

Box River News



March 2005
Vol 5 No 3

PARKING IS FREE



By a resounding 24 votes to 15 the prospect of paying for parking in Sudbury or Hadleigh was confined to the Waste Paper Basket.

Democracy reared it's wonderful head and despite the recommendations of the un-elected members of the Babergh District council, the elected members, our representatives, voted against the introduction of charges, not only for shopper parking but also for long term parking.

With three noticeable exceptions, Boxford, Leavenheath and Brook the vote was very much an East West Divide with the members whose constituents have to pay for parking in the East voting for and those in Rural Areas in the West voting against the proposal. Clearly the listening members heard what their constituents were saying and voted accordingly. As one member said "Clearly democracy has come through and at last the people have been listened to. This has been teamwork from the district through to the town and parish councils. I am pleased that for once party politics went out of the door. It shows people power can make a difference."

SSATAG TO MEET MINISTER

Tim Yeo, MP for South Suffolk is arranging a meeting between the Minister of Transport and the South Suffolk Air Traffic Action Group to hear their concerns over the new flight path over South Suffolk and the future growth in air traffic, both passenger and air transport, from Stansted and Luton airports

GROTON ROAD CLOSURE - February

Fox Hill, C717 will be closed between Sherbourne Street and the Fox and Hounds from 28th February to 13th March whilst the Local Needs Housing development at Partridge Close, Groton is connected to sewers and electrics. The signed diversion will be via Sherbourne Street - Edwardstone War memorial - Mill Green to Groton Street/Park Corner etc.,
Martin Wood, Clerk, Parish of Groton

A 1071 TO BE RESURFACED

Following a series of accidents on the 1071, sometimes as many as two per week, the Highways department of Suffolk County Council have deemed the surface of the road to be sub standard and plans are in hand to resurface the A1071 from the junction with the A134 to the Boxford Bye Pass. Additional warning signs are to be placed at the bends but unfortunately nothing is to be done about reducing the speed limit. It is hoped this will go some way towards reducing the number of accidents on this important Suffolk Road.

COUNTY RATE SET AT 2.5%

Suffolk County Council are to declare a rate of 2.5% and Babergh District Council have already declared a rate of 3.1% although this may be slightly adjusted to accommodate the cost of parking as result of the recent vote to keep parking free. Both claim to be either at the rate of inflation or below. Strange that the Chancellor of the Exchequer maintains that the rate of

Box River News

Box Valley Printing, for many years the printers of 'Box River News' and before that 'The Boxford Newsletter', regrettably ceased trading in February of this year. It has been the policy of the Box River News to keep production within the Benefice, however there are no other printers available too us and we have had to look elsewhere. This has resulted in our taking a new look at BRN as can be seen with this issue.

In future we will be using coated paper throughout which will ensure better quality reproduction of photographs in the publication and each issue will be 32 pages which will enable us to accommodate the high volume of copy we so often receive. At 32 pages A4 Box River News will probably be the biggest village community 'News Magazine' in the County.

All this has happened at very short notice and we trust that this issue has achieved the high standard we have come to expect. We may well introduce some style changes in future editions but one thing you can be sure of is that the Box River News will continue to be produced without cost to the community and not only delivered free to every household in the Benefice but also, unlike some other local Community Newsletters, it will continue to be available Free of charge in Pubs Clubs Post Offices and shops in the surrounding villages.

Box River News

Copy delivery points are:

Eddie Kench, Kiln Cottage, Stone Street, Boxford CO10 5NR or left at 'Boxford News' in Broad Street Boxford marked for the 'Box River News' Include pictures together with stamped addressed envelope for their return

Telephone: 01787 211507

e.mail: ed.kench@virgin.net

Closing date for copy for the April 2005 Issue is:

March 17th @ Noon

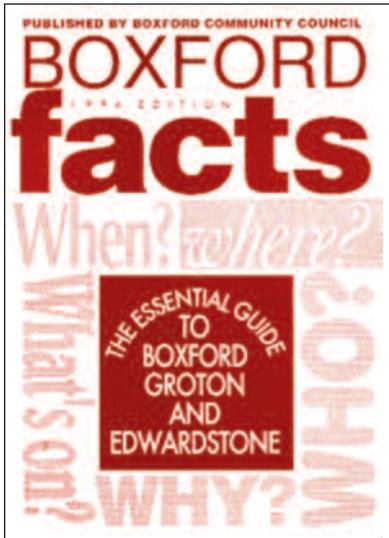
Box River
News

Delivered Free

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

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS ONE?

The last edition of Boxford Facts was produced in 1996, nine years ago. Since then we have lost one surgery, two hairdressers a garage and a bus station but thankfully no more pubs have closed although two of them have changed hands. Most of the village organisations have new committees, chairmen and secretaries and new organisations have begun. The Local British Legion and WI's have gone and we have a new Benefice and Rector and a new News Magazine the 'Box River News' covering the enlarged Benefice. So it's time for a the 'Facts' to be updated.



Boxford Facts originally covered Boxford, Edwardstone and Groton but since the first issue was published a new Benefice has been formed to include Newton and Little Waldingfield and after discussions with the BRN publishing committee and the Parish Councils of Newton and Little Waldingfield it has been agreed that the next issue should be the 'Box River Facts' incorporating the other two villages and will be published by the Boxford Newsletter Group on behalf of the Boxford Community Council and the Box River Benefice.

Retail shops, Public Houses and Commercial Health

organisations within the Benefice will be entitled to a simple entry but will be invited to advertise in the Facts to help meet the cost of production.

In order to avoid the Facts getting out of date there will be an annual update in the form of a supplement in the Box River News. There is already an up to date list of organisation contact numbers and parish council members published alternate months in the Box River News.

If anyone has any suggestions they would like to make about the new 'Facts', please write or e-mail me to the address on the front page of this issue of BRN. By the next issue of BRN we will have a better idea of what is required together with advertising rates. amongst addition information that will be required is e-mail addresses and web sites. Watch out for the questionnaire that will be included next month and be sure that your organisations details are available for publication. Remember, if you do not tell



Friday, 4th March, 8.30 Ticket £14 Jacqui Dankworth

Jacqui started out as an actress with the RSC and has gone on to become one of the finest singers in the UK regardless of category. Her voice has conspicuously English enunciation and an irresistible low register. Her work for the Candid record label has resulted so far in two fine albums, the latest being 'Detour Ahead', that have been much jazzier than her previous work with Field of Blue and put the emphasis firmly on the singer.

Friday, 11th March, 8.30 Ticket £10 Brian Dee Quartet

"The Centurion" aka pianist and composer Brian Dee, returns with his Quartet of Alex Garnett (saxophone), Alec Dankworth (bass) and Ralph Salmins (drums) for another storming gig. Brian has accompanied many of the biggest names in the history of popular and jazz music since the 50s. His output has displayed an ever-increasing appeal and he now clearly deserves to be viewed in a new light by his peers, jazz critics and fans alike.

Friday, 18th March, 8.30 Ticket £11 Nikki lies Trio

The new album (Everything I Love, pays homage to some of the great composers who have influenced Nikki's piano playing and compositions and helped her to create her own unique style. Nikki is also a widely respected teacher, acting as a tutor at numerous workshops and summer schools around the world as well as maintaining active links with most of the London colleges. Duncan Hopkins (bass) and Anthony Michelli (drums), who are both from Canada, make up this swinging trio

Friday, 25th March, 8.30 Ticket £10 Julian Siegel Quartet

The music of the Quartet is groove - based, drawing on many contemporary influences, all framed by the energy and passion of swing. Superb musicianship means that Julian appears regularly with other bands. In addition to being a skilled horn player Julian is also a highly proficient bassist. His latest album 'CEClose Up 2002' (Sound) is a marvellous album which really demonstrates Julian's true star quality. All but two of the nine tracks are his original compositions. Liam Noble (piano), Jeremy Brown (bass) and Asaf Sirkis (drums) make up this acoustic Quartet.

JUST A TASTE OF OUR SPRING PROGRAMME...

We look forward to the annual visit of American songstress Mariene Verplanck and are pleased to have booked the Australian Janet Seidel while she is on tour over here. Pianists are well represented by the long awaited return of Jason Rebello and French maestro Patrick Villanueva.

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

01787 211865

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

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

NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Muscari Jenny Robinson

Jenny Robinson from Chequers in Boxford has had a plant named after her. Whilst travelling in Cyprus Jenny found the Muscari 'Baby's Breath' growing wild. The RHS have recognised this discovery by naming it Muscari Jenny Robinson which is a member of the hyacinth family.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD W.I.

For our first meeting of the year we held a Beetle Drive and Quiz, nothing too strenuous - just a pleasant afternoon.

The money collected from the raffle which amounted to £40.00 was donated to the 'Tsunami Appeal Fund'.

At our February meeting Mrs Margaret Geater who arranges and accompanies the W.I. trips with the assistance of her husband came to give us a talk on her life as a 'Bed and Breakfast Lady' Margaret who lives at Stoke-By-Nayland gave a very interesting and enlightening talk - how the work is very hard but rewarding, and how much she enjoys it.

Some of the drawbacks are when visitors arrive really late - others who do not vacate their room on time. One of her visitors was one of the 'Roux brothers' who said it was excellent - Praise indeed.

Our next meeting is on March 2nd at 7.30p.m. in the village hall - the speaker is Ms Karen Kenny whose subject will be 'Good Companions in your Garden'. Everyone welcome.

Maisie Root 01787-377088

Lost Car Keys

A set of key car keys have been found on Newtons Playing Fields. It is thought these will be from someone from outside the village, possibly a spectator or parent watching a football match recently played there. If you believe these could be your keys please telephone 01787 210772

CLEANER/CARETAKER FOR EDWARDSTONE PARISH HALL:

We are seeking a cleaner/caretaker for Edwardstone Parish Hall. The Hall is normally cleaned once a week with extra cleaning, by agreement, when necessary. For one hour per week the wages are £30 per calendar month. Please contact Daphne Clark on 01787 210698 if you are interested

BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB '100

CLUB' WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY:

£42 - M Platten; £17 - G Bullett; £7 - G Williams.

Boxford Village Hall

January Draw Results

1st No 154	Boxford Society Clubs Lane	£40
2nd No 26	W Clackson 7 Fen Street	£20
3rd No 139	S Prescott White St Gn	£10
4th No 65	Steve Skinner Gt Cornard	£5

February Draw Results

1st No 99	J Cooper	Ash Street	£40
2nd No 50	G Rice	Daking Ave	£20
3rd No 131	R Wilson	Colchester	£10
4th No 128	D Jarmin	Ash Street	£5

Next Draw March 1st



WEST SUFFOLK MIND

Volunteers Required

Are you a person who can

- Q easily talk to people
- Q offer a listening ear
- Q involve people in activities
- Q share personal skills and hobbies eg cooking, music
- Q help organise and take part in outings
- Q offer a few hours on a regular basis
- Q be flexible and have a sense of humour

All our volunteers can expect:

- Q Training
- Q Regular support
- Q Travel expenses

If you can say YES to some of the above we would like to hear from you.

Please call Liz Pawsey on 01284 764808



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for further information

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Sunday 6th March 2005

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www.stokebynaylandclub.co.uk

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Easter Sunday Lunch

Sunday 27th March 2005



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tamara.unwin@stokebynayland.com

For membership details please call

01206 262836

sales@stokebynayland.com
Keepers Lane, Leavenheath,
Colchester, Essex CO6 4PZ



Newton's Burns Night Supper

Congratulations to Newton Village Hall Committee for putting on another fantastic Burns Night Supper on Saturday 29th January. This event has become so popular that it was a sell out three weeks before the event.

