. But nothing of the sort happened and instead he cut our channels of supply. This was very serious as an army cannot fight without all the stores necessary for modern warfare.

We kept on retreating stopping at small villages for one night and moving on next day. During these moves we were subjected to continuous bombing and machine gun attacks from the air. I had a narrow escape at Neuve Chappelle, we were in a farmhouse just outside the village and our H.Q. was in the centre near the church. I and another fellow decided to walk in and see how some of our chums were getting on. Just as we got there nine German bombers appeared overhead and started to drop their loads. We heard the whine of a bomb coming down and threw ourselves flat on our faces. With a shattering roar it crashed on to the church 30 yds. behind us and others dropped all over the village. In spite of the number of bombs dropped only one man was injured. Needless to say we did not wait for him to come back again, but beat it to the comparative safety of our farmhouse.

From then onwards it was a daily occurrence for Jerry planes to come over and if they did not bomb us, we could see them bombing other villages in the distance. During all this we never saw one of our planes and came to the conclusion that they were either non-existent or were harassing the Germans elsewhere.

In another air-raid at a place called Saily (probably Saily-sur-la Lys) between Bapaume and Armentieres we lost three killed and several injured. It was a dive bombing attack by about a dozen planes. They came down singly, dropped their bombs and then formed up again. I was lying flat under a hedge wishing that I was a mole and could burrow deeper, the earth shook and trembled as each bomb dropped. When the bombs were finished they started machine gunning the hedges and woods. This was worse than the bombing as one never knew whose turn it was next. After what seemed an age they finally departed and we crawled out feeling rather shaken. A house in which some of our troops had been sheltering had been hit by a bomb, burying them and killing three. We saw several German planes brought down at various times by our anti-aircraft guns and cheered as they fell.

I could write pages and pages about our experiences but will get on to the final morning. It was a lovely morning, sun shining, birds twittering. We were parked under some trees in a field with the lorries well camouflaged with tree branches. I had been sleeping in the front seat of a truck as it began to rain during the night and I had to leave my spot in the open. I was having a shave and expecting the usual Jerry planes over when I received a message that we had the order to dump everything not absolutely necessary and make a dash for Dunkirk and expect to meet the enemy on the way. Cramming the Ordnance personnel into an 8 cwt truck, because it was fast, we followed the officer in his car. I was driving the truck. Soon the road began to get congested with army lorries, refugees and French troops. But in spite of many jams and maddening delays in which it seemed we would never make it, we made good progress. We had to take cover many times as planes appeared and crouched for ten minutes whilst he bombed one town.

About 12 miles outside Dunkirk we had to dump our car and truck as we were not allowed to go any further in them. It was a case of put your packs on and start tramping. Just then Jerry began shelling the place so we spent a few minutes in and out of ditches. It was a weary procession that tramped along and it saddened me to think that we should be in such a state. Equipment of every description was littered along the roads, guns, lorries, cars, motor cycles, arms and stores. Refugees were sorting stuff out and helping themselves, it was an incredible sight.

Eventually we reached the sand dunes to the north of Dunkirk and found hundreds of soldiers on the beach waiting to be taken off by the destroyers in the offing. Small boats were putting off loaded with troops but the embarkation was slow because of the low tide. Our little group attached itself to a column of troops which was told to march towards the lighthouse in the distance. This proved to be further away than it looked and must have been the best part of five miles. We passed the residential part of Dunkirk which was a shambles of shattered house and burning ruins. The lighthouse was at the docks and we marched along the jetty and clambered aboard a destroyer willingly assisted by the Navy lads. All this time it rained incessantly, for which we were very glad as it made the conditions very bad for enemy aircraft. Dunkirk was burning in a score of places and the smoke from the oil

fuel tanks went up in the air thousands of feet and hung like a pall for several miles.

The destroyer left for Dover at 8pm and it was good to sit at a table in the P.O.s mess and have a cup of tea. We landed at 1am and were put aboard a train, our destination being rumoured as Aldershot, much to my delight. Several stops were made on the journey and voluntary workers gave us tea and sandwiches etc. for which we were very grateful. After passing Woking we were told that we were for Blandford Camp which we reached after an eight hour journey.

