

Box River News



Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green

March 2013
Vol 13 No 3

ST MARY'S MAKEOVER BEGINS

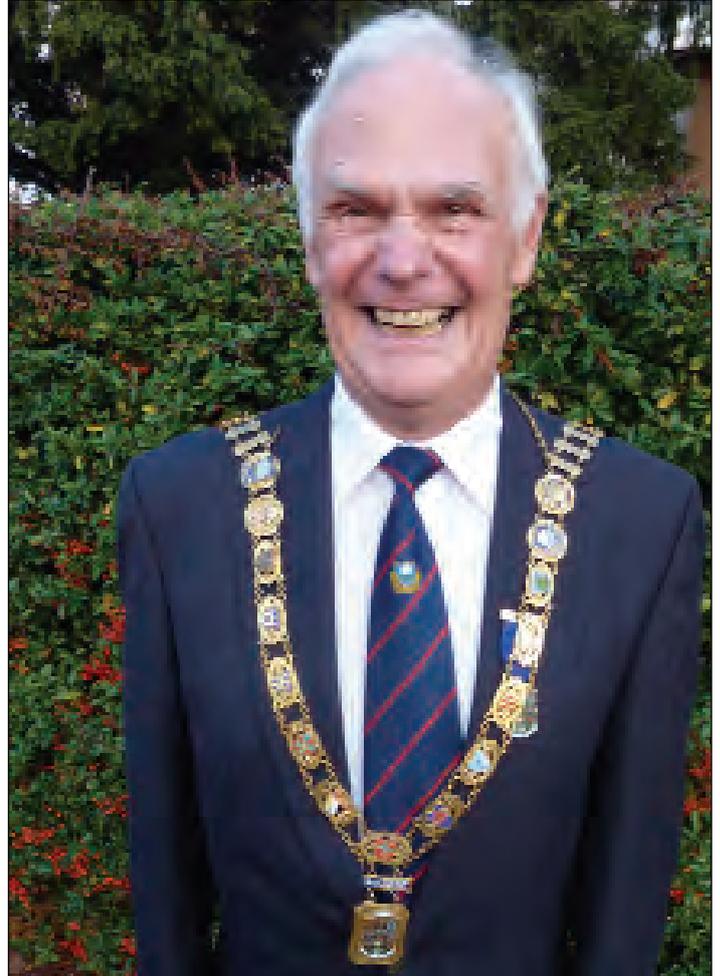


A Cherry Picker is used to fit new lighting in the chancel.



Photo's David Lamming

PRESIDENT CLARK



NATIONAL PRESIDENT, ENGLISH BOWLING FEDERATION

Les Clark is the new President of the English Bowling Federation for 2013.

He has been the President of Boxford Bowls Club for over 15 years and is currently the Chairman of North Essex County Bowls Federation.

Les said that he was looking forward to his year and hoped to visit all counties within the EBF at least once during his time as National President. David Nash (EBF Publicity Officer)

Box River News

Copy delivery points are:

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Final date for copy for the April 2013 Issue is:

March 18th at noon

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PANCAKE DAY AT MARY'S HOUSE



The fame of pancakes at Mary's House on Shrove Tuesday has spread and hungry villagers queued outside to be sure they would enjoy the many homemade pancakes with a good selection of fillings both savoury and sweet that had lovingly been cooked by the good folk of Groton's fundraising committee. So popular was it that if you arrived a little late it was to be standing room only. The team worked hard and husbands had been recruited to serve at table. Over a hundred pounds was raised for Groton Church funds.

MORE FOLK AT THE FLEECE

The Churchfitters



*"Brilliant afternoon at the Boxford Fleece on Sunday 3rd, sheer magic"
"A fine night - thanks guys!!"*

"Magic afternoon (as ever) with The Churchfitters at The Fleece, Boxford. I may have had one too many of Penny Wilby's Lady's Smocks though. Thanks again to Joe Norton for being a stalwart."

"It has to be said..... The Churchfitters at The Fleece, Boxford this afternoon was brilliant! Thank you Churchfitters for a great afternoon"

"Great afternoon. Enjoyed every minute. There was a brilliant atmosphere in The Fleece."

Just a few of the comments to be found on Twitter following the fantastic performance by the Churchfitters at The Fleece on the afternoon of the 3rd February.

Folk at the Fleece has taken off in a big way with headlining bands being booked ahead. I was not a Folk Fan until I attended the two events so far promoted at the Fleece, now I am hooked. Brilliant entertainment from folk who do not take themselves too seriously and a great substitute for Jazz at the Fleece. Lets have lots more of it with say a couple of gigs a month maybe!
Ed



Friday, 15 March, 8.00, Ticket £15

Marlene VerPlanck

With Marlene VerPlanck vocals, John Pearce piano, Paul Morgan bass, Bobby Worth drums
Marlene just keeps getting better. She is an American treasure, loving the "Great American Songbook", but willing to take risks with new music. She is accompanied by the best of British. Her 2012 New York reviews have been splendid, but the following quote sums it up.
"She may be the most accomplished interpreter of popular material performing today..." - The New York Times

Friday, 22 March, 8.00, Ticket £18

Tommy Smith

With Tommy Smith tenor/soprano sax, Steve Hamilton piano, Kevin Glasgow electric bass, Alyn Cosker drums
Tommy last graced our stage in 2005 - far too long ago. He is a stunning player, composer, educator, band leader. Missing this gig would be a shame.
"... playing with staggering aplomb and a visceral precision and imaginative interplay that sweeps all before it" - Ray Comiskey, The Irish Times

Friday, 24 March, 8.00, Ticket £25

ALL STAR BENEFIT DAY

Damon Brown, David Rees-Williams, Denny Ilett, Winston Clifford, Mick Hutton, Liam Noble, Shakatak Roger Odell ... more to be announced.

Last year we had such a blast. Fireworks are promised again this year, with an afternoon and evening of wonderful music. We will keep you informed of the lineup as time goes by. There will be a buffet, at a very reasonable price.

Friday, 1 March, 8.00, Ticket £15

Will Butterworth Trio

With Will Butterworth piano, Henrik Jensen bass, Pete Ibbetson drums. Will has bowled us over every time he has graced the Fleece Jazz stage, Who can forget the Stravinsky Duo gig? This trio is class jazz, not to be missed. "His effortless poise and crisp, attractive classically-trained sound is one of his great strengths... Butterworth can capture a sense of atmosphere with well-placed notes and treads artfully between drama and intimacy and romantic sentiment and dry inquisition."
Jazzwisestars

Friday, 8 March, 8.00, £15

Chico Chica

With Hilary Cameron voice/piano, Tom Hannah voice/guitar, Barbara Snow voice/flugalhorn
This is a lovely Latin group, three great voices and three great musicians wrapped up in a trio.
We are grateful to them for helping out when Yury Galkin was disgracefully refused a visa extension.

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

THE MARCH LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear Friends,



It seems to me that the world is divided into two camps. Those who are indifferent to chocolate (take it or leave it) and those who, to know that there is not a single piece of chocolate to be found in the house, is a serious crisis. If I tell you that in the past two years, I have accumulated various small gifts from kind parishioners or friends including: a coaster with the words. "Chocolate makes my clothes shrink" (how true) and a sign to hang up in my study which has the words: "Seven days without chocolate makes one weak"(I knew there was a reason I was feeling tired), you may just be able to guess which camp I fall in.

It's comes naturally to me, therefore, to take an interest in Easter eggs! And this year, for the first time, I woke up to the fact that there is (or can be) more to an Easter Egg than simply a few nice mouthfuls of chocolate. The "Real Easter Egg" campaign (<http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk/>) tries to reconnect people with the reason why we give each other Easter Eggs at all. The egg – of course – is a sign of new life, even of miraculous new life – at least that's how I feel about any new life, whether it is a chick, a baby bird or a baby human. That a few cells can become all that we are, all that we

are capable of being and thinking and seeing and doing, seems little short of a miracle to me. Each "Real Easter" egg contains – as well as the all important chocolate! – a story sheet, activity poster and sticker for young children, telling them about the first



Easter story. Whether you are a churchgoer or not, whether or not you are somewhere on the journey towards a Christian belief, that Easter story is for you. Because it is a story that deals with the kind of issues of life that we all face. It deals especially with the bad things that life can throw at us. Like us, at times, Jesus struggles to make sense of his life, to work out what it is he should be doing. In the Garden of Gethsemane he experiences loneliness, acute fear and then betrayal. We know, though, that this wasn't the end. And that brings me back to the "Real Easter Egg". Easter morning brings the promise of new life and the promise that with God, suffering, evil and even death itself can never have the final word.