Guests were welcomed by the chairman Alex Stevens and then the M.C. Alan Vince took over. Alan handled the job well and kept everyone amused with his 'one liners', some of which were directed to his long suffering wife, Ann.

Mary Russell said grace and the Haggis was then paraded by Colin Poole. David Russell addressed the Haggis, in fact he attacked it with such ferocity that the Chairman was heard to remark "you can see why so few sassenacks venture north of the border".

Janet Weavers was the person responsible for organising the evening and also for cooking the meal which was done to perfection and served up piping hot in double quick time by her band of waitresses. Everyone was given a wee dram for the toasts which were to follow.

The Immortal Memory was recited by David and Muriel Niven in a language which few understood.

The toast to the lasses by David Smalley was followed by a humerus reply by Elsa Stevens.

We were entertained with amusing anecdotes by Colin Poole, David and Judith Smally and Nancy Harries. Songs were sung and poems read followed by closing remarks from the Chairman and Auld Lang Syne.

Two important behind the scene workers were Mollie Watson and Joan Linney who did all the washing up. There was an excellent raffle with all the prizes donated. In the region of £500 was raised for Village Hall funds, Thanks to all who contributed to provide us with an evening of superb entertainment. *H B*

A great evening but what a shame the Box river News was not informed of the event. As a result many Villagers were unaware it was taking place and missed out on the scramble for tickets. *Ed*



Princess Royal visits Polstead

Princess Ann the Princess Royal visited Polstead on Thursday 10th February to attend a seminar to raise awareness of how planning schemes can be used to provide affordable homes in rural areas.

The event at Polstead Village Hall was organised by the Rural Housing Trust along with Babergh District Council.

The Princess, president of the Rural Housing Trust, drew attention to the lack of affordable housing in small villages and encouraged delegates to do what they could to address the problem. "There are around 8,000 small villages in England and it is estimated that most of them need around six to 12 affordable homes to meet local needs," she said. "The difference a few houses can make may sustain the school, shop or club for longer, making a huge difference to all those in the village."

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Forthcoming Events Diary

March	1 Lent Lunch 2 Gt Waldingfield WI 8 Lent Lunch 9 Boxford Community Council 10-12 Boxford Drama Group 10 FOB's Pamper Evening 12 SESAW Jumble Sale 12 Newton Village Hall 14 Boxford Over 60's 14 Newton Village Hall Whist Drive 19 Cake and Book Stall 19 Boxford Over 60's 21 Boxford Over 60' 26 Boxford School Swimathon	Good Companion in your garden Council Meeting Two one act plays Coffee Morning Mrs Rogers of Colchester St Marys Church Boxford Guides Bramford	Groton House, Groton Gt W Village Hall Chequers White Hart Boxford Village Hall 10 march at 6.30 ,11/12 School Hall Leavenheath Village Hall Boxford Village Hall Boxford Village Hall The Boxford Fleesce	12.30pm 7.30pm 12.30pm 8.00pm 7.30 7.00pm1 2.00pm 2.30pm 7.30pm 9.30am 2.00pm 12.15pm
April	2 Little Waldingfield Parish Room 8 Boxford and District Bowls Club 11 Summer Term Begins 14/16 Arts and Crafts 16 FOBS Quiz Night 16 Boxford Fun Run 2005 23 Boxford Rocks with the Beavers 24 Boxford and District Bowls Club 27 Boxford Community Council 30 Boxford Rovers Casino Night	Quiz Night Quiz Night Boxford Community Council Season Starts Annual General Meeting	Parish Rooms Edwardstone Village Hall Mary's House Boxford School Boxford Village Hall The Pavilion, Boxford Boxford Village Hall	TBA 7.00pm 8.00pm 2.30pm 8.00pm 8.00pm
May	7 Groton Garden Gala 2 7 Newton Village Hall "Fireside Club" 14 Theatre at Newton Village Hall 21 Car Boot Sale	Groton PCC Newton Village Hall	Groton Church Village Hall Newton Playing Field	10am to 1pm 2.00pm
June	? Boxford Drama Group 5 Boxford Gardens Open 8 Boxford Community Council 11 Sports and Fun Day 11 Cake and Book Stall 18 FOBS Afternoon Summer fun day followed by Hog Roast and Dance 18 Car Boot Sale 25 Boxford St Mary's Church Fete	Scottish Theme Evening St Mary's Church Senior Citizens Outing Leaves the village centre St Marys Church Newton Village Hall	Boxford Playingfields Boxford Newton Playing Field	5.30 to 6.00pm 9.30am
July	2 Cantate Youth Choir 16 Visit of the Winthrop Family 16 Newton Village Fete	Boxford Church Building Trust	St Mary's, Boxford Groton Croft Newton Playing Fields	7.00pm PM
September	21 Car Boot Sale	Newton Village Hall	Newton Playing Field	

Boxford News

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Wot? s On

FITNESS CLASSES

Core Control fitness class held every Tuesday at 7pm-8pm at Boxford Village Hall. gentle yet effective exercise suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. For further information please contact: Lindsay on 01449 741488

FITNESS IN BOXFORD

Commencing Tuesday 4th January - **Gentle exercise**
Tuesday mornings at The Spinney - 9.00am
Commencing Wednesday 5th January - **Aerobic workout**
Wednesday evenings at Boxford Primary School - 7.00pm
Call 01787 211822 for more information

WELCOME TO THE SUDBURY FESTIVAL 2005

Talented performers of all ages from all over East Anglia will be coming to Sudbury in February to take part in the 2005 Festival. A feast for lovers of the performing arts, the Sudbury Festival of Music, Speech and Dance, will take place between 12 February and 7 March 2004. Everyone is welcome to watch any of the sessions.

There are about 1200 entries in some 400 classes, for both soloists and groups. Performances will range from classical ballet and tap to creative dance and song and dance groups, from choral and solo verse and prose reading to dramatic monologue and group drama, from solo instruments and chamber ensembles to operatic arias and songs from the shows. Most classes are competitive, but there are some non-competitive for those who prefer.

People with a wide range of abilities will be taking part and benefiting enormously from the experience – learning their piece, taking the stage, and watching and listening to their peers. There is a team of experienced adjudicators to give friendly and helpful assessments to each performer.

Over 70 cups and awards are there to be won, including two new awards: a cup for the best performance by a competitor 15 years or under in any of the three sections, given by the Sudbury Free Press to celebrate their 150th anniversary, and a shield for dialogue in the Speech section, given by Barclays Bank, Sudbury. There are £100 cash prizes attached to the Belchamp Bowl for string players and for the best player in the brass classes. In addition, the Sudbury Festival Award for Excellence, another cash prize, will be given to an outstanding young performer in any of the three sections.

The Festival starts with the Dance section, from 12 – 17 February, followed by Music from 23 February to 2 March, and Speech from 4-7 March.

The venues are Uplands Middle School, St Peter's and the Town Hall. The grand finale will be the Festival Concert on Sunday 20 March at Sudbury Upper School.

For more details, contact the Festival Press Officer, Pat Herbert, on 01787 310393

Boxford Community Council

A reminder for your diaries, we will be presenting 'Boxford Rocks' once again dance to the Beavers at Boxford Village Hall on Saturday 23rd April, 8 till 12, bar and refreshments, further details to follow.

Quiz Evening at Polstead

Quiz evening in aid of The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding at Polstead Village Hall on Saturday 5th March. 7pm for 7.30pm prompt. Licensed Bar and Raffle. Tickets £10 including hot supper. Teams of 4 minimum, 6 maximum.

Winners receive case of wine. Tickets available from Mrs D Godfrey, (SAE please) Stable House, Tye Lane, Bramford Tye, Ipswich IP8 4JZ. Tel 01473 658552

Little Waldingfield Parish Room

The event you have all been waiting for, **THE QUIZ NIGHT**, has now been fixed for Saturday 2nd April. Put the date in your diary. Full details in the next BRN.

HADLEIGH CHORAL SOCIETY- SPRING CONCERT

An Evening of Russian Music - Mussorgsky, Rachmaninoff, Borodin Saturday 19th March 2005 - St Mary's Church, Hadleigh, commencing at 7.30pm

Tickets: £9. £7 concessions. Available at The Idler, 37 High Street, Hadleigh, at the door, or contact Tel: 01473 824419

An Evening of Elgar

The Bury Bach Choir and Orchestra will perform an evening of music by Sir Edward Elgar at St Edmundsbury Cathedral on Saturday 19 March, conducted by Philip Reed. The concert starts at 7.30 p.m. and will finish around 9.20 p.m.

Elgar's Serenade for Strings, a short and frequently performed composition (with an unexpectedly familiar opening!), is followed by the six songs that comprise Elgar's Scenes from the Bavarian Highlands. As simple melodies in popular style these pieces are unsurpassed, containing charm, warmth and an abundance of spirited happiness.

The major work is The Music Makers. This is vintage Elgar; returning frequently to his gloriously seductive "Nimrod" theme, this mellow and heartfelt work has a dream-like euphoria that includes familiar echoes, quotations and fragments from a number of his major works. The soloist is mezzo-soprano Louise Mott.

This concert (from the man on every £20 note!) has a high "tingle factor". Whether you're a lover of Elgar, or if you've never before heard a live performance of his music, don't miss it.

For tickets, costing £7 (side aisle) or £10 or £14 (reserved centre aisle), please ring Theatre Royal Box Office on 01284 769505. Early booking is recommended for the top price seats

Boxford Over 60's Club

March Dates

Monday March 14th Village Hall 2.30pm Talk and demonstration on how to make sugar flowers, by Mrs Rogers of Colchester, who will have a selection of her handiwork on sale to members.

Saturday March 19th. Boxford Guides have very kindly invited the over 60's Club members for tea and entertainment. Village Hall at 2pm a much looked forward to event.

Monday March 21st. Coach outing to Bramford. Lunch at the Fox leaving Fleece 12.15pm watch out for dates of forthcoming coach outings. Non members as always very welcome where vacancies occur. New venues have been arranged with the promise of some great days out. For details and bookings please phone *Maisie* on 210045.

March 28th Easter Monday no meeting.

Next meeting **Monday April 11th**

BOXFORD SUNFLOWER PLAYGROUP

We are expanding our hours as from April 2005, to improve the childcare service that we can offer.

we will now be offering Morning and afternoon sessions with continued care at lunch times.

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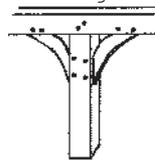
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P & H

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The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton

Rector: The Reverend David Matthews, The Rectory, School Hill, Boxford CO10 5JT
Tel 210752 e-mail: David.Matthews@stedmundsbury.anglican.org
Day off: Monday

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

Please let one of them or a Churchwarden or a Lay Elder know of any cases of sickness or otherwise where they might be of use. Thank You

Benefice House Mary's House 5 Swan Street, Boxford CO10 5NZ Tel & Fax 210026

To the Box River Saints

A news article I saw on the television during last month highlighted a furore-taking place over a change in syllabus in a USA school. The problem is that in addition to the normally taught evolution a new subject called Intelligent Design is now being added. The premise is that the natural world is so perfect that it could not have happened by accident and therefore it had to be created.

My question is, why all the fuss? If those who believe in the theory of evolution (and please remember that although there is some scientific evidence, it is still a theory) are as they say secure in their beliefs, surely an alternative viewpoint will do no harm? Are the evolutionists so secure?