The camp was built for Militia and has every convenience, hot running water, etc. There are thousands of the B.E.F. here now and the camp's capacity is being taxed to the utmost. Most of the Militia have been moved out into tents or are sleeping in the gyms. We had a good bath, sleep and a change of clothing and the world began to appear a lot brighter.

No sign of leave yet but everybody is expecting to get some. The papers say we have already got it, but not from this camp. Well, I hope you have enjoyed reading this or at least it has interested you. You can pass it on for Em to read, he may like to compare it with his experiences in the last war. Give my love to all at home.

I Remain Your Loving Son Alfred.

The destroyer HMS Greyhound evacuated 1360 men from Dunkirk on 28/29th May 1940 before being damaged by German bombers. Meanwhile a flotilla of small boats and other ships were evacuating the rest of 300,000 allied troops from the beaches and harbour of Dunkirk between 26 May and 4 June 1940. The phrase 'Dunkirk Spirit' is still used today to describe British people all pulling together in the face of adversity.

Sylvia Clark (Nee Hibben) & Tina Loose

Parish Council Matters

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council 20 March 2017

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

In attendance: A Robinson (Clerk); Daphne Clark (Parish Hall)

Report from SCC - J Finch is unwell but had telephoned to say that he had been advised that the outlying areas of Edwardstone should have high speed broadband by the end of the year.

The Minutes of the meeting of 21 November 2016 were approved
Councillor vacancy – no further applicants had come forward. The position will continue to be advertised.

Highway and footpath matters - Potholes – The road at Mill Green (U8339) is still badly in need of resurfacing with potholes worsening. Someone tripped on one of the deeper holes recently. SCC had responded to the request for resurfacing made by the PC in December, saying that one pothole met the criteria for repair and they would speak to the engineer about putting this road forward for future resurfacing schemes but it will be prioritised against other locations. The Clerk will report the issue again.

Other Highway and Footpath issues – the Clerk reported that SCC was not prepared to put steps down to the sleeper bridge on the footpath between Groton Street and Sherbourne Street as in its view the gradients are acceptable. An email had been received regarding the possibility of designating some roads in the area as Quiet Lanes. Councillors expressed some interest but will await further information before any decision is made. Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public - D Clark said that progress had been made with regard to the cracks in the wall of the disabled toilet in the Parish Hall. B Hurren had facilitated meetings with BDC and she is currently waiting to hear from the Hall's insurers following a visit by a loss adjustor. Hopefully the repair work can then go ahead.

Planning - Planning applications received – B/17/00091 Land to the south of Daking Avenue (Goodlands Phase 2) – erection of up to 24 dwellings (including up to 8 affordable dwellings) with access – the PC resolved to send a letter of objection on the grounds that Swan Street is already badly congested, and further homes here will make this worse, and that the proposals will add to existing parking problems in the village centre. 3 Groton Street, Groton – erection of front and side single storey extension – the PC had no objections to these proposals.

Planning decisions received – Fletchwood, Sherbourne Street – erection of single storey rear extension and garage – approved.

Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence – a letter had been received from Veronica Hobbs thanking the PC for the donation towards the Peter Hibben Valentine disco.

Financial matters: The Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment were approved. The accounts to date were checked against the bank statements and agreed. The Parish Council's assets were reviewed and no issues were found. The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were reviewed and no changes were required. The PC resolved to make the following further donations under the General Power of Competence: Edwardstone PCC £300, Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust £375, Edwardstone Parish Hall £350, Boxford Playing Fields £150, East Anglian Air Ambulance £100. The PC reviewed the Clerk's salary in line with her contract and resolved to increase it from SCP 18 to SCP 19, at a rate of £9,743 per hour.

The Annual Meeting will be on Monday 15 May at 7pm with the Annual Parish Meeting the same day at 7.30pm, both in the Parish Hall.