Chocolate is great at producing a sensation of happiness, but it is sadly short lived – as I know to my cost! My prayer for you is that you will find - and be captivated by- something much deeper and more enduring - the true joy and hope of Easter.

Blessings, *Revd Judith*

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LWHS CRAFT EVENT - 16TH JANUARY



On what may be the coldest night of the year (minus 11 C in Sudbury, estimated minus 13 C in Little Waldingfield), our members did us proud by turning up in force for our member only craft event, some 29 in all, making the evening a great success.

Four crafts were on display (Lace making, Felt making, Walking Stick making and Fly fish lure tying), along with an artefacts table showcasing a selection of WW1 and WW2 medals and their descriptions, other wartime and later memorabilia, a 1965 Little Waldingfield WI scrapbook and last years village scrapbook, which was a particular favourite with visitors.

With first guests arriving ahead of the 7.30 start and the last leaving around 9.30, it was apparent a good time was had by all, and a testament to the efforts put in by our LWHS member craft experts, who generously gave up their time and expertise to great effect.

The writer was hugely impressed by:

- The complexity of the threads used to construct finely detailed lace,
- The skills demonstrated in creating wonderfully patterned felt from scraps of brightly coloured merino wool,
- The sheer myriad of lures which needed better eyes than mine to fully appreciate, and
- The artistry of the astonishing range of walking sticks all fashioned

from small branches and pieces of various horn most carefully bent and fashioned into the desired shape, which clearly takes huge effort, skill and patience.

The History Society is most grateful to our member experts and we hope to do something similar next year.

We now very much look forward to welcoming guests new and old to the LW Parish Room on Wednesday 13th February for our next talk on Suffolk Poachers and Smugglers, by local expert William Tyler, for what is sure to be another entertaining and informative evening.

Andy Sheppard



BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL February Results

1st No 160	Geo Green	Clare	£40
2nd No 170	S Grimwood	SwanStreet	£20
3rd No 29	T Tesner	Colchester	£10
4th No 54	C Day	Daking Avenue	£5

Next draw is on March 5th at the Bingo

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Wed 13th

8.30pm

Blues Night

Wed 27th

8.30pm

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Friday, Saturday,
Sunday: 12 - 12

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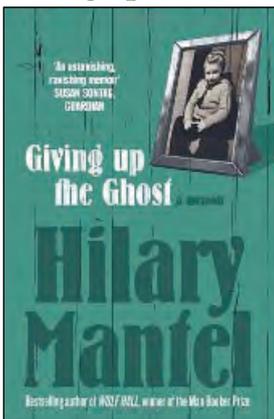
Easter half term
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every day

Easter Saturday
Live Band Night
with Mc2

Easter Sunday
Folk Session
from 4pm

MARCH BOOK REVIEW BY JO MARCHANT

Giving up the Ghost by Hilary Mantel



Hilary Mantel graduated as a lawyer in 1973 but was too ill to practise. She turned to writing instead and since 1987 she has won a string of literary awards, culminating last year in the ultimate accolade, winning the Man Booker Prize for the second time. She is the only female novelist to achieve this.

If you love her books, especially 'Wolf Hall' and 'Bring up the Bodies' then you should read this autobiography 'Giving up the Ghost'. The book has two clear halves: the first half is about her anxious childhood and the second focuses on an adulthood traumatised by undiagnosed illnesses.

She was born in 1952 into a Catholic working-class family in Derbyshire. She is

surrounded by her loving Anglo-Irish family who encourage her delight in the English language from an early age. She can spell Worcester by the age of three and has read The Complete Works of Shakespeare by ten. This sensitive child connects with a world of ghostly imaginings, and we read how she sees the devil in her garden when she is seven. Her description of this significant event sends shivers down your spine as the devil has no form but its powerful presence is felt by this little girl. Ghosts are everywhere in her life, even as an adult.

She grows up in a house of lies, and there is plenty of shocking gossip to entertain the neighbours. Her school is another battlefield but this is nothing compared to what she has yet to endure. As an adult, endometriosis takes hold of her, and, wracked in pain, she is at the mercy of doctors who supply her with a cocktail of medicines which only worsen her condition. Her brilliant writing chronicles the misdiagnosis and neglect of her illness and the resultant hysterectomy at the age of twenty seven. We now have a new poignant ghost on the page – the unborn daughter. This is an unrelenting story of defeats and losses but there is no self-pity in her elegant prose.

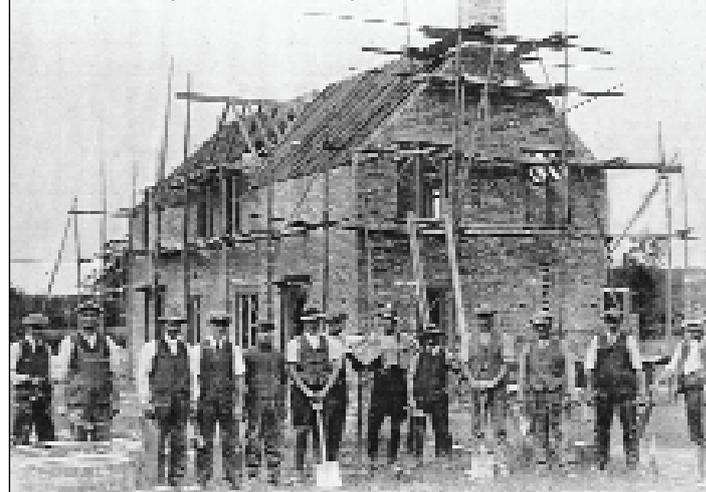
In 2003 at the age of fifty, Hilary Mantel chooses to write this revealing autobiography. She examines herself in the mirror and banishes the negatives in her life, sending those ghosts packing!

Refreshed, and with renewed energy she can now move on. She is attracted to the intriguing life of Thomas Cromwell and so she produces her two astonishing novels on his life, with another on the way. And they have dazzled everyone. She has recently won the Costa award for 'Bring up the Bodies'. Her name seems to be on the lips of everyone who reads. I adore her writing and can't wait to return to the world of Thomas Cromwell when her final book is published.

BOXFORD HERITAGE DAY

Come to Boxford Heritage Day Saturday 11th May 2013

Walter Bloss Kingsbury's men building houses at Park Corner Groton.



In response to many requests, the Boxford Society will be mounting another exhibition celebrating the life and times of Boxford. There will be some new exhibits as well as those shown at the Jubilee Exhibition at St Mary's Church last June. The exhibition will run from 10.30am to 5.30pm in the Boxford School Hall, so this time there will be plenty of space for everyone. There will also be another opportunity to watch the rolling photos of old Boxford on the screen and to look up things of interest to you in the many records from the Boxford Archive. You might want to tell us what you know about some of our photos and documents. Entrance to the Exhibition is free.

The highlight of the day will be a completely new, illustrated, evening talk by Roger Loose entitled "Boxford Folk and their Lives in the last century". Everyone is welcome to this talk. Entrance is free for Members and £2 for non-members. Those of you who have lived here all your life might like to come along and renew old acquaintances through the photos, and perhaps tell us more. Those of you who are relative newcomers to this delightful village might like to find out about those people who helped to make this community and still live on in its collective memory. The talk will start at 7.30pm and will be followed by a short AGM for Boxford Society Members.

Don't forget to put the date in your diary. We would really welcome further contributions to the Archive so that the story of the village is preserved for future generations. If you have anything you think might be of interest please contact me on 01787-210538. We are still looking for more information, artefacts and photos about Boxford life and families in the 20th century. *Tina Loose*

FUN & GAMES NIGHT 2013

Boxford Community Councils annual Fun & Games Night held on Saturday 26th January proved to be yet again a very enjoyable, sociable, hectic and at times very competitive evening, which seemed to be enjoyed by all whether they were regular teams or one of the new teams this year. For those of you who may not have heard the outcome the top three places were:

1st	UNIVERSALLY CHALLENGED	259 Points
2nd	BACK FOR SECONDS	243 Points
3rd	L.O.L.	227 Points

A very big thank you to everyone who helped with this event, which requires a lot of hard work: organising teams and helpers, buying all the food and drink, preparing the food, serving behind the bar, setting the games up, manning each game and clearing up afterwards. In addition thank you to some of our retired committee who returned to help us. We are indebted to all who helped in any way, as we could not have done it without you. Thank you to the 16 teams who took part and we hope you all enjoyed the evening, which is essentially about having fun. It also helps us with our fundraising, where the funds are then granted out to organisations in the local villages.