I saw another interesting program whose name I cannot quite remember, but it was something like, "What we still don't know." In this program, which I found amazing, Cosmologists were looking at the origin of the universe and the way it operated. Using scientific methods and instruments, they took a very reasoned and cold look at the mechanics of the universe. Their conclusion was that the universe was so accurate in operation and so perfect in concept that it must have been designed! Despite the scientific evidence of their own instruments and their reasoning, they could not accept this conclusion. Instead they have come up with a new theory. The new theory is that ours is one of many universes (now called 'Multiverses') and to balance the accuracy and perfection of ours, the others will be inaccurate, imperfect and chaotic. Once again this is only a theory and a wild one at that, because it has absolutely no scientific evidence to back it up.

My next question is once again, why? If you have scientifically proved that the order in our universe is such that it points to a designer, why not let that theory rest on the evidence? Surely it is dishonest to come to a scientific conclusion and then deny it because the reality is too difficult to deal with.

Perhaps the problem is that at the end of the day one has to act on what one finds. Perhaps science has painted itself into a corner and it is now too hard to get out.

Someone once described a philosopher as someone who goes into a dark room, looking for a black cat that isn't there and comes out saying, "I have found it." Perhaps we could use this description of others who are seekers of the truth.

There will be an opportunity to look at the truth we Christians call the Gospel in the second of our ALPHA courses beginning on March 30th. You owe it to yourself to hear and discuss the evidence and see how it compares with the scientific theory.

Every blessing,

David



THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwarden:

Ruth Kingsbury: as Christopher above

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "Services next week will be as usual," I heard in the notices one Sunday. How can this be? Only a few weeks ago we gave thanks for the birth in Bethlehem of the Son of God. "He came to his own and his own received him not." The words are still fresh in our minds. We received him, didn't we? And don't we receive him every time the bread and wine are blessed in Holy Communion? Surely we don't come to Church on Sunday just to sing a few hymns? Services simply cannot be so boring as to be "as usual" any more. This Lent let us think "out of the box" and make our worship unusual, exciting and challenging! *Christopher Kingsbury*

BBC "SONGS OF PRAISE":

Our choristers are participating in television recordings for the programme on February 23rd and 24th at the Cathedral. The programmes will be broadcast on Easter Day, 27th March and Sunday 2nd October 2005. *Christopher Kingsbury*

MOTHERING SUNDAY - 6th March is a United Benefice Service at St. Mary's. Everyone in the benefice is invited to this Family Service. Flowers will be distributed during the service for children (of all ages!) to give to their mums. A short celebration of Holy Communion will follow the Family Service. *Christopher Kingsbury*

EASTER DAY - 27TH MARCH: We are delighted to welcome the Rt. Revd. Clive Young, Suffragan Bishop, to preside at our Easter Day Eucharist at 11.00 a.m. *Christopher Kingsbury*

LENT LUNCHEAS: Please see General Church News Section for details. *Christopher Kingsbury*

BOX RIVER CLUB NEWS: The Club meets in the school hall 10.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon on Sundays: Next Meeting is March 13th. Next Family Service: Mothering Sunday: 6th March at 11.00 a.m. New members to the club, are always made very welcome. *Janet Daniels*

YOUR CHURCH IS ON THE WEB:

Visit: www.achurchnearyou.co.uk look out for the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury link.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP: We look forward to seeing you again May 9th, when the group resumes at the usual time of 8.00 p.m. at 47 Swan Street. We would like to thank Peter and Margaret for their hospitality over these past several months. *C.K.*

ALPHA 2005: An Alpha follow-up group meets at 47 Swan Street, Boxford. Future date: 10th March. The evenings are a time of fellowship together when we will be able, with God's help, to explore and learn about the Christian faith. Please do bring a Bible! *Peter Holden*

A NEW ALPHA COURSE commences 30th March. Please do come and learn about the Christian Faith. See the Rectors' notice. *Christopher Kingsbury*

VE DAY PLUS 60 SERVICE: A service of commemoration and dedication will be held at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday May 8th VE DAY + 60. *Christopher Kingsbury*

SMILE LINES: A speeding excuse from Northumbria Police records: "A violent sneeze caused a chain reaction where my foot pushed down harder on the accelerator" *C.K.*



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:

Vacant

Lay Elder:

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

LENT LUNCHES:

Please see General Church News Section for details. *Antony Dodd*

CLEANER/CARETAKER

FOR EDWARDSTONE PARISH HALL:

We are seeking a cleaner/caretaker for Edwardstone Parish Hall. The Hall is normally cleaned once a week with extra cleaning, by agreement, when necessary. For one hour per week the wages are £30 per calendar month. Please contact *Daphne Clark* on 01787 210698 if you are interested.

ROTAS – SIDESMAN/CLEANING:

Mar 6: Combined Benefice Service (Box)/Mrs Morris & Mrs Kennett;

Mar 13: Mr Saddleton/Mrs Morris & Mrs Kennett;

Mar 20: Combined with Groton/Mrs Clarke & Mrs Clark;

Mar 27: Mrs Dodd/Mrs Clarke & Mrs Clark.



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens: *Barbara Riddleston:
Poplar Farm, Goslings Green, 210261
David Lamming Lodge Farmhouse 210360*

Lay Elder: *Joy Sellers 378009*

GROTON GARDEN GALA 2 - MAY 7TH GROTON CHURCH:

MAY will soon be here - it may not seem like it at the moment. There should be a fine collection of plants etc. at this year's Groton Plant Sale. So put the date in your diary, May 7th, Groton Church, 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Watch out for the banner and posters. *Bob Bowdidge*

LENT LUNCHES:

Please see General Church News Section for details. *Pauline Lamming*

MARY'S HOUSE

For forthcoming event in Mary's House, please see General Church News Section

ROTAS

March

April

Flowers: No Flowers (Lent)

Mrs M Lethbridge

Cleaning: Mrs P Smith

Mrs S Gooderham

Sidesman with Sacristan: Ms S Edwards Mr & Mrs J Sellers



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwarden:

Sandra Harbord, 55 The Street; tel 247034

Lay Elder:

Tim Harbord 247034

LENT LUNCHES:

Please see General Church News Section for details. *Sandra Harbord*

BOOK AND VIDEO LENDING SCHEME:

The next open morning for village residents will be in the church on Saturday 5th March from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Refreshments provided free of charge. *Sandra Harbord*

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:

The Good Friday Family Service at 9.30 a.m. will be followed, as has become traditional, by hot cross buns and refreshments in the Parish Room. *Sandra Harbord*

ROBIN CARTER

Sadly Robin died on Sunday 16th January after a long illness. His funeral was held in St. Lawrence on Friday 28th January after which he was buried in our churchyard.

The funeral was attended by over 100 people, a testimony to the popularity and affection in which Robin, a life long resident of the village, was held. Robin did many jobs for the church and trod where many others feared to tread, as he hoisted the flag on appropriate occasions and carried out general maintenance on gutters etc. We shall remember him for the help that he gave us in this respect.

We shall all miss him and send our condolences to Robin's family and many friends. *Sandra Harbord*

ROTAS – SIDESMAN/FLOWERS:

Mar 6: United Benefice Service (Box)/No flowers;

Mar 13: Mrs Gardiner & Mr Powell/No flowers;

Mar 20: Mrs Miller & Mrs Carse/No flowers;

Mar 27: Mrs Rattee/Mrs Clive.



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwardens:

*Diana Stock: 12 Links View, 312828
John Turner, Severn, Church Rd 372677*

Lay Elders: *Jean Green 373383*

& Diana Stock 312828

LENT LUNCHES:

Please see General Church News Section for details. *Diana Stock*

GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

LENT LUNCHES:

Tuesday 1st March, 12.30 p.m. at Groton House, Groton (Pat and Peter Kennedy Scott).

Tuesday 8th March, 12.30 p.m. at "Chequers", Boxford (Miss Jennie Robinson).

Please join us. for some of the time for a simple lunch and natter! and help with a donation to a good cause. *Pauline Lamming*

THANK YOU to all who supported the cake stall at Mary's in aid of the Tsunami Appeal. We raised £166! *Pauline Lamming*

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION:

April 14/15/16 in Mary's House - get in touch with me if you would like to sell/exhibit. It would be nice to have a variety of crafts. *Pauline Lamming 210360*

Copy Date for Church News section in the March 2005 Box River News:
Please, NO LATER THAN 15th March 2005. Thank you.

Daphne Clark 210698.

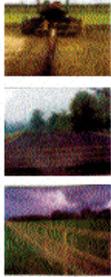
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Boxford School Swimming

Every year the school enters teams into the Butlins Swimathon, which raises money for various cancer charities. This year the swim is taking place on Easter Saturday, which caused some problems in raising two teams. However despite the problems two teams have been found and will be taking part. Our pupils team will be Joel Duverne, Francesca Gavin, Poppy Mace, Owain Taylor and Katy Kerr. The adult team will be Mrs Bryant, Will and Sue Fisher, myself and my daughter Kerry. I will send full details to those concerned as soon as I receive them.

Year 4 have now completed distance swimming assessments and as usual most of the children will be leaving the school having completed the National Curriculum target of being able to swim 25 metres by the time they are aged 11. Congratulations to all of the children and a special mention to Toby White who completed 1,000 metres in just under 25 minutes.

Hadleigh Hares Reach Hilly Heights.

In the final Sweatshop North Essex League meeting at Hilly Fields Colchester the combined Hadleigh Mid Essex Team secured second spot in Pool B, overcoming Withams 1 point lead coming into the race with their strongest showing of the season. The ladies team had a fantastic result, only 2 points behind last years league winners Springfield Striders and beating Colchester Harriers finishing in 4th position.

The men produced a strong team effort to see off the challenge of Haverhill, Halstead, and Witham finishing in 9th spot.

The overall scores saw the team finish ahead of Haverhill, Tiptree Halstead Witham and Grange Farm, securing 6 league points.

Final Positions in Pool B

1. Halstead 36.5
2. Hadleigh Mid Essex 24
3. Witham 23
4. Grange Farm 20
5. Tiptree 16
6. Haverhill 14

Congratulations to Halstead who are promoted to Pool A Hadleigh Runners positions.

Nick Rush 70	Barbara Sanders 22
Steve Hunt 76	Tracey Crawley 45
Dave Robinson 78	Merv Kesselring 146
Dave Potter 155	Dave Potter 155
John Chisnall 105	Dave Ingleby 111

So the season ends with Hadleigh having one of their most enjoyable seasons for many years. A few new members have joined in helping the teams position and enjoying the races as well. However the Club still needs more members.

If anyone wishes to try out running a warm welcome awaits on a Thursday evening at the front of Hadleigh High School at 7pm. Many members of the Hadleigh Hares are from Boxford and District.

Boxford Rovers Under 16's

Boxford Rovers under 16's League Cup dreams end in Penalty Shoot out. Against St Edmunds who are the leading team in 'B' division Rovers ended up in a penalty shoot out after the game ended in a one all draw. In truth Boxford had dominated throughout the game but paid the ultimate price of not converting more of the chances into goals that their fighting spirit and possession had created..

Boxford Rovers under 10's

The Boxford Rovers under 10s thrash Cornard Dynamos 4-0. Returning from their mid season break Boxford rovers under 10's enjoyed a resounding 4-0 win against near neighbours Dynamos.

The Reds took advantage of a below-strength Cornard side to turn on the style and play some attractive and intelligent football.

The scoring was opened by Bradley Hazell who played a one-two with Kristian Drew the latter playing a through ball for Bradley to finish.

Soon afterwards he returned the favour for Kristian to score. Bradley added his second to secure a 3-0 half time score.