A full copy of the Minutes can be found on the Parish Council's website edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net

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THE NAMES ON OUR WAR MEMORIALS -MAY 2017



This month's article brings us to the last three of the ten men from our villages who died during the Arras offensive in the spring of 1917. Of the seven men whose brief biographies have appeared in the previous two articles, the youngest to die was about 26 and the oldest 39 years of age. As such, they had mostly started out on their

own adult lives before the war and consequently my researches quite often revealed a fairly rich amount of biographical detail. Of our three villagers this month the youngest died aged just 18, and he had probably been economical with the truth about his age when he enlisted, and the eldest was 21. In the broad context of the war there is nothing exceptional about their youthfulness at death, but the consequence is that there is very little about them as individuals that I can glean from the limited resources I have available. The 1911 Census, which was taken on the night of the 2nd April, is the latest currently available, because of the hundred-year rule that applies to the release of the personal data contained in the Census forms, and in that year our subjects were aged about twelve, thirteen and fifteen. Boys and adolescents of this sort of age will not have left much of a footprint in the world that can be recovered a hundred years later. What is revealing, though, is that the Census records that each of them was in employment and not at school. Thus, their lives are set solidly in the context of the backbone of Suffolk rural life of generations of more or less impoverished people working the land, or providing household service to the better off, from as early an age as the law or circumstances dictated.

Whatever the paucity of information and irrespective of their social status, their loss merits the same recognition as any of the others about whom we know much more. These short lives belong to **Private Maurice Leslie Everett** of Boxford, 31101, 4th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment, who died on April 30th 1917, aged about 21; **Private Ernest Stanley Griggs** of Boxford, G/21162, 7th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), who died on the 3rd May 1917, aged about 20, and **Lance Serjeant Albert W Herbert** of Groton, 202379, 'A' Company 11th Battalion Suffolk Regiment, who also died on the 3rd May 1917, aged about 18.

Maurice Everett was born in 1896 at Bower House Tye, Polstead on the main road between Boxford and Hadleigh. His parents were David Henry and Betsy, nee Woolard. David was born in Edwardstone in 1858 and Betsy, born 1859, came from Burstall due west of Ipswich near Hintlesham. They married in 1881 and by 1911 the family, now living in Brick Kiln Hill, Boxford, consisted of six sons and two daughters. All of the men in both of Maurice's parents' families were employed on the land as labourers, horsemen or stockmen, as was Maurice himself and his brothers.

Maurice enlisted in Bury St Edmunds, probably late in 1915 or early 1916. At enlistment he was attached to the Suffolk Regiment, with the service number 20324, but at some point he was transferred to the Bedfordshire Regiment and was given a new service number. Assuming this transfer took place before he embarked for France, Maurice would have spent several months training in this country before reaching Boulogne with the Bedfordshire Regiment in July 1916. Here they came under the orders of the 63rd Division and were first engaged in the closing battle of the Somme Offensive, the Battle of Ancre, in November 1916.

In the early spring of 1917, Maurice's Bedfordshires were posted to the operations around Arras and were first engaged in combat in the second Battle of the Scarpe and subsequently in the Battle of Arleux. In one of these battles Maurice must have sustained serious injuries and been evacuated from the forward positions, because it was in one of the hospitals near Etaples on the coast where, on the 30th April, he died from his wounds aged 21. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery.

Ernest Griggs was born in 1898 at Kersey Tye just to the west of Kersey village. His father, Walter, came from Kersey and was born in 1874. His mother was Emma Townes, born 1875 also in Kersey. By 1901 the family was living in Sherbourne Street probably in what is now the Maltings. Ernest was one of four sons. His father was employed as a poultryman's labourer throughout his working life and in 1911 Ernest was working as a house boy at the tender age of 13.

Ernest enlisted in Boxford, probably in 1915. He would have disembarked in Boulogne with his regiment at the very end of July 1916 as part of the 18th (Eastern Division). This Division was immediately engaged on the Somme and fought its way through seven of the major battles of that Offensive into the beginning of November. They continued to be engaged on the Western Front throughout the winter of 1916/1917 and must have been a very battle weary force by the time they were posted to take part in the third Battle of the Scarpe as part of the Arras Offensive. This opened on the 3rd May and Ernest never lived to see the close of that day. He was just 20 years old and has no known grave. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial along with 35,000 other allied soldiers.

Ernest's name also appears on the privately erected family memorial here in Boxford Churchyard, on which also are recorded the names of three of his relatives. This memorial stands to the south of the chancel quite close to the boundary wall with the School. The inscriptions on it are (the separation of the lines of the inscriptions are indicated thus |) Pte. Ernest Stanley Griggs | Fell in action in France May 3 1917 | Aged 20 Years; Corpl Bertie Griggs | Fell in action in France Aug 6 1918 | Aged 23

Years; Walter Griggs | Dearly beloved husband of | Emma Griggs | who fell asleep Dec 18 1920 Aged 47 Years; and My dear son | Walter Gremsey Griggs | who fell asleep Aug 31 1920 | Aged 27 Years.