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LITTLE WALDINGFIELD INTO THE FUTURE

On Tuesday 29th January Little Waldingfield's newly formed local history society welcomed around 40 people to the Little Waldingfield Parish Room to launch their "All Our Stories" sponsored project - "Little Waldingfield into the Future" - generously supported by Heritage Lottery funding.

The enthusiastic audience watched a slide show and heard details of the group's plans to research and write a book recording the history of the village from 1840 to the present day.

The idea was inspired by Harry Clive's book "Beyond Living memory", which was published in 1979 and recorded the history of the village from 1300 to 1840.

An exhibition of newspaper and other locally held information and photographs, presented decade by decade, prompted a lively and stimulating discussion and additionally produced a number of possible new leads for the group to follow up.

Several people expressed an interest in becoming involved with the research necessary to gather information for the book, and in participating in future training sessions the group is currently organising.

The project team is also most keen to hear from anyone who has or has had a link to the village or who knows someone (a relative, friend or work colleague) who had or may have had such a link.

For more information please contact Di Langford on 01787 248298



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The Barn at Assington



Once again, our popular Farmers' Market will be returning in March where you will find a wide array of stalls selling a varied range of merchandise, all produced by the individual vendors.

These include; local breads and pastries, hand made cakes, pies and quiches, jams and chutneys, hand made shortbread (gluten free and traditional), sausages, fruit and vegetables, cheeses, pork, game, pates, smoked fish, and more. There will also be a plant seller and various craft stalls with some lovely gift ideas. Throughout the year we will host seasonal vendors including Assington Fruits with their Strawberries grown just yards away and we will also be proud to promote local Ice Cream makers and neighbouring Winemakers.

The Market will be held on the 2nd Sunday of each month starting on Sunday 10th March from 10.00am until 2.00pm and it will continue until December 2013 at the Assington Barn CO10 5LW. The parking and entry will be free of charge and the site is all on one level so suitable for the young and old alike.

Whilst on site, you may wish to visit the Artisans Tea Room for a warming cappuccino and a bacon butty or a slice of homemade cake! You may prefer to browse through the super selection of gifts at Little Gems Interiors or wander around their Furniture Barn and view the competitively priced larger items. The newly opened Assington Plant Centre is also worth a visit with its lovely array of herbaceous plants, shrubs, pots and planters and knowledgeable staff who will be happy to advise.

A visit to the complex would certainly not be complete without popping into the well-stocked Assington Farm Shop where you will find a lovely selection of fresh vegetables, luxury foods and locally produced items including an extensive range of "Gluten Free" products.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

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This Easter... 'Hop-in-the-Box'... Beer-Festival

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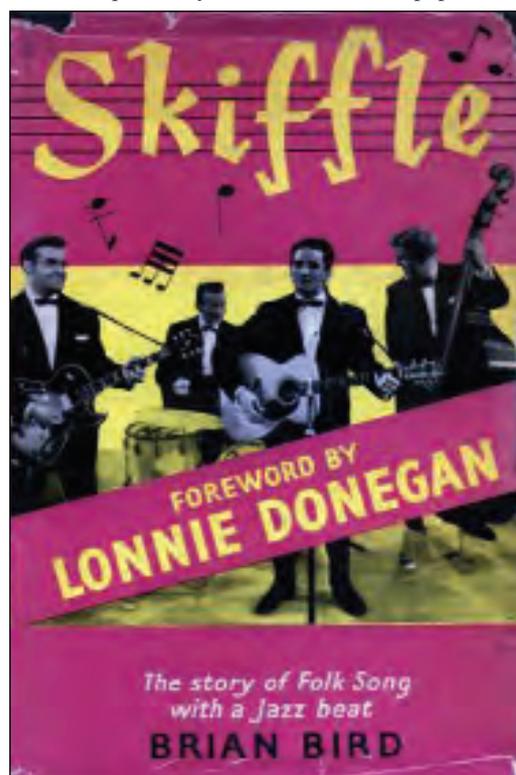


As a relative newcomer to Boxford, a mere 18 years, I have only just become aware of the Rev. Brian Bird who was Vicar of Edwardstone from 1940 and then held the Rectory of Groton as well from 1946.

I came across him through a book I recently discovered on Skiffle and Jazz (traditional) written by Brian Bird and published in 1958 by Robert Hale, publishers.

Brian was an ardent jazz enthusiast, and founded the Boxford Jazz Club in 1957, and 'The Box River Jazzmen', their own Jazz band which was quite an achievement in this scattered rural district. He was also a keen amateur actor who has regularly produced plays in his church at Groton, and was a member of the cast of the 'Suffolk Players' who presented TS Eliot's 'Murder in the Cathedral' at the Aldeburgh Festival and a subsequent short tour of Denmark in 1957.

Before coming to Edwardstone he worked as a curate in various parts of London, and was a chaplain in the Royal Navy for four years. He was against the forelock-tugging attitude of rural parishioners and encouraged the ordinary man to stand against the traditional deference accorded to the local squirearchy. It did not make him popular with some members of



his congregations. Like all rural clergy in those days he became a JP He was a socialist who got his politics and theology from Kings College, London in the 30's.

He was a friend of Chas McDevitt [remember "Freight Train, Freight Train goin' so fast..." ?]. He knew Acker Bilk and Lonnie Donegan who wrote a forward to his book (left)

He also wrote a brief biography of John Ball the Lollard priest of Colchester involved in the Peasants Revolt.

He organised protests about the

closure of the line between Sudbury and Marks Tey and lobbied Barbara Castle the then Minister of Transport. A press report at the time said "The Vicar of Edwardstone, the Rev Brian Bird, a well known local railway

campaigner, has written to the Minister of Transport, Mrs Barbara Castle, saying that a check by her on what is being done to the Stour Valley line by British Rail "would seem to be imperative".

In his letter Rev Bird wrote: *"The sudden withdrawal of booking facilities and of freight services on this line came as a surprise to us all. To do this for 'overspill' towns such as Sudbury and Haverhill where Londoners are pouring in, and new factories (many involved in the export trade) are springing up, seems incredible."* His efforts with those of others succeeded in keeping the line open.

In the 60's Brian organised concerts in Groton Church by such well known Jazz and Skiffle bands as Lonnie Donegan and Acker Bilk and others. It seems this did not go down well with some folk in Edwardstone where the PCC refused to allow similar concerts to be held in 'their Church' and One dear lady refused to go to Church again in Groton.

In Later life Rev'd Brian Bird became first Rector of the Parish of St John the Baptist, Walmer. In the Diocese of Grahamstown, which is part of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and is located in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa.

There must still be many readers who have fond memories of Rev. Brian and we would love to hear your stories, especially those of the Jazz concerts held in Groton Church and the Boxford Jazz Band.

Eddie Kench

Boxford School News

As many of you who have had dealings with the school will know I am never at my best first thing in the morning. My slow start to every day includes a brief look at the BBC Breakfast Time programme which this morning was talking about cooking in schools. It would appear that after twenty plus years of the National Curriculum which looked more at food science rather than basic cooking we have a generation of youngsters that can't cook. What a surprise! The solution is to, according to the presenter, include it in the new National Curriculum for children aged between 7 and 13.

The article seemed to suggest that schools no longer include cooking in their curriculum which I would argue is not and has never been the case. At Boxford many of our units of work include an element of cooking. For example at the end of our unit on Castles we prepare a 'medieval feast' for parents and at the end of work on the Romans a 'Roman Banquet'. In addition all of our children study healthy lifestyles and what we need to keep ourselves well-nourished and healthy. As I write the children from Boxford and Monks Eleigh are enjoying a joint morning of 'healthy lifestyle' activities which include exercise, making fruit smoothies and planning a healthy meal. Our 'Let's Get Cooking Club' children have just finished making cheese hearts in readiness for Valentine's Day.