In the second half Sam Taylor fed Stephen Kent who finished well to earn the team a 4-0 win.

Boxford Rovers Under 8's

LAWFORD got off to a dream start with a goal after just 20 seconds as the ball broke loose from the Boxford defence. Striker Adam Hayter equalised on four minutes with a well taken goal after the Boxford midfield trio had worked the ball into the Lawford box. Lawford came back on 11 minutes with a good break through the Boxford defence and a well planted shot, giving Finlay Craig no chance again. On 13 minutes Lawford extended their lead with another finely taken goal as they broke down through from a throw-in. The second half was wry even and hard fought, with Boxford having the flight edge in territorial possession, and they almost pulled one back with a shot that was cleared off the line.

Think About This One

If you as a parent, grandparent or just about anyone who has not seen an under 8's football match let me tell you, you have not lived.

Knocking seventy I have recently been seen dashing up and down the touch line of matches played by my grandson, Sam, a striker with the Lexden Saints, who unfortunately did not meet Boxford in one of the rounds of their cup competition having been knocked out of a previous round. I did not believe it was possible to generate such enthusiasm for an under 8's match but there I was shouting louder than any of the other parents and as my ten year old grand daughter kept telling me "they are only 7 years old Teddy".

These Matches are more important to parents and family than Manchester United's, Better than Chelsea's Millions and close to the excitement that Ipswich Town Generate. Remember, the Ipswich Town Academy may be seeking to sign my grandson or even yours!

Local Walks

Unfortunately Walks Programmes are still awaited from various groups for walks from March onwards. There are consequently just two to offer this month.

SUDBURY GROUP RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

Wednesday 16th March. Bildeston and Wattisham.

Meet at Bildeston Sportsfield Consett Lane (GR 988 497) for a 10.30 am start. Distance 6 miles.

Leader David Taylor 01787 880875

Sunday 27th March. Bulmer and Belchamp Brook.

Meet to make a 10.30am start at Brundon Mill, Sudbury. (GR TL 864423). Distance 8.5 miles

Please bring a packed lunch. Leader *David Burnett* 01787

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

March 2005

Wednesday 2 March

Box/MH 1030 Holy Communion*

Peter Welstand

Sunday 6 March, Fourth Sunday of Lent (MOTHERING SUNDAY)

Box 1100 *Combined Benefice Service*

The Revds. David Matthews &
Brian Watling

Wednesday 9 March

Box/MH 1030 Holy Communion*

Joy Sellers

Sunday 13 March, Fifth Sunday in Lent

Box 0800 Holy Communion BCP

The Revd. Brian Watling

LtW 0930 Holy Communion CW*

Tim Harbord

New 0930 Morning Prayer

Diana Stock/Jean Green

Box 1100 Family Service

Christopher

Kingsbury/Graham Brook

Edw 1100 Matins

Peter Welstand

Gro *Combine with Edwardstone*

Wednesday 16 March

Box/MH 1030 Holy Communion

The Revd. David Matthews

Sunday 20 March, Palm Sunday

Gro 0800 Holy Communion BCP *

Graham Brook

Edw *Combine with Groton*

New 0930 Holy Communion

The Revd. David Matthews

Box 1100 Holy Communion CW

The Revd. David Matthews

LtW 1100 Family Service

The Revd. Brian Watling

Wednesday 23 March

Box/MH 1030 Holy Communion

The Revd. David Matthews

Thursday 24 March, Maundy Thursday

Gro 1930 Holy Communion & Stripping of the
Altar

The Revd. David Matthews

Friday 25 March, GOOD FRIDAY

LtW 0930 Family Service (Hot Cross Buns)

The Revd. David Matthews

Box 1400 One hour devotions

The Revd. David Matthews

Sunday 27 March, EASTER DAY

LtW 0800 Holy Communion BCP

The Revd. David Matthews

Edw 0930 Holy Communion CW

The Revd. David Matthews

Gro 0930 Holy Communion

The Revd. David Abel

New 0930 Holy Communion CW

The Revd. Brian Watling

Box 1100 Family Communion

The Rt. Revd. Clive Young

Wednesday 30 March

Box/MH 1030 Holy Communion*

Antony Dodd

April 2005

Sunday 3 April, Second Sunday of Easter

New 0930 *Combined Benefice Service*

The Revds. David Matthews &
Brian Watling

* *Public Worship with Communion by Extension*

Boxford/MH: Mary's House, 5 Swan Street, Boxford

Box River Soap Box

In my role as Chairman of Little Waldingfield Parish Council, I received a letter recently from Babergh District Council, informing me that it was intended to contain the increase in Council Tax to within the rate of inflation - 3.1%. I was surprised. Why were they quoting a rate of 3.1% when, according to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, inflation was only 1.6%? The truth, of course, was evident. There are many inflation rates from which they can choose. No surprise that they chose the highest.

From being initially annoyed that they should appear to attempt to take advantage of the lack of clarity over what truly constitutes the rise in the cost of living, my view mellowed as I recognised it was understandable to choose a higher headline rate. You know the old saying - lies, damn lies, and statistics. Inflation is the most opaque of statistics. Little wonder that few understand what is behind the figures. And that includes many who consider themselves fully financially literate.

When the cost of living goes up sharply, newspaper headlines are likely to shout "Inflation Soars". If the cost of living were to fall it would be deflation - but that is less newsworthy. Make no mistake, though, deflation is dangerous. We suffered from it during the early 1930s. And it contributed to the Japanese economic malaise of the 1990s.

The trouble with deflation is that people put off buying goods because they believe they can purchase them more cheaply later. This hits at the very core of capitalism - consumer demand - hence the reason that governments and central banks try to head it off whenever it looks as though it may re-assert itself.

But high inflation is a bad thing as well. In the mid-1970s it did untold damage to our commerce and industry and contributed in some measure to the fall of both Conservative and Labour Governments during that decade. We felt high inflation in our pockets then. But how is it measured? Where does the Government get its figures from? What is taken into account when calculating the cost of living?

The cost of living is measured by pricing a basket of goods and services, and monitoring them on a monthly basis. The contents vary over time according to the buying habits of the public. Corsets were once an item in the inflationary shopping basket, and computer games now are. What we eat is also included - and also changes.

The problem with the present measure is that there are too many choices available. Until recently, we used just one - the Retail Price Index, or RPI. This was the basket containing pretty well everything. Then, because it was felt that it was skewed by housing costs, RPIX was introduced - all the contents of RPI, but without mortgage costs. And change did not end there.

In our attempts to bring our approach into line with that of the rest of Europe. Gordon Brown elected to adopt a new measure compatible with that adopted by the EU. Known as Hiccup in City parlance, the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices gave an inflation rate that was less than half that of RPI. It is now known as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and even though it has been edging up, at 1.6% (at the last count) it is well below the RPI figure.

Which rate should you take? To be honest, inflation is not the same for all of us. A recent study suggested that the wealthier you are, the more your cost of living is rising. This is, apparently because rich people spend more on services, which suffer a higher rate of inflation.

In the end the figure taken by Babergh is probably as good as any. At least the increase is capped. With so many uncertainties - the amount of money we may have available through our pensions being not the least of these - to have a degree of certainty, even if it is not too closely defined, is a good thing. But a zero increase would have been even better. Or perhaps that would fuel deflationary fears.

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

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 3 Parishes Response
 Allotments
 Bellringers
 Boxford Art Group
 Boxford Babysitting Circle
 Boxford Bible Study Group
 Boxford Bingo Club
 Boxford Bowls Club
 Boxford Bounty
 Boxford Carpet Bowls
 Boxford Community Council
 Boxford Conservative Assoc
 Boxford Drama Group
 Boxford Fleece Jazz Workshop
 Boxford Gardens Open
 Boxford Netball Club
 Boxford Over 60s Club
 Boxford Playing Fields
 Boxford Playing Fields Pavilion
 Boxford Recorder
 Boxford Rovers Football Club
 Boxford School
 Boxford Society
 Boxford Spinney
 Boxford Sunflower Playgroup
 Boxford Sew & Sews
 Boxford Study Centre
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 Boxford Village Hall
 Boxford Walks
 Boxford Youth Club
 Box River Club
 Box River News
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 CE Vol Con School & Nursery Unit
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 District Councillor
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 Fleece Jazz Club
 Friends of Boxford School

Diana Taylor 210239
 Moira Grant 211513
 Mark Miller 211596
 Lil Benton 210809
 Janice MacMillan 210595
 Richard Gates 210432
 Vic Rice 210504

Richard Gates 210432
 Philip Ingram 210771
 Susanne Excell 210572
 211077
 Les Gunn 210994
 Les Clark 210698
 Mark Miller 211596
 Jean Saunders 210725
 Peter Hibben 210819
 Peter Patrick 210346
 Margaret Clapp 210186
 David Mayhew 248585
 Barrie Thorpe 211346
 Elaine Powling 211243
 Nell Suckling 210250
 Richard Gates 210432

Philip Rich 210605
 Mark Lane 211656
 Bob Giles 210332
 Philip Rich 210605
 Sonja Lane 211214
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 David Phillips 210106
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 Keith Warren
 Jeremy Pembroke
 Bryn Hurren 01473 822737
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 David Gasson 210796
 Phillip Taylor 211265

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 Mill Surgery
 Mother and Toddler Group
 Parish Council
 Parochial Church Council
 Poppy Appeal
 Primrose Wood
 SESAW
 Toddlers at Boxford

210026
 210558
 Moira Grant 211513
 Maureen Cooling 211822
 Cynthia Wanniarachy 211182
 E Fletcher
 Ian Lindsley 210520
 Maggie 210888
 Dawn Kurtz

Newton Clubs & Organisations

Mothers & Toddlers
 News, Views & Coffee
 Newtoners
 Newton Fireside Club
 Newton Golf Club
 Newton Green Trust
 Newton Keep Fit Club
 Newton Mothers and Toddlers
 Newton News Views & Coffee
 Newton Village Hall
 Newton Village Hall Theatre Group
 PCC
 Police Liason Officer
 Surgeons

Siobhan Harris 311028
 Alex Stevens 374093
 Linda Cutts 370242
 Molly Watson 373353
 377217
 Dave Crimmin 375093
 Linda Buckledee 210772
 Lisa Devlin 374182
 Nancy Harris 374626
 Alan Vince 373963
 Janet Weavers 377652
 Rosemary Otto 370977
 PC Ruth Horton 01284 774307
 Boxford Mill 210558
 Meadow Lane 310000
 Hardwicke House 370011
 Siam 370444
 Alan Vince 373963
 Tina Boyes 375423

Whist Drives
 Willow Montessori Nursery

Edwardstone Clubs & Organisations

Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust
 Edwardstone Parish Hall
 Edwardstone United Charities
 Edwardstone and Boxford CC

Clare Britcher 211234
 Fiona Raymond 210461
 Les Clark (Clerk) 210698
 Sally Gooderham 231327

Groton Clubs & Organisations

Groton Educational Foundation
 Groton Parish Council
 Groton United Charities
 Groton WI

Anthea Scriven 01787 210263
 Martin Wood 210181
 Martin Wood 210181
 Joan Cooper

Ltl Waldingfield Clubs & Organisations

Gt Waldingfield WI
 Ltl Waldingfield Parish Council
 Lt Waldingfield Parish Room
 Little Waldingfield Playingfield Committee (Chairman)
 Little Waldingfield Charities

Linda Lutz 378888
 Camilla Heptinstall 247804
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 Phil Hart 248021
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Wot? s On

BOXFORD ROVERS

CASINO NIGHT 30th APRIL 2005

If you fancy yourself as a budding James or Jane Bond then why not order your martini (shaken not stirred) and chance your arm with the roulette wheel? In fact why not try blackjack, dice or wheel of fortune (or roulette) at Boxford Rovers Casino Night. If you're not a card shark and need some convincing - don't worry it's all for a good cause. Pay your £10 entrance fee, get £10 of chips (free with the ticket price) and give it a whirl. The croupiers will explain the aims of the games and everybody is free to join in. There will be prizes at the end of the evening for those with the most chips and a very special raffle with some unbelievable prizes. No-one will be going home with thousands of pounds - as it's all for charity. Boxford Rovers are launching an appeal to resurface the top pitch at Homefields and to install a drainage system and the Casino Night is just one event aiming to boost the coffers.