It would seem that the memorial was erected by Emma Griggs in memory of her husband and three of her sons. I presume it actually marks the graves of her husband, Walter, and her first born son Walter Gremsey, as well as commemorating the deaths of the other two sons, Ernest and Bertie, who lie in France. However, this memorial is treated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) as marking the grave of a casualty of the war and their records identify a Corporal Walter Griggs, 1st/1st Nottinghamshire Yeomanry (Sherwood Rangers), 275976, who died 18th December 1920, and the grave registration record states "Believed to have died from the effects of the War". The name of Emma's husband and the date of death correspond with the CWGC record, but it is curious that Emma makes no mention of her husband's war service. Additionally, there is no Walter Griggs on the public War Memorial adjacent to the north porch of the church. Perhaps there are people living in the area today who can confirm that Emma's husband and Corporal Walter Griggs are one and the same person.

Albert Herbert was born in 1899 in Goslings Green, Groton. Albert's father was George Thomas Herbert, born in 1870 also in Groton, and his mother was Rosina Emily Springett, born 1868 in Stoke-by-Nayland. They married in 1890 and Albert was one of two sons and he had four sisters. His father died in 1910 leaving Rosina with six children to care for. As with Maurice Everett, all of the men in both his parents' families were farm labourers, horsemen or stockmen, and in 1911, aged just 12, the Census records Albert working as a boy on a farm, no doubt having left school in order to help support the family.

Albert enlisted in Boxford, probably in 1915 or perhaps in early 1916. Whichever is correct, there is no doubt that Albert was underage. At the time the Government policy was that 18 was the minimum age for enlisting and soldiers had to be 19 before they could be posted abroad for active service. However, underage enlistment was commonplace, particularly during 1915, the last year before conscription was introduced and the year in which the army had the greatest need of new recruits to ensure regiments were up to strength. It has been estimated that about 250,000 men under the age of 18 joined up during the course of the War. In 2013 the Imperial War Museum, after decades of speculation, finally proved that the youngest of all was Private Sydney Lewis of Kingston, Surrey, who joined in August 1915 whilst only twelve years old. At the age of thirteen he was fighting on the battlefields of the Somme. In the present day this seems scandalous, but at the time the only requirements for active service, apart from age, were to be at least 5 foot 3 inches tall, and to have a minimum chest size of 34 inches. In the recruitment halls, where recruitment officers were paid two shillings and six pence per recruit, if a young man wanted to fight and he met the physical criteria and he said he was at least 18 years old, few would have demanded to see proof of age, something which many people at the time could not produce anyway. So, Albert was not alone when he joined the ranks at the age of 15 or 16.

His regiment was attached to the 34th Division, which assembled in France in 1916. This Division was first actively engaged on the frontline on the Somme and saw action in five of the major battles in the first half of that Offensive. The spring of 1917 would find Albert's Suffolks on the front line fighting from the opening day of the Arras Offensive and they continued to be present in many of the constituent battles until it drew to a close in the early summer. In one of these battles, Albert was injured sufficiently badly to require evacuation for treatment back to the hospitals near Etaples on the coast. He died there on the 3rd May aged 18, a whole year younger than the minimum age for seeing active service abroad. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery in the same plot as Maurice Everett just three rows apart.

It should be noted that, despite his young age, when he died, Albert was already a Lance Serjeant. At the time the appellation Lance was an appointment in the gift of the Commanding Officer and was used to confer the duties of a serjeant on soldiers of merit formally ranked as corporals or even privates. Albert was quite definitely no ordinary young man of 18.

Maurice Everett will be remembered at the 10:30 Five Villages service at Boxford on Sunday 30th April; Albert Herbert will be remembered at the 09:30 service at Groton on Sunday 14th May and Ernest Griggs will be remembered on the same day at the 11:00 service at Boxford.

In my opening paragraphs I commented on how little information was available about many of these young men who went to War for their country, and how inadequate a remembrance I feel I can give them. To try and compensate for this, I offer the following two poems as an epitaph, particularly for the men from our rural villages, but the meaning is not lost in the broader context of all their fellow countrymen who never saw out their lives amongst their friends and family.