On the theme of healthy lifestyles we are delighted to have been selected to participate in the 'Boys in Babergh' dance project again. Twenty eight of our Year 4 and 5 boys have accepted the invitation to work with a specialist dance coach, Tom Holsden, on a weekly basis and perform on stage at Dance East, Ipswich on Saturday 16th March. The boys are performing a piece of contemporary dance based on the theme 'Fathers and sons - Communication'. It will be choreographed by Tom and the boys. We have been delighted with the progress the boys have made and with their enthusiasm. In addition the boy's fathers and male teachers from the participating schools have been invited to perform alongside the children on stage and Mr Hood has bravely 'volunteered'.

Now that we are a 5-11 school we are eligible to take part in the Hadleigh School's Swimming Gala. We took a group of our finest Year 5 swimmers to the Gala earlier this week and whilst they did not win anything they competed very well and demonstrated good strong techniques. Many of the children they were up against were a year older so next year our children should do very well.

Finally imagine my surprise when I walked into the main office to see a strange note pinned to the computer. It read 'Marlene please order an elephant'. I have ordered some strange things in my time as head of Boxford but an elephant, that must be a first! It turns out that rather than it being a request for a five tonne beast they wanted a large papier mache elephant to paint. It is all part of the Stand Tall Conservation Initiative in conjunction with Colchester Zoo where children are invited to decorate a giant giraffe model which one of our classes is involved in. Not to be out done the parallel class wanted to decorate their own animal and they decided to choose an elephant. Apparently the Fully decorated giraffe will be going on tour around Essex and Suffolk in the near future.

COURT KNOLL MASONIC LODGE MOVES TO BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL

WE ARE NOT A SECRET SOCIETY
SO COME ALONG & SEE FOR YOURSELF WHAT
FREEMASONRY IS ALL ABOUT



WHAT IS THE MYSTERY OF MASONIC ACTIVITY?
FEEL FREE TO ASK ANY OTHER QUESTIONS!
JUST CALL IN ANY TIME BETWEEN 10 & 12 NOON

SATURDAY 23RD MARCH
10.00 TO NOON

OR ALTERNATIVELY CONTACT: tonycwilliams44@hotmail.co.uk



The Rise of the Glamorous Granny

When Sally Day asked her Mum what she wanted for Mother's Day this year, she couldn't have been more surprised at her answer...

Granny Day wanted to have some wrinkle-reducing injections. Sally was shocked. "I was surprised, I suppose, because my Mum just isn't like that. Yes, she dresses well, tries to keep fit and always has a good hair cut but she's always said she wants to 'grow old gracefully'. I guess 'gracefully' these days doesn't include a lot of deep wrinkles!"

Granny Day didn't understand the fuss. "I wanted to look a bit fresher, not so tired but natural too. I look after myself and feel the same inside as I did 20 years ago but I don't like what I see in the mirror. I want to look good for my age – I'm not ready to stay home in my tartan slippers just yet!"

Jenny O'Neill, one half of the husband and wife team that run Suffolk Medical Clinic in Boxford was far less surprised by the request. "Bright, successful women in their fifties and sixties are some of our biggest client groups. They don't want to go under the knife or look 25 again but they do resent some of the lines that come with age and know that something can be done so easily to fix them."

So will Granny Day have her wish this Mother's Day? "I already have!" she exclaims. "I went to Suffolk Medical Clinic a couple of weeks ago and I couldn't be happier. The injections weren't painful, which

was my first concern and I don't look frozen or expressionless, which was my second! I look the same, but better, much better!. People keep saying I'm looking well and I can't help but tell them I've had some help – I suppose I should just keep quiet and pretend it's good genes!"

If you'd like to turn back the years for yourself or your Mum this Mother's Day, Suffolk Medical Clinic are offering £50 off any new treatment booked*

Happy Mother's Day!!

£50.00

*to spend at Suffolk Medical Clinic**

*New clients only. Not redeemable against Beauty Therapy or Retail. Valid until 31.03.2013



All treatments carried out by qualified medical professionals in our Healthcare Registered and Approved Clinic.

- Laser Skin Rejuvenation Treatments (leg and facial thread veins, rosacea, pigmentation, sun damage, acne scarring)
- Dermal Fillers (Juvéderm® ULTRA, Hydra Fill®, Radiesse™, Collagen)
- Anti-wrinkle Injections
- Treatment for Excess Underarm Sweating
- Permanent Laser / EpiLight® IPL Hair Reduction
- Skin and Mole Health Checks



Practising Partners: Dr Anthony O'Neill MB, BS & Jenny O'Neill RGN

Healthcare Commission Reg No. P040002145

For further information or to arrange a personal consultation please call **01787 211000** or email info@suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk Suffolk Medical Clinic, 6 Broad Street, Boxford, Suffolk, CO10 5DX

www.suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk

NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

UNWANTED BICYCLES

For Re-cycle Bicycles for Africa. www.re-cycle.org. Contact Iris Sebba 262632 or take them to Re-Cycle Depot, Unit 2 Gunfleet Business Park, Brunel Way (off Wyncolls Rd) Colchester CO4 9QX (01206 841 268)

WINTER (& SUMMER) WARNINGS

for all Dog & Cat Owners.

WINTER: please wash the feet of your dogs after walking on gritted roads & paths after returning home, as (hidden) substances are used by gritters trying to clear roads, and car drivers defrosting windscreens. Cats paws should be washed for their safety too.

Consuming Rock Salt can cause dehydration, liver failure & pancreatitis, Antifreeze contains Ethylene Glycol & could be lethal!

Keep your pets safe, wash cats & dogs feet with fresh water before they lick their paws or., It might sadly be to late for the vet.

SUMMER: FOOT WASHING IS A GOOD IDEA TOO AFTER COUNTRY WALKS, AS VARIOUS SPRAYS MAY HAVE BEEN APPLIED UNKNOWINGLY.

From a Concerned Animal Lover.

Jim Robinson (aka Ian or Jimmy)

As an Edwardstone Parish Councillor and partner in the Mill Green Brewery there may be some people around that would like to sponsor me to lose the pony-tail!

I feel that after six-and-a-half years that my hair is just about long enough!

Despite pleadings from my wife to keep it (not), I have decided to shave it off completely; but not the beard – that's just too much!

I will be joining my mate Jessie J and getting it done on the 15th of March in aid of Comic Relief

We are going to have a bit of a Red Nose Day event at the White Horse (details to follow) so will have it shaved then if anyone wants to come along and laugh at me but in any case, please sponsor me on the following link: <http://my.rednoseday.com/sponsor/ianjimmyrobinson>

BOXFORD EDWARDSTONE GROTON 3PR Three Parishes Response VACANCY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Vacancies exist for volunteer Community First responders within the area of the above villages. Candidates require no previous experience as full training will be given in carrying out basic life support and related skills. Candidates should be under the age of 70 and be able to give some time to the community, an ideal job for recently retired people.

Candidates should possess a full driving licence and vehicle to carry out their duties. For further details without obligation please contact Peter Hibben on 210819 or Vic Rice on 210504.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

at Little Hall, Lavenham

A medieval wool merchant's house run by enthusiastic volunteers. Interesting work includes welcoming visitors, guiding and other duties. April to October, mostly afternoons. Flexible time commitment. No previous experience required but interest in history and old houses desirable. Training will be given. Please contact Jeremy Wagener on 01787 210223 or e-mail: jeremywagener@btinternet.com

“Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened.”

Karen.Benson

I found this quote by Anatole France and realised just how true it was. So if you are thinking of taking a holiday but are worried about leaving your animals, this is where I can help you.

I am a local farmer's wife who has experience with all manner of animals – from horses, dogs, cats, hens and even alpacas! I am able to house-sit whilst looking after your pets in their familiar surroundings, or I can visit on a daily basis, whichever arrangement suits you. Let me offer you complete peace of mind from the minute you leave until you arrive back to a clean and safe home.

Why not call me on 07712115970 or e-mail karen.benson@inbox.com to arrange a free consultation. We can discuss you and your pet's requirements, so you can really enjoy that well earned break knowing that everything will be taken care of.

Daylight burglaries in the local area.

Many people don't pay as much attention to their home's security during the daylight hours. This is because people tend to feel safer when not surrounded by darkness. However, when looking at statistics burglaries are just as likely to occur during the day.

A burglary at a property can occur at anytime day or night, in fact many burglaries occur during the day, as offenders tend to blend in better with the surroundings and are able to offer more plausible excuses should they be challenged, such as “I am lost”, “I was looking for Mr X who lives somewhere around here”, “I thought this property was for sale” and “I've lost my dog”, along with various other excuses that can be more easily made during the normal daylight working hours.