The Casino Night is on Saturday 30th April at Boxford Village Hall, tickets cost £10 and include hot food and your initial £10 of gambling chips. The event features trained croupiers who will guide everyone through the games patiently and ensure everyone has a fantastic time.

For tickets or for further information contact Steve Taylor on 01787 210239 or Mark Lane, Boxford Rovers Chairman on 211656. This will be a very popular event so get your tickets early!

THE BOXFORD FUN RUN 2005

16th APRIL 2005.

Boxford Homefields will be playing host to one of the Village's most popular events later this month - as hardy souls line up for the annual fun run. The event, organised by Boxford Rovers Football Club, is split into a number of age groups for children and culminates in a fun run for adults which stretches over 3 miles. Anyone is welcome to take part in the fun run from under 8s through to parents, friends, keen runners and the not-so-keen! Remember you don't have to be a Paula Radcliffe to take part - just a willingness to walk or jog around the course and raise much-needed funds for one of the Village's largest youth organisations. Many of the 120 Boxford Rovers players will be looking for sponsorship so if a form is thrust into your hand please be generous - otherwise get your running shoes on and join in! Adults who turn up on the day will need to pay an entrance fee and for more information on this and the fun run generally contact Greg Deeks on 01787 210075 or Chris Waugh on 210139. Richard Robinson, Press Officer.

Friends of Boxford School Pamper evening **10th March 2005, 7.00pm - 9.30pm in the school hall.**

Programmes and tickets for the evening will be available to purchase from Boxford News and the school.

Entrance Tickets are £3.00 and include a glass of wine and nibbles. The purchase of a programme of £1.00 automatically enters you into a prize draw, whether you attend on the evening or not, so please keep it safe for the number. Prizes for this draw are: A Spa day for two, A full body Aromatherapy treatment, A Reflexology treatment, and A Dermalogica facial.

Winning numbers will be displayed in the window of Boxford News and the School notice board following the draw on the 10th. Prizes will be available to collect from the School.

There will also be a further raffle during the evening of fabulous Pamper products and Therapists will be available to book for mini treatments throughout the evening.

FOBS are currently raising funds towards the library and the year 4 trip to London to see the Lion King.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the evening, or if you are unable to attend please support us by purchasing a programme. *Moiria Grant*

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Readers Letters

Dear Editor,

I received emails about the lost child whose photo was on the front page of BRN's February issue from three different sources. I forwarded the first request to six of my friends, one of whom lives in Norway. She replied with this message:

Hello,

This boy is Swedish, and was found wandering on the beach, the same day when the tsunami hit. His father is alive, and I think his mother was badly hurt. Some more children in this family are still missing. In Norway everybody tries to get back to their normal life, after these horrible and extremely sad events. We have been in shock and very confused, because the government was not prepared AT ALL for a disaster like this. It is of course understandable, but the chaos that followed after we heard that thousands of Norwegians were missing in that very popular holiday spot, is unbelievable! We were told to be prepared for a number of missing people who would break the records in modern history, and then we all became frighten. We all knew that we would know of someone. (Being just 4 million Norwegians, that.s how it is.)

We were all preparing for the worst, and waiting and waiting, for the lists of missing people to be published. The government was sitting on the list for a week, telling us all the time to be prepared for the worst! All the schools and the counties mayors were ordered to start a program made for crisis, and the teachers were told to rapport back on empty desks. When the lists were published, it became a total chaos. Most of the people on the lists were in safety, and had reported back on this to the authorities many times. A lot of people had never, ever been to Thailand 2 years ago. Today the number of missing people is 80. Yesterday we had 18 dead, and then we were told on the news that because someone, had touched the wrong button on the computer, the number were in reality 14, It has become a political crisis. I am really happy that the worst did not come to the worse, when we hear that the first list had 10000 names on it, and that we can concentrate on helping out on the massive needs and destructions in South East ASIA. Here everybody is trying to help in different ways. Two of my pupils are missing along with their family, and I suppose there is no hope. Their classmates react in different ways, one think it is good that the whole family has gone, so nobody has to survive on their own. Another is in tears because she wasn't nice to her classmate the day he left for Thailand.

Turid

Jack Schofield, writing in The Guardian Online two weeks ago, explained more about the child and the emails. It was a natural response to publicise it as widely as possible. At least this one had a happy ending,

Yours etc. *Stephen King*

Sir

Regarding your February BRN, in the letters page a Mr P Fletcher, remembering past films referred to Roy Rogers and his horse, Silver. In actuality this was the horse of the Lone Ranger, The horse in question was Trigger

Yours Faithfully

Sir,

Soap Box on Footpaths

It is hardly surprising that my friend and neighbour does not wish to pass judgement on memory efficacy, as he seems to have completely forgotten that together with more than half the then adult population of Little Waldingfield he signed a petition against the diversion of the very path he now cites. This petition

was presented to Little Waldingfield Parish Council, and copies were lodged with both Babergh and the County Council. Photostats were also made available to any interested parties. I have one in my possession, together with documentary evidence of the truth of the statements made in my previous letter, including large-scale maps provided by the County Council and a colour photograph of the perimetral horse gallop, published on page 3 of the Sudbury Mercury issue dated 22nd May, 1998. This latter shows clearly the distinction between the widths of the lawful footpath and the supposed new route, which only a moron would believe was intended purely as a footpath. Of course I would not wish to quarrel with Mr Tora, and apologise for being so pedantic, but I was born in an age (I am within a few weeks of my ninetieth birthday) when truth was considered to be of paramount importance.

Yours faithfully,
L W Hammond

Sir

My daughter, Annie, has secured a place in the London Marathon in April. She will be running in aid of St Nicholas' Hospice, Bury St Edmunds in memory of her Dad, Chellev. She would be very happy to receive sponsorship for this worthwhile charity. Rhona Baggs has kindly agreed to hold a sponsorship form at the Post Office in Boxford, or you can ring me on Boxford 210763 (leave a message if I am out)

Thank you,
Carol Harrison.

The members of the Box River News Publishing Committee are
Eddie Kench Publisher and Editor
Rev David Matthews Rector, Box River Parishes
Peter Hibben Chaiman Boxford Community

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GARDENING IN FEBRUARY *Harry Buckledee*

March is a busy month in the vegetable garden with the digging to finish. Weather permitting, Shallots should be planted out without delay, use a trowel to plant rather than just pushing them into the soil which tends to form a hard base so that when roots are formed they cannot penetrate and tend to push the bulb out of the soil. The same applies to the planting of onion sets and garlic cloves.

Parsnips need a long season of growth to develop good roots. Seeds should be sown as soon as the soil is right for sowing, they are slow to germinate and the percentage of germination is not as high as most seeds so they need to be sown more thickly.

Spring cabbage and sprouting broccoli need a dressing of a quick acting nitrogenous fertiliser, like dried blood or nitro. chalk. Loosen the soil around the plants with a hoe and they will soon make new growth.

Plant a few early potatoes in a position where they can easily be protected from frost.

If you have not got a vegetable garden, try growing them in pots. Potatoes can be grown successfully by planting them in 9 - 12 inch diameter pots, florist buckets with a few drainage holes are ideal. Plant one potato in each pot with about four inches of compost and gradually fill up as the potato grows. Feed every week with liquid fertiliser and you will get a good crop of nice clean new potatoes free from damage by soil pests.

Carrots also do well in pots, I have grown as many as three dozen carrots in a 9 inch pot. Simply fill the pot with compost, water to settle it in and then sow seed evenly over the surface and cover lightly with fine compost. Some thinning will be necessary to allow room for development.

When the soil is workable, lift and divide large clumps of herbaceous perennials. Plants will flower much better if they are divided into small portions rather than left in overcrowded clumps. Before replanting, plenty of organic matter and a general

fertiliser should be worked into the soil to get the plants off to a good start.

For an informal hedge, the Rugosa rose and its hybrids is hard to beat. All are of bushy habit, sweetly scented, and perpetual flowering with rich green foliage that turns yellow in the autumn. They are vigorous and disease resistant and will grow in most soils. Roseraie de L'Hay with its crimson purple, scented flowers is one of the best. Another good one is Blane Double de Coubert with large white fragrant flowers.

The Rugosa rose is said to have been in cultivation for over a thousand years. All make excellent shrubs and some such as 'Fru Dagma Hastrup make good ground cover. Most produce hips in the autumn.

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Evening Gazette, November 8, 2000.

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Hadleigh Sector Crime Report

Report from the Sector Commander

January was been a fairly reasonable month in most cases across the sector. To touch on statistics first, January 2005 was 8% higher than the same month in 2004. Year on year April 2004 to the end of January 2005 was 7% higher than the corresponding period the previous year. You will recall I have referred to the 195 Internet crimes that tend to alter our figures. If these are taken out of the equation we had in fact a reduction of 4%. I will explain the figures in this way because it provides a truer perspective.

It will have been noted from the media that the individual who was responsible for the Internet crimes was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment recently.

House burglaries have improved substantially including the cessation of the jewellery burglaries I have previously referred to. There have been just 5 house burglaries during the month occurring in Wherstead, East Bergholt, Polstead, Hadleigh and Nayland, the latter being a distraction burglary where I am pleased to say nothing was stolen despite entry being gained. Protecting the vulnerable residents in our communities remains a real need.

Drink related offenses such as disorder, criminal damage and violent crime in a public place have all been reasonable and in some cases well under the targets we are set.

Vehicle crime has been the only exception to the rule where we were substantially over target. Whilst we continue to work at combating and detecting this current series, we need more support from local communities with sightings of suspicious activities. It is fact that a great deal of the property stolen, including power tools and in car entertainment, is bought by people living in our local communities knowing that its origins are suspicious and fuelling the victimisation of others. Police welcome any information on disposal of this property.

You will be pleased to know that this sector and our neighbouring Sudbury sector have taken delivery of a CCTV car funded in part by Babergh District Council with whom we work in partnership in a substantial way. Officers are to be trained in the immediate future and this vehicle will be a substantial asset to our local policing providing a useful tool to support us with public order, road traffic matters and crime.

Local officers are also taking delivery of an improved, smaller, lighter handset for our Airwave radio system that has proved to be an excellent communications tool.

I am sure it has been disconcerting to read of the frequent robberies occurring across not only Suffolk but in neighbouring counties. Information of our activity as a Force in liaison with neighbouring Forces has been publicised and local communities can be assured that this series will be stopped and hopefully detected as well. Vigilance in the area of vulnerable premises and prompt information from the public will speed this process.