The two poems come from A.E. Houseman's cycle of sixty three titled A Shropshire Lad. It was first published in 1896, and, although not written specifically about the consequences of war, the theme of lost youth is deeply embedded in many of its poems. The tenor of the work is unapologetically nostalgic, set in a semi-imaginary Shropshire, 'the land of lost content' and of 'blue remembered hills' and yet it avoids any mawkishness in its simplicity of writing and originality of phrase. Initially it received little attention, but during and after the Second Boer War, the first war in which volunteer soldiers fought, it gained in popularity. By 1911 it was selling 13,500 copies a year and after 1914 it became a metaphor for the changes wrought in English rural life by the loss of so many young men from one generation. Groups of the poems have been set to music by several composers, but probably the best known are the settings by George Butterworth of eleven of the poems, which he composed in 1912. Butterworth himself died in battle during the Somme offensive and the eleven

songs were eventually published in two sets as Six Songs from a Shropshire Lad and Bredon Hill and other Songs.

The two I quote here, The lads in their hundreds and Is my team ploughing? come from the first set. The lads in their hundreds is sung almost jauntily, but the theme of hoping somehow to be able to discern those in a crowd who will die young, coupled with the ironic reference to the glory of death in the last line, undoes any illusion of comfort the melody may engender. In Is my team ploughing? Houseman uses the form of a conversation between two young friends, one dead and one very much alive. Butterworth has the words of the dead friend sung in a shallow, unembellished way in a minor key, which he contrasts with the living friend, who sings in a robust and lively manner initially in a major key and yet every one of those verses ends on a series of rising notes drifting back towards the minor, which on the last line of the poem stops on a desperate discordant semi-tone. The whole effect is to create a deeply unsettling sense of something so traumatic that even the normality of the continuity of life can never dispel the shadow it casts upon the world. In these eight verses is encapsulated the sorrow of a lost generation, and the guilt of the living spared the carnage that has swallowed so many.

The lads in their hundreds

The lads in their hundreds to Ludlow come in for the fair,
There's men from the barn and the forge and the mill and the fold,
The lads for the girls and the lads for the liquor are there,
And there with the rest are the lads that will never be old.

There's chaps from the town and the field and the till and the cart,
And many to count are the stalwart, and many the brave,
And many the handsome of face and the handsome of heart,
And few that will carry their looks or their truth to the grave.

I wish one could know them, I wish there were tokens to tell
The fortunate fellows that now you can never discern;
And then one could talk with them friendly and wish them farewell
And watch them depart on the way that they will not return.

But now you may stare as you like and there's nothing to scan;
And brushing your elbow unguessed-at and not to be told
They carry back bright to the coiner the mintage of man,
The lads that will die in their glory and never be old.

Is my team ploughing?

Is my team ploughing,
That I was used to drive
And hear the harness jingle
When I was man alive?

*Ay, the horses trample,
The harness jingles now;
No change though you lie under
The land you used to plough.*

Is football playing
Along the river shore,
With lads to chase the leather,
Now I stand up no more?

*Ay, the ball is flying,
The lads play heart and soul;
The goal stands up, the keeper
Stands up to keep the goal.*

Is my girl happy,
That I thought hard to leave,
And has she tired of weeping
As she lies down at eve?

*Ay, she lies down lightly,
She lies not down to weep:
Your girl is well contented.
Be still, my lad, and sleep.*

Is my friend hearty,
Now I am thin and pine,
And has he found to sleep in
A better bed than mine?

*Yes, lad, I lie easy,
I lie as lads would choose;
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Parish Council Matters

Minutes of a meeting of Newton Parish Council

Wednesday 8th March 2017

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

Attending: Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor), D Crimmin (Clerk) and 1 resident.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Crawte (illness) sent her apologies as did James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor).

Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation: None

Minutes of meeting held on the 8th February 2017: The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum: Lee Parker updated councillors on Babergh's council tax increase, Babergh's Ward Boundary review and the move to Endeavour House now being planned for August / September 2017.

Correspondence (Appendix A): Following a review of the Correspondence and the emails circulated since the last meeting the councillors agreed that Cllr Presland should attend the Pub as a Hub event on NPC's behalf and that Bev Faulkner should be asked if she wishes to attend as well.