If your home is unoccupied during the day here are a few tips to help you to improve security:

- ALWAYS lock your doors and windows when you leave the house, even if it's only for a few minutes. Make sure your locks reach British Standards and are fit for purpose.
 - Never assume that your home, garage, shed or studio will be safe while unlocked, even if you're currently at home. It only takes a minute for someone to enter and take what is not theirs.
 - Remove ALL tools and objects from within your garden that could be used by an offender to break into your home with.
 - ALWAYS set your intruder alarm if you have one, during the day AND night. And consider installing an alarm in any outbuildings too. Battery operated alarms can be purchased from Sudbury, Hadleigh and Capel Police Stations for £8 each.
 - Use lights and, especially during the day, radios on timers inside your home.
 - Property mark all electrical and valuable items with a UV & permanent marker pen, which can be purchased from the above stations for £1 each, or use a property marking solution like Smartwater or SelectaDNA.
 - Register any items that have serial numbers on the UK property database www.immobilise.com for free, including any bicycles and power tools.
 - Ensure your perimeters are secure with fencing or appropriate hedging and lock sidegates at all times with a padlock or mortice lock.
 - IF YOU REMEMBER JUST ONE THING... Remember to store ALL important valuables including jewelry and cash out of sight and if possible in a hidden wall or floor safe. The first place an offender will look is in the top drawer of your dresser unit, or in the back of a wardrobe. DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM.
- Finally we are asking for residents to help to be our eyes and ears in the community. If you see something suspicious, or out of the ordinary then please report it and whenever possible report it straight away by calling 101. Please do not leave it to someone else, we would sooner have a number of calls on the same suspicious person, than none at all. Please remember that where you believe a crime is about to be or is in the progress or lives are threatened call 999.

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

The Little Waldingfield Parish Council plans to hold a village litter pick on Saturday 9th March, rendezvous at the Parish Rooms at 10 am. Hi viz jackets, bags and litter pickers provided, but stout gardening gloves recommended. Could you publicise this, please, with the request that those interested contact *Mary Thorogood*, Parish Clerk, on 247658

THREE PARISHES RESPONSE

3PR

BOXFORD/EDWARDSTONE/GROTON

NEEDS

If you are between
18 and 70 plus
we need you to join
our dedicated team of
First Responders
Phone Vic on
01787 210504



Wot's On

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY

PROGRAMME for first 4 months of 2013

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY PROGRAMME 2013

5th March Richard Ford, Former owner of Park Green Nurseries
"Water in the Garden"

2nd April, Julian Ives, Pest Control Consultant (www.dragonfli.co.uk)
"Best use of natural pest control"

7th May, Plant sale, see ad.

All events, unless otherwise stated, take place in Boxford Village Hall on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. at a cost of £1 per person for Boxford Gardening Society Members. Members' Guests welcome to attend our normal monthly talks for £5 per guest. All tickets available from Rosie Osborne Events and Outings Organiser: Rosie Osborne 01787 211960 e-mail: rosie.osborne@btinternet.com Membership Secretary: Elizabeth Wagener 01787210223 e-mail: elizabeth.wagener@btinternet.com

Who Killed the Vicar?

Boxford Drama Group

Present Two Murder Mystery & Quiz Evenings

On 8th and 9th March

Tickets are £10 each, available at Boxford Newsagents from Saturday 2nd February.

A Ploughman's Supper is included to soak up the many libations you will need to survive the evening.

Our Narrator will guide everyone through the torrid events of the evening, so come and enjoy the fun.

Maximum 8 people to a team.

The Mildens Singers

It's Movie Time with The Mildens Singers so settle down with songs from 'The Flicks' at their next concerts in aid of Mildens Pavilion. Friday 26th April 8pm - front of house open 7.30pm with licensed bar and buffet. Saturday's Matinee 27th April 2pm - front of house open 1.30pm with licensed bar and afternoon tea. Tickets £5 and available from Pearl on 01449 741876

Nayland St. James church fete

Date: Monday 27th May 2-4.30pm. Nayland Playing Field

All your favourite stalls, sideshows and sports

The Victory Jazz Band. £150 Raffle 1st Prize

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

Antiques Fair

Stoke by Nayland village hall.

Saturday 23rd March 10.00am - 3.00 pm.

furniture, upholstered chairs, stools, mirrors, maritime collectibles, teddy bears, silver, ceramics, glassware, pictures, and more. Refreshments in aid of Alzheimer's.

Free Entry. All enquires 01206 262087.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD VILLAGE WALKS

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

Next 2 walks are 3rd March and 7th April. For more information please contact Jennie Jordan 01787 247132 for the April walk contact Dennis Duffy 01787 247868.

BOXFORD GARDENS OPEN

Sunday 2nd June 2013, 11am-5pm

This will be the 16th year of Boxford Gardens Open and the event is still proving as popular as ever, drawing visitors from a wide area to see our lovely gardens. This year we will be doing lunches in the school hall and there will be plant and craft stalls in and around the church and school. There will also be an exhibition of quilting in the church. Please put the date in your diary and also pray for good weather! The event requires a large number of volunteers to make it run smoothly, so any offers of help are always extremely welcome. In addition to existing gardens, we are also looking for new gardens to open. All money raised is used to benefit Boxford St Mary's church. Contact Angela Tolputt (call 01787 212264 or email angela@tolputt.com)

BOXFORD WI

This month's talk, by Judith Blatch, was a fascinating insight into the History of Winch and Blatch and the buildings which the modern day store occupy.

We were intrigued by the title of the talk, '1300 to the Present Day', because we knew that the store had not been in existence that long. It is the present main store that has its origins in the 1300, and upstairs in the soft furnishing department there is a crown post and timbers which testify to its origins.

As well as telling us about the history of the various buildings we were able to look at old photos of the centre of Sudbury, before and after the fire in 1922. Also we had the opportunity to look at various items that were sold in the shops before Winch and Blatch were established in 1965, including corsets, glove stretchers and hats. These and the catalogues of dresses and underwear, caused a great deal of discussion and some amusement.

The craft group spent a productive afternoon making fabric flower corsages. All visitors are welcome at a cost of £3.

If you would like a copy of our 2013 Programme please phone Heather on 01787 211566. 6th March – Body Language – Village Hall 2.00pm
6th March – Body Language – Village Hall 2.00pm

14th March – Craft Club – Mouse Bookmark – Mary's House 2.15pm

PAUL EDDINGTON

"AN ACTOR'S LIFE FOR ME"

A TALK ON THE LIFE OF THIS POPULAR

ACTOR BY HIS WIFE

TRICIA EDDINGTON

SOLD OUT



IN LITTLE WALDINGFIELD
PARISH ROOM

TICKETS £4

TO INCLUDE TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUITS

PLEASE CONTACT SUE 247173 OR MARY 247658

MURDER MYSTERY PLAY AND QUIZ NIGHT

Who killed
the Vicar?



FRIDAY 8TH AND SATURDAY 9TH MARCH 2013

TICKETS £10.00 EACH

Minimum Team of Four/Maximum Eight

Ploughmans Supper, Raffle and Bar

Tickets on Sale 2nd February from Boxford News.

Wot's On

Suffolk Village Festival

SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2013, 6.00 p.m. St Mary's Church, Boxford
Fred Jacobs (lute), The Golden Age of the Lute
Early seventeenth-century music by John Dowland and his contemporaries

MONDAY 27 MAY 2013, 6.00 p.m. St Mary's Church, Stoke by Nayland

Philippa Hyde & Claire Tomlin (soprano), Timothy Travers-Brown (countertenor), Tom Raskin (tenor), Giles Davies (baritone), Psalmody, Essex Baroque Orchestra directed by Peter Holman (harpsichord)
Handel: Susanna

Box office & further information:
01206 366603

box@suffolkvillagesfestival.com www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com

Ladies New & Nearly New Clothes Sale

Newton Village Hall 13th April

From Mid-day

Evening wear, Cocktails, Ball Gowns Wedding Dresses & Day Wear.

Shoes Bags Jewellery

Some Designer brands.

Stalls available to hire £5

All Bookings and enquiries call Sandra on
01787 312345

Little Waldingfield Parish Room

The Supper on 27th April will be a Greek Meal and mini-quiz. To keep the price of tickets to our usual £8.50 plate smashing will not be allowed. tickets are available from Sue 247173 or Mary 247658 for the event.