Lincoln Pratt

Inspector

Hadleigh Sector Commander

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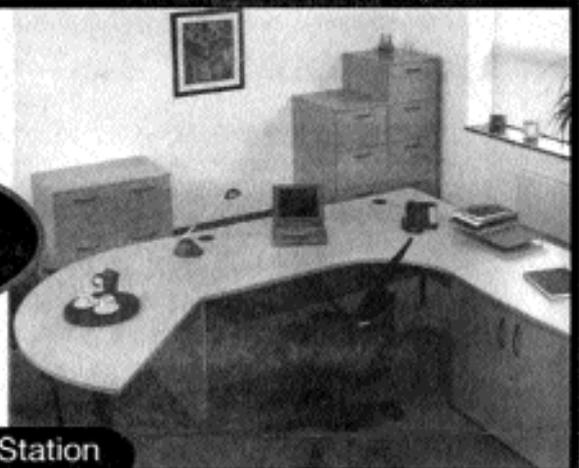
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Parish Council Matters

Boxford Parish Council

Report on the meeting held on 7th February 2005

Planning:

Planning matters included the proposed change of use of shelters to storage at the land to the rear of Greenlawns Bonsai Nursery and proposed improvements to the hardstand at Copella.

Questions from the public:

Members of the public attended the meeting concerned over the lack of parking in Daking Avenue causing them to park on the grassed area. Suffolk County Councillor, J. Pembroke and Babergh District Councillor, B.Hurren together with the Parish Councillors listened and had sympathy with the issues raised which will be difficult to resolve. Agreement was reached to arrange a site meeting to consider potential solutions to the problem.

Police Report

P C Wren reported that during January, there were 5 reported crimes within the boundaries of Boxford.

The incidents were: -

- 1) Theft of diesel from a Lorry.
- 2) BMX bicycle stolen
- 3) Burglary of tools from a garage.
- 4) Excess Alcohol – driver on A1071 gave a positive test and was charged.
- 5) Burglary at the school – hasp forced on a shed, but nothing appears to be stolen.

Due to accidents along the A1071, a proposal has been made for it to be resurfaced from the A134 junction and further warning signs of the bends to be provided. Whilst this is not within the Boxford Parish, this may be of interest.

Finance:

A donation of £50 was agreed to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

Local matters:

Ash Street/Fenn Street Garages

Consideration regarding the cost of the resurfacing work to the residents is on-going.

Digital Cinema at Village Hall:

Arrangements are being finalised and films are soon to be shown. Further details to follow.

Local Needs Housing:

All the available housing has now been let.

Footpaths:

Negotiations are continuing with the County and District Councils regarding footpath 5 and bridlepath 10, further information to follow. The council footpath warden is being brought into discussions.

Rubbish:

Babergh District Council have been informed of the rubbish in the layby on Sand Hill.

New Clerk:

The new Boxford Parish Clerk is now in place and messages can be left for her or members of the Parish Council on 01787 – 210943.

Daking Avenue Parking

It seems that some residents have objected to the parking of cars on the grass near the Daking Avenue Hammerhead. Residents have been parking here for some years due to a shortage of suitable parking spaces. An instruction from Hadleigh Police Station has been given to our PC to ensure that cars do not continue to park on the grass and owners have received a warning from the police. They have been advised to park in Swan Street, an area already crowded with parked cars and the only place they could be parked is at the point where school buses load up morning and evening. Anyone trying to negotiate Swan Street whilst the buses are loading know how difficult it is and how dangerous with children spilling on to the road. If the spot where the bus pulls in is used for parking the street will be completely blocked at peak times and it will not be long before a child is injured in a traffic accident. Clearly Hadleigh Police have no idea of the problem their suggestion is likely to make and an urgent site meeting is required to help sort this unfortunate situation out.

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Wot? s On

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'What's for Pudding?' and **'Brenton vs Brenton'**

This extravaganza of laughter will take place in the Village Hall on March 10th, 11th and 12th Tickets will be on sale in Boxford News from February 19th.

Thursday 10th March at 6.30pm.... £8 including a meal served before the show

Friday 11th March at 7.30pm... £10 including a meal served during the interval

Saturday 12th March at 7.30pm ... £10 including a meal served during the interval

Bar at all performances Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment - Please note that this show is not considered suitable for children. *Carol Harrison.*

LENT LUNCHES

These will be held again this year in aid of different charities, in three of our parishes.

Tuesday 1st March, 12.30pm at Groton House, Groton (Pat & Peter Kennedy Scott)

Tuesday 8th March, 12.30pm at "Chequers" (Miss Jennie Robinson)

Please join us for some of the time for a simple lunch and natter! and help with a donation to a good cause.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION

April 14/15/16 in Mary's House - get in touch with me if you would like to sell/exhibit. It would be nice to have a variety of crafts. *Pauline Lamming 210360*

Newton Village Hall Whist Drives

The next whist drive will be on Monday 14th March at 7.30pm. I am proposing to run bridge classes at the Golf Club starting Thursday 10th March at 7.00pm. If anyone would like to learn please give me a call for more details.

Alan Vince 01787373963

Boxford Community Council

The annual general meeting of the Boxford Community Council will be held at the Pavilion, Boxford Playing Field on Wednesday 27th April at 8.00pm. This is a chance to come along and see what the community council does all year, if you want to come and join us then this is the opportunity to get a nomination in to our secretary and take part in the election of committee. We have a social committee to run the fund raising events and who are always looking for new faces and ideas to help.

We are hoping to have a representative from Suffolk Acre to talk to us about fund raising especially where it relates to village halls and one of the items on the agenda will be "Do we want to look into providing a new village hall for the future generations of Boxford" , a subject that has occupied the thoughts of a few over the past years.

The meeting usually takes about an hour and a half and we will be serving wine, soft drinks and snacks.

Why not come along and show you care what happens in the village, you will be most welcome.

The current committee are: Peter Hibben Chair, Roger Cunningham Vice Chair, Julie Kossick Secretary, Stephanie Atkins Treasurer, David Gasson, Social Chair, Suzanne Excell, Social Secretary, Steve Taylor, Doug Impett, Ian Kossick, Sue Beavan and Mark Miller as committee members. For further details call Peter Hibben on 210819.

River Stour Trust

The following Easter and May Bank Holiday events have been arranged by the River Stour Trust

Good Friday, 25 March Flatford Boat Operations begin - Stour Trusty II, 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. More details from *Mick Rogers*, 01255 860432

Easter Sunday, 27 March Sudbury Boat Operations begin - Rosette More details from *John Morris*, 01473 822612

Granary Tea Room opens for light lunches and home-made cakes

May Bank Holiday Monday, 2 May Teddy Bear Boat Rides at Sudbury, from 3.00 p.m. Young children and their teddy bears travel free on Rosette when accompanied by one fare-paying adult. More details from *John Morris*, 01473 822612

May Bank Holiday Sun.1 Mon.2 May Electric boating days: simultaneous operation of small, electrically-powered boats anywhere on the River Stour, by special permission of the Environment Agency

May (t.b.c.) Opening Ceremony for the Visitor/Education Centre at Great Cornard More details: *Lesley Ford* 01787 372171

Whit Bank Holiday, May Sun.29/Mon.30 Electric boating days: simultaneous operation of small, electrically-powered boats anywhere on the River Stour, by special permission of the Environment Agency

Cantate
Youth Choir

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Wot? s On

S.E.S.A.W

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare Re- Homing Centre
Jumble Sale, Sat 12th March 2pm At Leavenheath Village Hall
Toys Jumble Books Bric a Brac Loads of Bargains!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Admission 20p

Newton Village Hall

Coffee Mornings:

March 12th, Coffee Morning
April 2nd, Parish Council
May 7th, Fireside Club
June 4th, Newton Charities
July 2nd, Village Fete Committee

Social Events

May 14th at 2 pm Theatre Company visits Newton. Watch this space.

July 16th, The Newton Village Fete

Car Boot Sales

They are back, Newton's now famous Car Boot Sales will be held again in 2005. Only three this year so make sure you are there to either book your pitch or buy that bargain on Saturday May 21st, Saturday June 18th and Saturday September 17th

St Mary's Church Boxford

Dates for your diaries:

Saturday 19th March and Saturday 11th June at 9.30am there will be a Book Stall and Cake sale in St Mary's Church

Saturday 23rd June from 2 - 5pm Boxford Church will be holding it's Annual Fete in the Rectory Gardens.

Groton Garden Gala 2

May 7th Groton Church

MAY will soon be here —it may not seem like it at the moment.

There should be a fine collection of plants etc. at this year's Groton Plant Sale. So put the date in your diary, May 7th— Groton Church—10.0am-1.0pm. Watch out for the banner and posters. *Bob Bowdidge*

LENT LUNCHES:

Tuesday 1st March, 12.30 p.m. at Groton House, Groton (Pat and Peter Kennedy Scott).

Tuesday 8th March, 12.30 p.m. at "Chequers", Boxford (Miss Jennie Robinson).

Please join us for some of the time for a simple lunch and natter! and help with a donation to a good cause. *Pauline Lamming*

BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB 2005 SEASON

The BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB 2005 season commences on Sunday 24th April at 2.30 p.m. Why not come along and have a try? Full details next month. Enquiries *Les Clark* 01787 210698

BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB Quiz Night

The Boxford and District Bowls Club are having a Quiz Night (tables of 6) in Edwardstone Village Hall on Friday 8th April commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Tickets, to include refreshments, £4.50 each. Licensed bar available. Any enquiries and tickets from *Les Clark* on 01787 210698. All welcome.

Cantate
Youth Choir

BOXFORD DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS

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2 HILARIOUS
ONE ACT PLAYS
by David Tristram

WHAT'S FOR PUDDING?

(A quiet Saturday night at Jack & Mary's house - till the door bell rings...!)

BRENTON vs BRENTON

(Dallas meets Dynasty, but on steroids!)

Thurs 10th March at 6.45pm £8.00
Thursday only - Supper will be served at 6.45pm with Curtain up at 7.30pm

Fri 11th & Sat 12th March at 7.30pm £10.00
(supper will be served during the interval)

Tickets from Boxford News

(Available from February 19th)

HAYTER

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Parish Council Matters

Minutes of Newton Parish Council Meeting

held on Wednesday 26th January 2005 at Newton Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr. John Taylor – Chairman, Cllr. Janet Crimmin – Vice Chair.
Cllr. Colin Poole, Cllr. Harry Buckledee, Cllr. Alan Vince,
Cllr. Rita Schwenk, Cllr David Smalley, Brian James – outgoing Clerk, Peter Cornell – Clerk designate, Mr Selwyn Pryor – S.C.C.

2. Apologies for Absence These were received from Peter Holbrook and Police Constables D. Marshall & S. Lee-Amies
In an opening address the Chairman welcomed Peter Cornell as replacement clerk and also welcomed Mr Selwyn Pryor representing Suffolk County Council.

3 .Declaration of Interest Cllrs. John Taylor and Alan Vince declared their respective interests and these were entered in the "Conflict of Interests" book by the Clerk.

4. Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th November 2004
The Committee accepted these minutes and the Chairman signed them as a true record of that meeting. Mr Pryor discussed the general road safety concerns within Newton, the input of the local Police, and the possible implications of the formation of an East Anglian Region. He indicated that he would make contact with the Suffolk County Council and try to arrange a relevant official to meet in Newton with at least one member of Newton Parish Council to discuss the identified problem areas. These were expressed as the Valley Road/A134 Junction, the road coming off the Green opposite Church road, and the number of drivers using the Green as a shortcut to Cornard.