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

a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C), were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting, agreed the Reconciliation of Accounts against the Bank Statements and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget.

b. With the donations budget already exceeded in 2016 / 17, and no local applications for a donation received, the councillors resolved not to award any further donations.

c. The councillors resolved to carry forward the following Earmarked Reserves to 2017 / 2018:

Planning: a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/17/00149 Kintore, Rectory Road - Erection of extensions to front and rear and alterations to dormer windows and resolved to support the application.

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

c. The councillors agreed with Cllr Parker's suggestion that Babergh's Planning Policy manager be invited to a meeting with councillors to look at the preferred way forward for a Community Led Plan. The Clerk to arrange a meeting.

d. The issue of the hedge removed in Valley Road is now a matter that Babergh Enforcement are investigating.

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

Playground and Asset Maintenance Programme

a. The councillors reviewed the options for improving the hard standing of the entrance to the playing field, between the play equipment fencing, and agreed with the proposal of Cllr Poole who will forward the quotation to the Clerk. It was agreed that Flowers Groundcare be given the opportunity to quote for the installation of the hard standing and then these quotations are to be forwarded by the Clerk to Babergh in an application for S106 funding. It was confirmed that the Trust had given their approval for the works to be undertaken.

b. The councillors agreed that the removal of hedging around, and the condition of the war memorial and plinth will be coordinated by Cllr Taylor with Harry Buckledee.

c. The councillors agreed that Cllr Parker give residents an update on what benefits a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) could be achieved by Newton at the Annual Parish Assembly (APA) on the 26th April 2017.

Speed restrictions on A134: The Clerk updated councillors that the consultation had not been issued yet by SCC Highways.

Newton Community Achievement Awards:

The councillors agreed that there will be two recipients of awards at the APA.

Defibrillator: The Clerk updated councillors that the cabinet was now with the Golf Club awaiting installation by their electrician. The councillors agreed that if the defibrillator was live with the Ambulance Service in time, that an Awareness session for residents could be held at the APA.

Clerk vacancy: The councillors were updated that the advert for the vacancy had now been placed and that interviews are planned to take place at Newton Village Hall on the 4th April 2017.

Questions to the Chair: An issue regarding the placement of railway sleepers on what appeared to be the Green is being investigated by the Trust. The Trust will also confirm to NPC the boundary of the Green, as far as the Land Registry is concerned, for Byelaw enforcement purposes. The Village Hall door is being replaced imminently and a new notice board is being made for the entrance of the Village Hall car park.

Next Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 12th April 2017 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Meeting of Little Waldingfield Parish Council 26th Jan

Present: Councillors Andy Sheppard (Chairman), Barbara Campbell, Jeremy Coomber, Matt Foster (arrived late), Tim Sheppard and Chris White.

Attending: Dave Crimmin (Clerk).

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Braybrook (commitment) sent his apologies as did Colin Spence (Suffolk County Councillor), Margaret Maybury (Babergh District Councillor) and Frank Lawrenson (Babergh District Councillor).

Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation:

No interests declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd January 2017

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

Routine Correspondence (Appendix A): The councillors reviewed the correspondence and the emails circulated by the Clerk since the last meeting and resolved that the £30 donation towards the cost of powering the defibrillator at the Parish Room should be paid annually in advance. The councillors agreed that Little Waldingfield's ability to participate in the

nation's tribute and WWI Beacons of Light being held on the 11th November 2018 should be assessed. The Clerk was asked to contact the Playing Field Committee to see if there is a suitable location for a beacon to be erected on the playing field. If there is space on the playing field, the councillors agreed that the costs for the installation of the beacon should be raised by public subscription.

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

Neighbourhood Plan: The councillors reviewed the outcomes of their meetings with Bill Newman of Babergh District Council and Carroll Reeve, Chairman of Lavenham Parish Council, which were held to understand the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The councillors resolved that the Little Waldingfield's Neighbourhood Plan (LWNP) should proceed as follows:

a. The Little Waldingfield Parish Boundary to define the geographical scope of the NP area

b. The constitution and composition of the NP Steering Group to be decided upon once NP area designated and then following a meeting with volunteers

c. That the Clerk formally apply to Babergh District Council (BDC) for the NP area to be designated

d. That all procurement for the NP Steering Group would be through LWPC

e. Copy documents offered for LWPC's use from Lavenham and other areas undertaking NP's would be used as templates for the NP Steering Group's consideration.