SMT Transition Events

SWAP SHOP – St John's Methodist Church, CO10 0NE

Saturday 13th April 10am-12.30pm

Bring along unwanted items or take whatever items catch your eye

VISIT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITY, GREEN LIGHT TRUST, LAWSHALL. Thursday 20th June – FREE Limited numbers.

Stoke by Nayland
HOTEL • GOLF • SPA

A Fantastic Line Up of Events for 2013

10th March - Mothering Sunday Lunch
A delicious 3 course carvery lunch – with free gift for all mothers!
£20.95 per person, 12 & under £10.95, under 4's Free

22nd March - Comedy & Curry Night
A line up of top comedians handpicked from the London comedy circuit
Comedy & Curry £18 – Comedy only £10 (in advance)

31st March - Easter Sunday Lunch
A delicious 3 course carvery lunch – free Easter Egg for all children!
£19.95 per person, 12 & under £10.95, under 4's Free

6th April - The Elton Experience
This dazzling tribute to Elton John will have you singing along to all the well known hits of this international superstar!
Tickets: £25 including themed 2 course dinner

14th June - Comedy & Curry Night
A line up of top comedians handpicked from the London comedy circuit
Comedy & Curry £18 – Comedy only £10 (in advance)

16th June - Fathers Day Lunch
A delicious 3 course carvery lunch
£20.95 per person, 12 & under £10.95, under 4's Free

20th July - 70's Fancy Dress Night
Let's whisk you back to the disco era, with dancing to all the classics, a two course buffet and fancy dress competitions!
Tickets £24 including buffet

Book now on 01206 265837
or email charlotte.abrehart@stokebynayland.com
Keepers Lane, Leavenheath, Colchester CO6 4PZ
www.stokebynayland.com

EVERY DIVA DESERVES AN ENCORE



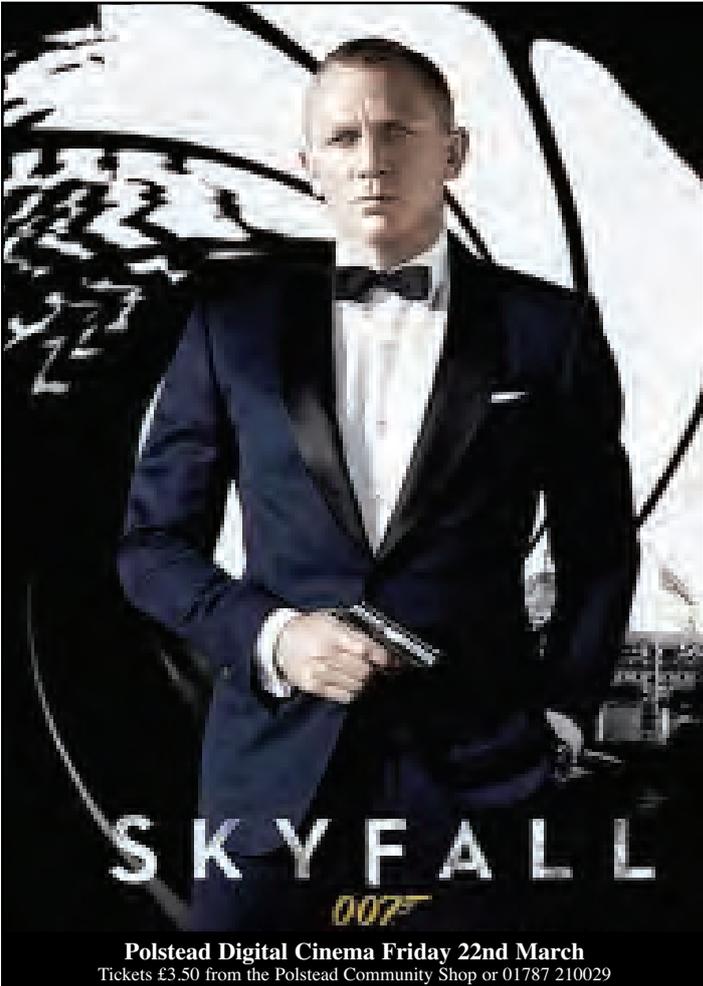
maggie smith

quartet

THE BRITISH COMEDY SOCIETY
PRESENTS THE **DUSTIN HOFFMAN**

tom courtenay billy connolly pauline collins and michael gambon

LEAVENHEATH CINEMA 2ND MARCH
Arrive 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm (12A 124 mins with 20mins interval)
Tickets £3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person
Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) for tickets
Refreshments (wine, beer, soft drinks, coffee, tea and ice creams) will be available



SKYFALL

007

Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 22nd March
Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029
All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm

Wot's On

Polstead Cinema Polstead Village Hall

Friday 22nd March: "Skyfall"

Friday 19th April "Salmon Fishing in the Yemen"

Friday 10th May "Life of Pi"

Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029

All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm

There is to be a special "Britten Centenary" event on Saturday 27th April when we will show "Night Mail" and an East Anglian Film Archive Film called "Britten and his Festival".

This will have a fund-raising element to it with half proceeds going to the Britten Centenary Fund and half to Village Hall.

Tickets will be £10 and will include a light buffet during the interval.

Gentle Yoga

Boxford Village Hall

Starting January 10th 2013, Thursdays 9.00-10.00am

Suitable for beginners and intermediate

If you would like to come along Please contact Marianne Marshall (BWY) 01787 210323 or marianne_marshall@fastmail.fm

Leavenheath Village Hall Digital Cinema

Proceeds towards LVH Capital Project Fund (Charity No 262816)

Tickets £3.50 per adult, £2.00 per young person

Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) for tickets
2ND FEBRUARY 'Gambitt' Arrive 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm (12A)
124 mins with 20mins interval)

Refreshments (wine, beer, soft drinks, coffee, tea and ice creams) will be available.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD HISTORY SOCIETY

All talks will be in the Parish Room in Church Road, Little Waldingfield, commencing at 7.30 pm sharp. Please book and pay in advance to guarantee your place, as seats are limited.

Booking Secretary: Diana Langford, Pitt Cottage, Little Waldingfield
Phone: 01787 248298, Tickets Members £2.00 Non Members £4.00

With grateful thanks to a grant from our sponsor, Councillor Colin Spence, from his Suffolk County Council Locality Budget.

Boxford Over 60's Club (for all ages)

Meetings in the village hall, starting at 2.30pm

Shirley Watling 01787 210024

IMAGES OF GROTON FROM 1890 ONWARDS

Saturday, March 23rd 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall

If you missed, or didn't have time to see the wonderful display of old photos from Groton and the slide show on the Jubilee weekend, now is your chance to see it all again; Jeremy Osborne, who collated the exhibition in Boxford Church last summer, is kindly offering to repeat it at Groton Village Hall, with plenty of explanations about the images; Jeremy would like more photos and memorabilia brought along to the evening, so please delve into your attics and cupboards. There will also refreshments, all for £7 a ticket, which can be obtained from Pat Kennedy Scott [210319] Jayne Foster [211360] or any member of Groton PCC, with all proceeds going to St. Bartholomew's Church. Those wishing to may bring their own drink,

Cake Stall

To help support Mary's House

Saturday 16th March, Mary's House open from 9am.

Cakes • Savouries • Marmalade and Jams • Homemade Rolls and Hot Cross Buns.

Raffle, Coffee and Scones.

Alison Brains lovely Ugandan beads

Joan Smith and Friends

Folk at the Fleece

April 21st and May 11th

To precede **Bella Hardy (May 11th)** the BBC award winning folk singer, we have American Singer/Songwriter **Jess Klein (April 21st)**. Mojo Magazine have described her as "Jess Klein has one of those voices you want to crawl up close to the speakers to listen to." She will be on Sunday April 21st. 4pm. I think it's actually quite something she's coming to us. She's toured across the world and is coming to us. Check them both out on Spotify and Facebook.



IT'S HERE!!
BRITAIN'S FAVOURITE
PUB QUIZ GAME
BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL
20th April
7.30 for 8pm start
TEAMS OF 6
(£5.00 per head)
Refreshments and Licensed Bar
CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM!
TO BOOK A TABLE CALL 01787 211 529



In Aid of Boxford Village Hall
Charity No: 304836

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY
May 7th from 7.30pm till 8.30pm
St Mary's Church Boxford
With Tea and Coffee in the Village Hall
FREE ENTRY FOR ALL!