6. Matters Arising

- (a) Matters arising from Circulated Material. None
- (b) Proposed Speed Management Measures. Identification panels and 30mph roundels have now been installed. A review of the success of these measures will be carried out by Suffolk County Council within six months.
- (c) Path adjacent to Village Sign. This has been completed but Peter Cornell voiced concern about the design and layout of this path with the Main Road and the possible hazards presented. The Committee agreed with these concerns and requested the Clerk to write to the SCC Highways on this matter.
- (d) Parish Plan. The steering committee have issued a brief questionnaire to all households within Newton and collected some of the completed ones. An analysis will be carried out on the results and presented at the next meeting.
- (e) Village Sign. This has now been replaced at the Sudbury end of the Village.
- (f) Peter Holbrook. He sent his apologies and expressed concern over the Licensing Act of 2003 enclosing a copy of the letter that he had written to Mr Tim Yeo M.P. He is still opposed to parking charges proposed for Sudbury but made no comments regarding Asbestos on the Village Hall roof, or the possible increased traffic that will arise from the development of the Chilton Estate.
- (g) Provision of Bus Shelter. Rita Schwenk has made contact with B.D.C. but will need to discuss this subject with the General Public concerned before making further enquiries.
- (h) Identification of entrances to Church Road and Links View. Brian James has made further contact with B.D.C on this matter who at this moment consider it matter of low priority. The new Clerk has been asked to make further enquiries.
- (i) F&C Investment. Further documentation on this subject has been obtained and Cllr. Janet Crimmin will review and provide suggestions for the next Parish Council Meeting
- (j) Playground Inspection Report. Cllr. Colin Poole has taken photographs of this area and will discuss these with Cllr John Taylor to determine action required.
- (k) Age Concern. The Fireside Club have been requested to nominate another representative because the previous nomination is no longer able to fill that position.
- (l) Bin Liners – Plampin Close & Bus Shelter. The new Clerk has been requested to pursue this matter.
- (l) Accident at Valley Road –A 134 Junction. Improvements have been carried out since the recent fatal accident but the Committee

are in agreement that further improvements are required. As mentioned above a meeting with Suffolk County Council is being arranged.

7. Financial, Governance & Accountability.

Expenditure & Income

- (a) Village Hall. Simons Building - £72.24
- (b) Hall Electricity, PowerGen - £97.66
- (c) Village Hall, Tim Allen Windows - £1788.94
- (d) Lubbock Fine Auditors - £188
- (e) Chilton Office Supplies - £6.67

- (f) Clerks Pay – Oct04 to Dec 04
- (g) Village Hall, Simons Building - £3903.31
- (h) Boxstore - £23.50

(g) & (h) Committee agreed, cheques signed and issued.

Proposed by Colin Poole & Seconded by David Smalley

- (i) Village Hall - £7000 receipt.

- (j) Clerks Contract & Job Description

Committee agreed that Peter Cornell would complete a six month Probationary period before the necessary forms are completed.

- (k) Adams Electrical, Work in Village Hall - £353-42

- (l) Eon Energy – Street Lights - £20.18

(k) & (l) Committee agreed Proposed by Rita Schwenk & Seconded by Harry Buckledee

8. Planning.

- (c) St. Michaels the Green. Application for floodlights.

- (d) Jordans Sudbury Road – Rear Extension

- (e) Grove House – First floor extension to garage.

- (d) 7, Rectory Road – Side conservatory. Permission has been granted.

- (e) 4 Links View – Crown reduction to two trees under preservation order. No objections by the Committee

- (f) Little Greys, Greys Hall Corner. Committee expressed concern that this application has been dealt with by Gt Cornard Parish Council on land with Newton Parish and asked the Clerk to write to Babergh District Council on this matter

9. Correspondence

- (e) Notice of meetings. Babergh District Council have sent programme of meetings for 2005/2006

- (f) Training & Development. A full programme of courses available has been sent by the Suffolk training Partnership organisation.

The Committee have agreed for Peter Cornell to apply for the New Clerks training course.

- (g) Freedom of Information Act. Further information has been received on this subject and this has been Filed for future reference

- (d) East of England Plan. The Committee expressed concern over the lack of detail on this subject together with concern over the possible effect of increasing the population in an already crowded area of the country. Road congestion together with possible water shortage were other problems highlighted.

- (e) Suffolk A.C.R.E Membership. The Committee requested the Clerk to make further contact to obtain the necessary application forms for this year.

- (f) Material for circulation.

- (g) Emergency Planning Seminar. Peter Cornell has volunteered to attend this seminar

10. Police Report. "For the period from 24th November 2004 until 20th January 2005 no crimes have been reported in this parish. This compares with two reported for same period the previous year."

11. Village Hall. Cllr. Colin Poole reported that good progress has been made on enlarging the doorway, refurbishing the toilets and to the electrical services. There is a need to progress the quotations for bricks and windows for the next stage of development.

12. A.O.B. (Questions to the Chair)

All questions raised at the last meeting have been answered above. No further questions were raised.

13. Dates of Meetings – To be held in the Village Hall at 7-30pm.

Wednesday 23rd March 2005. A.P.M. Wed 20th April 2005

Wednesday 25th May 2005. Wednesday 27th July 2005

Wednesday 28th Sept 2005. Wednesday 23rd Nov 2005.

14 The meeting closed at 9-20pm

Thank You For The Music

No, not to ABBA this time, but to the excellent Organist and Choir who add so much pleasure to the services for those of us who go to St Mary's Church in Boxford. It is rare, I think, to find such a large and loyal choir singing in a Village Church every Sunday, processing in and out in a dignified manner, then leading the singing so well, and perhaps the organist could have some applause occasionally when we are all sent out to the strains of a lively march, or similar. (Once it sounded like a waltz!)

One local Village Church, for many years, had only one loyal member in the choir. She solemnly walked ahead of the vicar each Sunday, then led out at the end, and her beautiful voice outsang us all, however large the congregation - and it was on occasions. Cora Green had sung in the choir for over fifty years, at first with many others, then gradually, for various reasons numbers dwindled and she was alone, but her lovely voice and loyalty were undiminished to the end, She will always be missed.

To another choir and another world - As a young schoolmaster teaching classics, my husband felt it necessary to learn more of the Classical lands on which his teaching was based, so joined a group of like-minded scholars on a course in Rome, this was intensive and at the end of the week, he and a friend were talking on a bus about their inability to get tickets for the special Easter Sunday Mass in Saint Peter's enormous Basilica, when one from a group of Nuns sitting nearby, offered them two tickets for the service. They were delighted to be able to end their first Italian visit in such a spectacular fashion.

Arriving at St Peter's in good time, they found the staggeringly large Basilica absolutely crammed with an enormous and very noisy congregation. On producing their tickets, they were shown down the entire length of the seemingly endless aisle, then found that their tickets were for 'two female members of the choir.' Having neither the correct head-gear or voices, they hastily retraced their steps back up the even longer aisle, and just managed to squash into the crowd at the end when they suddenly became aware that they were face to face with the Pope, being

carried into his Church on his Sedia Gestoria - his carriage like sedan.

As the gentle old man was carried aloft, quietly blessing his faithful flock, the noise gradually subsided and was replaced by the mighty organ, and glorious singing from the very large choir. After some time, the two young men slipped out quietly, but were always grateful for the memorable experience, on the first of many visits to Rome.

(Christopher used to muse sometimes, "do you think that nun had a wry sense of humour?")

One discovers therapies that work, thank you for those who bring music into our lives. *Curtis Porteous*



Cantate
Youth Choir

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Mobile: 07977 738649

STAGECOACH

Theatre Arts

A new Stage School for youngsters is due to open in Sudbury. Stagecoach Sudbury, which offers the opportunity for school age children to train in the three disciplines of the theatre, is due to expand this April.

Due to the tremendous success of its regular school Stagecoach Principal Julie Berridge has been forced to open a further school aimed at the younger children in the community. 'Early Stages' is Stagecoach's course for children between 4 and 6 years old. The course will take place at the Sudbury Arts Centre/Upper School for an hour and a half every Saturday morning during term time.

'The school has just gone from strength to strength, I am amazed at the amount of talent there is in the area' said Julie, 'A lot of parents spoke to me about providing something for the younger children so we realised there certainly was a market for this. The younger children really will benefit from the course; it really is a great age for us to capture children's imaginations. We provide structured play acting, dancing and singing and the kids just love it'

'Early Stages Sudbury' is due to start on 16th April and is aimed at children between 4 and 6 years

Stagecoach Sudbury will be holding an 'Open Day' on Sat 12th March, if you are interested in either school why not pop along to Sudbury Upper School Arts Centre between 12.30 & 13.30hrs to meet the teachers and see the school for yourself.

For further information call on Julie Berridge on 01787 378030 Stagecoach Sudbury, Hardup Hall, Constitution Hill, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2PT

HOW SINGING, DANCE AND DRAMA CREATE A MANY-SIDED CHILD

Stagecoach teaches 4 - 16 year olds the skills they need to act, sing and dance. Soon they begin to speak and move better, to grow confident and self-assured - skills they learn for life.

Stagecoach Sudbury runs in term time on a Saturday morning. From April we will be opening an 'Early Stages' this is aimed specifically at the 4 - 6 year olds. Interested? Why not come along to our 'Open Day, Saturday 12th March between 12.30 & 13.30hrs at the Arts Centre at Sudbury Upper School.

Call Stagecoach Sudbury for details -

01787 378030



TSUNAMI. GALLE. SRI LANKA.

Our son, Simon, has a house in Sri Lanka, 6 miles from Galle, open for the first time this New Year. Simon, daughter-in-law Sara and 2 small boys (1 & 4) with Nanny planned to go there from Hong Kong on 26th December '04. We were to follow on 28th, two other couples were also invited. Having heard news of the Tsunami on Boxing Day we heard from Simon that they still intended to travel, so would we, (despite various messages of discouragement) especially as their babies could go, so should we! The arrangement was that unless we heard otherwise we should set off as planned. Of course virtually all communication with Sri Lanka were out, nevertheless late on 27th December Simon managed to get through by mobile and we were away early on 28th, arriving at Colombo at 4.00 a.m. on 29th, and, praise be, met by a van and two drivers, one of whom, Basil, had lost his van in the wave, wife and children were all right but several relations had been lost.

SRI LANKA is a very beautiful tropical island, pearshaped, 250 miles long by 150 wide, with a wonderful coastline, a cultivated hinterland with jungle and rising in the centre to over 6,000 feet where the best tea is grown, up to peaks of over 8,000 feet. The principal trades are textiles, gemstones, tea, spices, fruit, vegetables and fish, tourism being an important earner with much potential. The majority population is Cingalese, mostly Buddhist, with significant minorities of Tamil (Hindus), Muslims and Christians.

Sri Lanka is truly the Pearl of the Orient, and would be a haven of peace were it not for the Tamil Tigers, a large and violently successful terrorist organisation which has killed 67,000 Sri Lankans over the last 20 years, hence the many orphanages. They are based in the north east region of the island and experienced the worst of the Tsunami, from which some good may flow.

We left Colombo at 5.00 a.m. for a journey of some 80 miles, it took us 6 hours though in truth such is the quality of Sri Lankan roads 4 hours would have been strict par! The town was virtually unaffected, but once we reached the outskirts considerable damage could be seen, more severe with every mile we drove south. The coast road was cut about 15 miles north of Galle (in consequence of the appalling train crash) and also to the south by a broken bridge so that access to Galle was confined to minor roads from inland, resulting in traffic thrombosis.