The councillors agreed that the website be updated with the NP plan of action.

Finance

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

b. The councillors reviewed the Budget Proposal (Appendix D) and resolved to set an Expenditure Budget of £7,693 for 2017 / 2018. Following a review of the Expenditure budget and proposed reserves the councillors resolved by a majority, Cllr Coomber against, to set a Precept of £8,250 which will mean a 21p a month increase in the Band D Council Tax for 2017 / 2018.

c. The councillors resolved to award D Gotts the grass cutting contract for the Closed Churchyard in 2017 for up to 14 cuts at £50 per cut and the Footpath cutting contract for up to 6 cuts at £75 per cut.

d. The councillors resolved that 2 councillors attend the Suffolk Preservation Society Heritage training event at a cost of £40, which includes a one year membership of SPS for LWPC.

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

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

Closed Churchyard: The Clerk was asked to write to the Diocese to check on the status of the necessary permissions to undertake the works on the lime trees as any further delay will impact on the works being undertaken this Spring.

The councillors reviewed the outcome of correspondence between the Clerk, contractor and BDC for the repair to the Closed Churchyard's entrance wall pillar. With BDC agreeing that they were happy with the proposed schedule of works to the wall which does not require Listed Building Consent, LWPC now awaits permission from the Diocese to proceed with the works. The councillors asked the Clerk to inform the person responsible for the damage of the current status and the estimated cost for the repairs.

Speed Indicator Device Scheme: Concerns have been raised with clauses incorporated in the agreement that each PC must sign with SCC to operate the scheme and suggested amendments have been presented for SCC's consideration. The 3 proposed locations for the SID's were reviewed by the councillors and the Clerk will now prepare the documentation for submission to SCC. The SID device selection will now take place as the project enters the detailed phase.

Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan Issues & Options: After reviewing the Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan documentation, the councillors resolved that they had no comments at this stage.

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

Risk Register: The councillors requested that several modifications be made to the Risk Register and that these be reviewed at the March meeting.

Effectiveness of LWPC's Internal Audit and Internal Control process

The councillors reviewed the current system of LWPC's internal controls and internal audit and resolved that they were satisfied with the measures currently undertaken by the council.

Litter Pick: The councillors agreed that the litter pick take place on Saturday 18th March 2017 with the Clerk make the necessary arrangements.

Welcome Card: The councillors reviewed the final proof for the Welcome Card and resolved that once Cllr Foster had made several changes, that the Clerk produce 26 A5 cards.

Clerk's Resignation: The councillors reviewed the Clerk's letter of resignation and agreed to a leaving date of 31st December 2017.

Next Meeting: The date of the next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday 21st March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.19pm.

Appendix D Budget Proposal: At the November meeting you were minded to agree an Expenditure Budget of £7,693 for 2017 / 2018 as follows:

Boxford Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 9th May at 7.30pm

Boxford Village Hall

Come along and have your say

Tea and Coffee will be served until 7,30pm

Box River Benefice, Directory of Clubs & Organisations

Boxford Clubs & Organisations

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

Diana Taylor 210239
 Moira Grant 211513
 Neil Barkham 211916
 Adrian Gooderham 211805
 Eloise Britcher 828710
 Janice MacMillan 210565
 Richard Gates 210432
 Mark Miller 211596
 Denzil Smith 210020
 Michael Norman
 Richard Gates 210432
 Sue Beven 210021
 211077
 Matthew Shinn 211296
 Les Clark 210698
 Mark Miller 211596
 Sue Green 210603
 Brian Porter 210581
 Ward Baker 210129
 Peter Patrick 210346
 Janice Macmillan 210565
 Angela Tolputt 212264
 Elizabeth Wagener 210223
 Shirley Watling 210024
 David Burden 211926
 Melvyn Eke 602846
 Toby Barkworth Knight 210332
 Tina Loose 210538
 Gordon Edgar 378983
 Moira Grant 211513
 Simon & Jo Marchant 210149
 Yvonne Woodfield 210151
 Guy Godfray (Clerk) 211378
 Veronica Hobbs 211529
 Annie Phillips 211729
 Pauls Hoare 211033
 Eddie Kench 211507
 Babergh West 01473 613500
 James Finch 01206 263649
 Bryn Hurren 01787 210854
 Iain Young (01787) 210048
 David Gasson 210796
 Tina Impett.
 Elaine Carpenter 210601
 Philip Rich 212329
 210558
 Caroline Williams 210836 or Nicola Coote 371788
 Debbie Hattrell 210943
 Ruth Kingsbury 211236
 Brian James 210814
 Ian Lindsley 210520
 Maggie 210888
 Ruth Kingsbury 211236
 Ben Woodfield 211922