THE 2013 BOXFORD
PLANT SALE

PLANT DONATIONS
If you would like to donate any rooted cuttings or garden plants please bring them to St Mary's porch between 4pm and 6pm on the day.
All plants to be clearly labelled please



Wot's On

Sudbury Dramatic Society

2012 was a good year for Sudbury Dramatic Society with sell out audiences for both of its last two productions - Calendar Girls followed by the pantomime Cinderella.

Now, SDS starts its 2013 season with the charming play Our Town by Thornton Wilder. Not dissimilar to the very English story of country life as told in the play Lark Rise; Our Town is the story of life in small town America in the 1930s.

Written by Thornton Wilder, who wrote the play on which the musical Hello Dolly was based, Our Town is believed to be the most well-loved and performed play in American amateur community theatre. Bringing it to Sudbury, Suffolk are the same creative husband and wife team of Helen and Neil Arbon, who previously directed the SDS productions of Lark Rise and its follow up Candleford; Our Town is set to touch a familiar chord with all of us living in our very own English rural community.

Our Town is on at The Quay Theatre from Tuesday 5th March until Saturday 9th March at 7.45pm. Tickets are on sale from the Box Office on 01787 374745 or online at www.quaytheatre.org.uk.

TABLE TOP SALE

AT EDWARDSTONE PARISH HALL:

We are holding a Table Top Sale on

Saturday 8 June from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tables will be £10 each and there will be teas, coffees and cakes available with a raffle.

More details next month. Contact Daphne Clark to book a table. 210698

LOCAL FITNESS CLASSES

Wednesdays 7.00 - 8.00pm Aerobic/Circuit sessions targeting stamina, weight & shape. (Boxford Primary School)

Fridays 9.15 - 10.15am Exercise to music including use of free weights for bone density maintenance, balance & co-ordination.

(Boxford Spinney) call 211822.

POLICE SURGERIES TO RESUME

AT MARY'S HOUSE

Informal police surgeries are to resume shortly on a bi monthly basis. Police Community Support Officer Siobhan Hemmett will be at Mary's House between 10.00 am and 11.30 am on the following Tuesdays, during the time when Mary's House is open for coffee and tea:

Tuesday 5 March 2013

Tuesday 7 May 2013

Tuesday 2 July 2013

Tuesday 10 September 2013

Tuesday 12 November 2013

Do feel free to drop in for a word with Siobhan, either to report anything to her or to share any concerns you may have about local crime or policing issues.

If you want to speak to Siobhan in confidence, there is a room available upstairs where you can do so.

Gardening Talk: 'Dahlias'

Tuesday 19th March

Rob Sherriff will be giving an illustrated talk on 'Dahlias: everything you want to know' Church Hall, Bear Street, Nayland CO6 4HY at 7.30 for 7.45pm. Entry free.

More info www.naylandhortsoc.org.uk or 01206 262807

Spring Flower Show

Saturday 23rd March

Enjoy the displays of spring flowers and relax with refreshments. Cakes on sale & raffle. Church Hall, Bear Street, Nayland CO6 4HY from 10am-12noon, entry free.

Exhibits 8.15am-9am - schedules from www.naylandhortsoc.org.uk or 01206 262807

Little Waldingfield Playing Field:

Sunday May 19th, launch of the new Petanque/Boules area. Details to follow next month.

Sunday 23rd June, afternoon car Treasure Hunt followed by evening barbeque. Details to follow next month.

Sunday 14th July, morning Car Boot and Table Sale followed by a lunchtime picnic on the playing field. Ticket details to follow.

The Boxford Study Centre presents

A course of five Tuesday afternoon lectures by Mark Mitchels

East Anglian People

1. Lord Nelson
2. Oliver Cromwell
3. The Paston Letters
4. The Herring Industry
5. Benjamin Britten



Starts: Tues 26th February - Lord Nelson

Ends: Tues 26th March - Benjamin Britten

Time: 2:30am - 4pm

Place: Groton Village Hall

Cost: £35 for the course. £8 for a single lecture

GROTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTS



QUIZ AND CURRY EVENING

At

Groton Village Hall

On Friday 19th April 2013 7.30 for 8.00 Start

£8.00 per head (entry plus choice of curry & dessert)

Teams of four

B.Y.O. Bar

Raffle

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



I am currently tutoring four children in the Boxford area who are taking their entrance exams this month, three of them taking the 11+ and one is taking the 8+. I will then be looking for more children to help!

I moved back to Suffolk where I grew up, three years ago with my husband and I now have two young children (Francesca who is two and a half years old and Griff who is one). I have five years teaching experience in two very different primary schools in London. I taught in years 5 and 6 in an inner city school and then I moved to the Roche School in Wandsworth as head of year 6. I prepared pupils for entrance exams, interviews and scholarships to London day schools, 11+ and Common Entrance. I spent a lot of time building relationships with local secondary schools and advising parents on further schooling. I also led the class through SATs each year. When I first moved back and I was pregnant I did regular supply teaching at Long Melford Primary School and I have been tutoring too.

I can provide individual or small group tuition in my home or the pupil's home after school on weekdays or on Saturday mornings. For the 11+ pupils this will include full examination preparation in Maths, English and Reasoning. Past examination papers will be discussed and practiced and feedback will be given. I am also happy to tutor younger pupils in either Maths or English.

I have a friendly approach which is based on positive reinforcement and I always build good relationships with my pupils. I try to apply a fun approach to learning where it is suitable and my sessions are always tailored to the needs of the child.

Private Tutor

Emily Fletcher (BA Hons, PGCE)

**Primary – Maths, English, Reasoning,
11+ entrance preparation.**

Extensive experience in successfully preparing pupils for entrance exams.

Friendly approach! CRB checked.

Ring or email to discuss your child's needs.

Nayland & surrounding area

Tel: 07970678404 (mob)

Email: emthomas77@hotmail.com

FOLK AT THE FLEECE April/May

*'Bella Hardy' BBC Folk Awards Winner
Saturday 11th May*



*Jess Klein
Singer/Songwriter
Sunday April 21st*



BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY



TUESDAY 2nd April 7.30pm

NATURAL PEST CONTROL

Julian Ives - Pest Control Consultant

The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton

Priest in Charge:

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

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

NSM:

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

Reader:

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

Lay Elders:

David Lamming, 20 Holbrook Barn Road, Boxford CO10 5HU
Tel: 210360; Fax: 329770; 07968 791135; e-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com
Antony Dodd, Mill Green End, Edwardstone CO10 5EX
Tel: 210397; e-mail: doddpanda@btinternet.com

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

Benefice house:

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



Shrove Tuesday in Mary's House. Photo David Lamming

MARY'S HOUSE BOOKINGS

There is now a new 2013 diary in Mary's House for making bookings.

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

Please also note that the suggested donation is now £1.00 per head for a two-hour booking for all meetings.

For inquiries about bookings, please contact Pauline or David Lamming: telephone 210360.

Copy Date for Church News section in the APRIL 2013 Box River News:

Please, NO LATER THAN 16th MARCH. Failure to meet the date will mean your copy may not be included

Thank you. Sue Edwards. 210785

email address: sedwards1946@btinternet.com



THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwardens:

Ruth Kingsbury, Rose Cottage,
Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone tel.211236
Peter Patrick, Amberley,
White Street Green. tel 210346

Mothering Sunday 10 March.

Do make a note to come to this Family Service at 11.00 am - with flower posies to give to our mums. Everyone is very welcome.

Easter Lilies: Donations for Easter Lilies to Jill Nation please.

Easter Services at St. Mary's-

Good Friday, 2.00pm at service of Reflections at the foot of The Cross.
Easter Sunday 11.00 am Holy Communion

Fundraising 2013:

Will include concerts & lots of other exciting events being planned as well - more news next month. The Boxford Open Gardens is on Sunday June 2nd & of course the Boxford Calendar 2014.

Calendar 2014:

Now is the time to start taking photos for the 2014 calendar. Please send to ChrisKingsC@aol.com via email, or on a memory stick or CD.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

This year will be held at 12.15pm after morning worship on Sunday 17th March 2013. Do come to hear what has been achieved & is being planned.

Re-Ordering proposals:

The Chancel & Sanctuary is now being re decorated, with new carpet being laid in the Sanctuary together with improved lighting. It is planned to have this work done in good time for Easter.