We visited Galle on three occasions. There had been many inhabited shacks along the beaches, we never saw them, they had disappeared, most of the people having been killed. There were many houses on the waterfront, some quite substantial, a number owned by well-off Sri Lankans and expatriates. Most of these houses were wrecked, others were flooded or trashed, a few of the best built withstood the force. The main residential area extends 3 or 4 miles inland, most houses and shops within 3-400 yards were destroyed, further inland the damage tapered off quite quickly, the destruction of the buildings having taken the force out of the wave. Galle has a population of 90,000 of which about 10,000 are thought to have died. Boats and vehicles were thrown into the town, almost all the boats were damaged and half of the fishermen died. The character of the people is remarkable; doubtless they panicked at the time, but there was no sign of it when we were there, people were quietly clearing up the mess, finding and removing the dead, piling up wreckage, within one week shops and hotels were re-opening, (indeed some never closed) and the coast road was re-opened south and north.

Some impressions— the Galle Test cricket ground with its stands was smashed, with a bus where the wicket should have been. I believe cricket will be played on the ground within the year. Within the Fort the local solicitors spread out all the sodden documents they could retrieve to dry in the sun, heaven knows what litigation will ensue! An antique business was open for business having been flooded only three days before. Hardly any birds or animals were killed, they departed ahead of the wave, who knows why. One Englishman was washed two miles inland, shaken and stirred but otherwise unharmed. The people seemed to us to have an optimism based on faith, totally realistic, indeed complaining bitterly about the funds that failed to reach them, but determined to recover.

What Sri Lanka really needs is for the tourist industry to revive as soon as possible, foreign and especially European governments have

been overcautious in advice to travellers. So our last words are visit this magical island and enjoy all that it has to offer, sooner rather than later.

John and Tissa Rigby.



Above: Mary's House festooned with balloons Left: Pat Kennedy Scott and Joan Smith at a somewhat depleted stall

Tsunami Cakes!

The Tsunami Cake stall at Mary's House on the 1st February was a great success. From the moment the door opened there was a constant flow of customers and cake suppliers. Within two hours practically everything including jams and biscuits had been sold out. Pat Kennedy Scott and Ann Jones were kept busy as were the ladies in charge of the coffee. The sale made a total of £166 for the appeal, a testament to the quality of cakes sold.

**LT WALDINGFIELD
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are holding a
CLAY SHOOT
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SUN 8th MAY
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Tony—01787-248273

Clive— 01787-248127



Oxlip for Suffolk. Official

The Oxlip, *Primula elatior*, has been chosen as the Suffolk County flower in a project conducted by Plantlife International.

In 1893 the ladies of Oklahoma drew up a petition asking the territory's government to adopt the mistletoe as the territory's emblematic wild flower. This was done and subsequently every state chose an emblematic wildflower. Provinces in Canada and states in Australia each have their representative wild flower. But with a few exceptions - we think of the red rose of Yorkshire and the white rose of Lancashire - counties of the UK have not hitherto been represented by a wildflower. This has now been remedied.

Plantlife International, a charity dedicated to conserving our wild flowers in their native habitat, launched their County Flowers project to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee and at the same time to raise awareness of our native wild flowers. In the first year people voted for any wild flower to represent their county or city. The next year the results were whittled down to the top two for each county in the UK. In the first vote the bluebell was the favourite for so many counties it was taken out of the voting and declared as the floral emblem of the UK. The results make interesting reading. The choices range from common well known plants such as the poppy for Essex and Norfolk, and the foxglove for Birmingham, Monmouthshire and Argyll to rare species such as Cheddar pink for Somerset or twinflower for Invernesshire. Lancashire was loyal to its red rose but Yorkshire abandoned its white rose in favour of the harebell. Two of our neighbours, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire, chose the pasque flower. No other county chose the oxlip so perhaps that's a good choice, though I voted for the bee orchid which is now Bedfordshire's flower.

The true oxlip was not accepted as a separate specie until the middle of the nineteenth century and it is easy to confuse it with the false oxlip which is a hybrid between a primrose and a cowslip. The true oxlip has elegant bell shaped flowers, a paler yellow than a primrose, held in a cluster which droops gracefully to one side at the top of a tall stalk. Hence the elatior of the Latin name which means taller. The flowers of the false oxlip droop all round the stalk. The oxlip is a woodland plant, found in ancient coppiced woodland such as Bulls Wood, a Suffolk Wildlife Trust reserve in Cockfield. Deer find the flowers very tasty and because the leaves form a low rosette round the taller flower stems it is easy for them to just nip off the flower heads, as I discovered once. I visited Bulls Wood to check that there were plenty of oxlip flowers to show a friend who had never seen one. A few days later I took her there - no flowers were to be found, just a lot of bare stems. The deer had been very thorough.

Plantlife has been contacting local authorities, MP's and other groups to encourage them to adopt their County flower in some aspects of their work. The response has been promising, for instance Oxfordshire County Council have started featuring their county flower, the fritillary, on the front of its performance plan. So lets hope we will see a flush of oxlips on for instance official stationery, in logos, on T shirts, or school badges in Suffolk.

Joan Cull



Your friendly, local Learning Centre

In April 2004 the SIT Learning Point in Hadleigh opened for the first time. The beginning of a new year provides a good opportunity to review the growth and progress that we have made since last April.

Since we opened we have enrolled 132 people onto a total of 242 courses. Over 90% of these people have successfully completed their courses and a significant number have gone on to enrol on other courses. Two of our most popular courses have been Switch On and Surf Direct. These are aimed at the complete beginner and are FREE!

Initially our focus was on IT courses, but in the past few months we have started to offer 'Skills for Life' courses in literacy and numeracy. These courses provide an opportunity for anyone who feels that their word and number skills could be improved. Studying these courses will help to prepare you for the City & Guilds National Certificates, which are equivalent to GCSEs in English and Maths. Even if you don't want to take the test the courses can still help you to improve. Since October we have had the services of a specialist tutor who is able to offer support and guidance to anyone who wants to try and improve their abilities. These courses are open to all and are FREE!

On the IT front, we are now able to offer testing for the European Computer Driving License (ECDL). Using learndirect courses we are able to offer a complete package that will enable you to study for, and take, the ECDL tests. Increasingly employers are looking for people with good IT skills. The ECDL provides an ideal way to demonstrate what you can do.

Please fill free to pop up and have a look at our centre and pick up some leaflets and perhaps enrol on a course!!

For more information please call us or pop in!
SIT Learning Point Hadleigh, Hadleigh Business and Learning Centre, Crockatt Road, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 6RH
(01473) 826150

EACH

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH)

EACH care for more than 300 terminally ill children and their families every year. We provide care 24 hours a day, every day, taking some of the pressure off family members and comforting them at the most difficult of times.

During 2005 it will cost around £4.5 million to run our 3 hospices and outreach teams and with around 90% of this total having to be raised through public donation, you can see why your past, present and future support is so valuable.

Without those fine supporters who make donations, volunteer in our shops, arrange sales, fairs, quizzes and coffee mornings - the many that take part in sponsored events, recycle, climb mountains or even jump out of planes, we simply wouldn't be able to continue to care for the children and families in East Anglia who really need our help.

Thank you all once again for 2004 and of course your continued support in 2005.

The EACH Funding Team, Quidenham, Norwich, Norfolk, NR16 2PH. Tel: 01953 715559 and 7 Free Church Passage, St Ives, Cambs, PE27 5AY. Tel: 01480 466441

EACH is a registered charity that exists to maximise the quality of life for life-limited children and their families. A life-limited child is one who is not expected to reach adulthood. EACH provides one-to-one nursing care for children from birth up to, perhaps, twenty-one years of age. There are three children's hospices in our region - at Quidenham in Norfolk, Milton near Cambridge and Ipswich, Suffolk.

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All gas and electricity companies must offer special services to any of their domestic customers who are:

- of pensionable age
- deaf or have hearing difficulties
- blind or have sight impairment
- otherwise disabled
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To join your gas or electricity company's Priority Services Register (PSR) simply contact your supplier and ask. Once registered, the following are available to you free of charge:

Safety check of your gas appliance and the way they have been fitted:

You qualify for an annual safety check if **ALL** adults in your home are on the PSR and you own your gas appliances.

Quarterly Meter Reading:

If **NO ONE** in your household is able to read the meter, your supplier can arrange for it to be read quarterly. This will ensure that you are paying accurate bills and not estimated bills.

Moving your meter:

If you find it difficult to reach your meter, your supplier will consider moving it to a more convenient position - free of charge.

"Password" Scheme:

Your energy supplier can provide a personal password to use every time they visit your home. This way, you will know who is at your door and it will help to protect against "bogus callers".

Special controls or adapters:

If you have difficulty in using appliances - eg turning appliances off and on - your supplier can provide advice and equipment to help make appliances and meters easier to use.

Services for the visually or hearing impaired:

If you are visually or hearing impaired your energy supplier must provide its bills in a suitable format - e.g. large print or audio tape. They must also have suitable facilities for receiving complaints or enquiries - e.g. minicom.

Bill nominee scheme:

If you would like your bills sent to a friend, relative or carer's address for them to help you read or check your bill, your supplier can arrange this on request.

Special help if your gas supply is disrupted:

If your gas supply has been disrupted or turned off for safety reasons, and if **ALL** the adults living in the property qualify for PSR, your gas transporter will provide you with alternative cooking and heating facilities - e.g. electric hot plates and fan heaters.

This article is from by energywatch, which is the independent consumer watchdog for gas and electricity consumers. We can help with free advice or helping to resolve complaints about your gas or electricity supply. Our contact details are - by phone on 08459 060708, through our website www.energywatch.org.uk or by letter to energywatch, 9th Floor, Civic House, 156 Great Charles Street, Birmingham B3 3HN



A team of recycling advisors will be pounding the streets of Babergh as part of a Suffolk-wide project, launched by Anglia TV news presenter Clare Weller, to increase awareness in the importance of recycling. The "Sort It Crew", a team of four, will talk to thousands of householders throughout the Babergh district over the coming months.



"The project is designed to help people understand what materials can and can't go in the bins, as well as explaining some of the overriding issues, in an attempt to build on the already impressive increases in recycling rates" said team member Jess Soper

The door knocking approach is proven to have positive results, having already been put to the test in neighbouring Essex.

"Most people seem really pleased to have such a personal level of service" said team member Tim Long. "It's definitely helping to clear up some confusions about what goes in the blue bin". Materials like Tetra Paks (waxed cartons), polystyrene and textiles are common problems with a lot of people still thinking they can be recycled via the blue bin.

"An important part of the project is talking to schools and community groups and holding roadshows. This way we can reach residents in the more rural areas of Babergh" said project co-coordinator Susan Wright.

"If your organisation would like a talk on any aspect of recycling then please get in touch and we will arrange a presentation to suit your requirements".

The project is running in boroughs and districts throughout Suffolk and is funded by the Waste Resource Action Plan (WRAP), which is part of defra's waste implementation programme.

If you would like further details please call the Refuse Hotline on 0800 0185989. More information on recycling can be found at www.thebigrecycle.com and www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk

Great Waldingfield School News

We started February hunting for dragons! We squelched through thick mud, cut our way through long grass, sailed across rivers, climbed tall trees and swung across deep ravines; all with a visiting local author, Mr. Maurice Jones. Then we designed board games, made maps and Wanted posters, painted dragons and wrote our own adventure stories. An exciting afternoon!

Our Monday 'Playing with Language' Course is very popular and well attended. We are offering another free course to parents next term and they are feeling brave enough to cope with Learning through Numeracy.

We are very pleased to announce that the First Friends Preschool Group has moved into the school. We want to work closely together to ease the step from playgroup to school so we aim to give the little ones the best start possible. First Friends will open every morning and older children (age 4) who are due to start school here will be able to stay to lunch before they join the Reception class for the afternoon. We are very excited about this new venture in the life of our school.

Mrs. Angie Jones. Headteacher.