Newton Clubs & Organisations

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

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

Edwardstone Clubs & Organisations

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

Claire Mortime 210051
 Fiona Raymond 210461
 Daphne Clark 210698
 Les Clark (Clerk) 210698
 Tom Whymark 211375
 Daphne Clark 210698
 Ineke Morris 210761
 Mrs A Tribe 211526

Edwardstone Parish Council

Groton Clubs & Organisations

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

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

Ltl Waldingfield Clubs & Organisations

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

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

Milden Clubs & Organisations

Milden Cricket Club
 Milden Pavilion and Playingfield

Richard Robinson 211114
 Pearl 01449 741876

Directory of Benefice Web Sites

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Box River Benefice churchnearyou.com/boxford-st-mary
 For churches other than Boxford, follow the links under "Our other churches"
 Boxford Web Site boxfordsuffolk.com/
 Boxford: opsboxfordbures.com/
 Boxford Bike Club: boxfordbikeclub.co.uk
 Boxford Community Council: boxford.me.uk
 Boxford Drama Group: boxforddramagroup.com
 Boxford Gardening Society: boxfordgardeningociety.one.suffolk.net
 Boxford School: boxford.suffolk.dbprimary.com/
 Boxford Spinney(Scouts): boxfordspinney.freeserve.co.uk/
 Boxford Sunflower: boxfordsunflower.co.uk
 Boxford Rovers Youth Football Club: boxfordroversyfc.co.uk
 Boxford Rovers Youth: boxfordrovers.intheteam.com
 Boxford Rovers FC (Men's teams) www.boxfordrovers.co.uk
 Boxford Village Hall: boxfordvillagehall.co.uk
 Fleece Jazz: dovbear.co.uk/fleece/
 Tornado Smith: thewallofdeath.co.uk/Tornado.htm
 Edwardstone Cricket Club edwardstonecricketclub.com
 Milden Cricket Club www.mildencr.com

DOCTORS

Boxford Mill: hadleighhealth.co.uk/

PARISH COUNCILS

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

PUBS

The Boxford Fleece: boxfordfleece.com/
 The Boxford White Hart whitehartboxford.com
 The Groton Fox: thefoxandhounds.webeden.co.uk/
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The routes took in many picturesque Suffolk villages including Boxford, Kersey, Chelsworth and Woolpit. Each of the routes will be fully signposted. Two routes were available, a 40 miles and 60 miles. These routes used predominantly quiet rural roads and travel throughout the beautiful rolling, tranquil Suffolk countryside. Boxford Bike Club try hard every year to make the event as enjoyable as possible for all participants, whilst remaining great value for money, and we hope we've did this again this year. To help the day went as smoothly as possible, We asked for donations for post ride refreshments and all money collected went to a local village organisation the Boxford Community Council (nothing to do with politics!) The Community Council has been running for a number of years and has raised money for the benefit of

Many local organisations and residents. It has supported Boxford Bike Club in its inception and continues to support local causes in the form of grants. Recently our local First Responders team received a grant for more life-saving equipment. Please support generously... Some of the refreshments have been kindly donated by Pete Hender of Studio56 in Sudbury



Photo David Lamming

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European Tour hopefuls will take on the testing Gainsborough Course which, at 7,134 yards, will require length and accuracy off the tee from September 19-22, 2017.

Competitors will face a stern examination on the par three 18th, with nerves of steel required in order to drive over a lake to reach the green situated in front of the hotel and clubhouse.

Box River News is published and edited on behalf the Parishes of The Box River Benefice by Edward A Kench trading as: 'The Boxford Newsletter Group' and printed by Spingold Design & Print, Nayland.