Further proposals will include improvements to the children's corner with new display boards, cupboards, seating & a new carpet. Also to tidy up the area below the tower with oak glazed screens, further storage facilities & better lighting. The area at the west end of the church is planned to have carpeting & new chairs to make this space more "user friendly" Of course all of this costs money & takes time. If you feel able to contribute to the cost of this work please do speak to our treasurer, Peter Patrick, or the Revd Judith.

Freewill offering:

Now is the time to perhaps consider making a regular contribution to the work of the church - easily done by completing a direct debit - this enables the church to be more certain of its income & through the generosity of all concerned be able to pay the parish share & maintain the church building. Do speak to a warden or the Revd Judith about this.

The Bible Study Group:

The Bible study group meets at 7.30pm on the 2nd & 4th Monday each month at 47 Swan Street. Please do come along, you will be made most welcome.

The Home Group:

Generally the group meets on 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month at 3.30pm at Brook House, Fen Street, Boxford. Everyone is most welcome for this time of fellowship.



THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:

Jan Paul Willow Farm, Edwardstone Tel: 210972
David Saddleton 8 The Winthrops, Edwardstone
Tel: 211161

PLEASE NOTE:

Tuesday Morning Prayer on 26th February is cancelled.

David Saddleton

PCC MEETING REMINDER – CHANGE OF DATE:

A reminder of the PCC meeting on 28th February, 6:45pm at Mary's House.

David Saddleton

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Saturday 8th/Sunday 9th June:

Flower Festival - Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone.

We will be commemorating the Queen's Coronation. More details next month.

Also on the evening of Saturday 8th June we hope to hold a concert recital by a well-known cellist. This is subject to confirmation but please pencil it in your diaries as it should be a memorable occasion. Again, more details next month Pam Dodd

ROTA:

	Sidesman	Cleaning	Flowers	Teas/Coffees
March 3:	Mrs Dodd	Mrs Morris	Lent	Mrs Clark
March 10:	Visiting	Mrs Clarke		
March 17:	Mrs Dodd	Mrs Clarke		
March 24:	Visiting	Mrs Paul		
March 31: EASTER DAY				
	Mrs Dodd	Mrs Paul	All help	
Informal Daily Prayer:		9.00 a.m. every Tuesday		



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens: *Jayne Foster:*
Ramblers, Bulmer Lane. 211360
Sue Edwards:

Cotlee, The Street, Groton; tel 210785

FROM THE REGISTERS – INTERMENT OF ASHES: 23 January 2013 – Harry William George Stiff, aged 97 years.

IMAGES OF GROTON FROM 1890 ONWARDS

Saturday, March 23rd 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall

If you missed, or didn't have time to see the wonderful display of old photos from Groton and the slide show on the Jubilee weekend, now is your chance to see it all again; Jeremy Osborne, who collated the exhibition in Boxford Church last summer, is kindly offering to repeat it at Groton Village Hall, with plenty of explanations about the images; Jeremy would like more photos and memorabilia brought along to the evening, so please delve into your attics and cupboards. There will also be refreshments (please your own wine or other drinks), all for £7 a ticket, which can be obtained from Pat Kennedy Scott [210319] Jayne Foster [211360] or any member of Groton PCC, with all proceeds going to St. Bartholomew's Church.

FAMILY MORNING WORSHIP: The PCC have agreed to a suggestion by the Revd Judith to alternate the '4th Sunday' 9.30 am Holy Communion service at Groton with a non-Eucharistic service. Initially this will be for a trial period of six months. It is hoped that those who do not attend currently (as well as those who do) will be attracted to a more informal service. The first 'Family Morning Worship' is on Sunday 24th February: please support this, and give us your feedback.

PAROCHIAL FEES – A new scale of fees for marriages and funerals came into effect on 1st January 2013. A copy of the fees list is posted on the porch noticeboard. Charging for certain 'extras' is now expressly allowed, where provided and agreed in advance. Having monitored electricity usage, Groton PCC have decided that a fair figure to charge for heating the church overnight is £30.00. £30.00 will also be charged for the provision of a verger. Please contact the Revd Judith or David Lamming if you have any queries about the new fees.

PANCAKE LUNCH: As the photographs in this issue show, Mary's House was buzzing on Shrove Tuesday when members of Groton Church's fund-raising team were kept busy serving pancakes to parishioners from all five parishes. A welcome £102.50 was raised for church funds.

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL – A reminder that application forms for enrolment on the new roll must be returned to the electoral roll officer,

David Lamming, by Sunday 17th March: see the February BRN for details.

PCC MEETING: Tuesday 5th March 2013, 7.30 pm in Mary's House. Items for the agenda should be notified to the secretary, David Lamming, by Sunday 24th February. [E-mail: djlamming@hotmail.com]

ANNUAL MEETINGS: the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (to elect churchwardens) is on Tuesday 9th April at 7.30 pm in Groton Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton. It will be followed at 7.40 pm by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. More details next month.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE: Groton will again be hosting an Easter open-air sunrise service. Do join us for this special service on Easter morning: 6.15 am BST on Sunday 31st March 2013 at the War Memorial triangle, followed by breakfast in the church. [Please note that clocks go forward one hour at 1.00 am on 31st March.]

Rota:

Sidesman with Sacristan: Mrs Knight

Flowers:

No flowers in Lent. Easter Festival arrangements for 31 March
Mrs Skinner

Cleaning:



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens

Vacant

Rota:

	Sidesman	Flowers
March 3:	Mr Squirrell	No Flowers - Lent
March 10:	Visiting	"
March 17:	Mrs Ratte & Mrs Eddington	"
March 24:	Visiting	"
March 31:	Mrs Harbord	Mrs Squirrell



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

Churchwarden:

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

17th February: Our Family Service for people of all ages celebrated 'Education Sunday'.

The Revd Judith spoke of the story of Jesus in the Temple and his learning there. As then, we have all been touched by learning in some form or another from early age and through our lives. A number of members shared with us items from various stages of their education. We saw beautiful examples of stitching, amazing woodcraft, photo of painting in action, school uniforms and Brownie badges. Some had fonder memories than others.

The hymns were accompanied on the guitar by Revd Judith and by our organist Michael Collear. Refreshments gave us the chance to reminisce about various stages of our education and it is never too late for that. Thank you to everyone for their help in one way or another, which can, in itself, be an education.

Notices: 24th March, Palm Sunday at 11.00 a.m. Morning Worship - a Service for All Ages – Revd Judith.

In March we are going to introduce a new format in place of the Family Service. The Service will be of a shorter length. This change gives the Revd Judith more time before her next service to meet and chat with you while having refreshments.

Please come and join our new venture, where all ages will be very welcome.

16th April: Our A.P.C.M. will be held in All Saints' Church at 7.30p.m.
Rota: Flowers; Sue Presland . Easter - 31st March. All helpers welcome

General Church News

LENT LUNCHES:

Little Waldingfield Lent Lunch Wednesday 6th March at Newmans Hall from 12.30 to 2pm. Groton Lent Lunch, Tuesday March 12th at Malting Lodge, from 12:30 to 2pm, by kind permission of Mrs Anthea Scriven. All Proceeds to charity.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2013: A reminder that this year's Fairtrade Fortnight runs from Monday 25th February to Sunday 10th March.

MINISTRY TEAM MEETING: The Ministry Team meets at Mary's House at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 27th February 2013.

DEANERY SYNOD: The synod meets next on Thursday 7th March 2013, 7.30 pm at the Little Waldingfield Parish Room. Refreshments from 7.00 pm

DIOCESAN SYNOD: The spring meeting of the diocesan synod is on Saturday 9th March 2013 at the St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich. Reports updating members on the women bishops issue will be a central feature of the agenda. Synod will also hear about the forthcoming launch of a DVD, filmed in Suffolk and supported by the Archbishops' Council, "How to Choose the Perfect Parish Priest." The meeting will close with reflections from the Bishop of Dunwich, Clive Young, for whom this will be his last synod before he retires in May.

Box River Benefice The Church At Worship March 2013

Sunday 3rd Lt Waldingfield Edwardstone Boxford Boxford	Third Sunday of Lent 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Morning Prayer 11.00 All Age Worship 18.30 Evensong	Revd Judith Revd Judith Revd Judith Christopher Kingsbury	(P)
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Wednesday 6th Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion	Mary's House	Revd David Abel
Thursday 7th Little Waldingfield	19.00 Holy Communion	Newmans Hall (Reserved Sacrament)	Tim Harbord

Sunday 10th Groton Newton Boxford	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Family Service for Mothering Sunday	Revd Judith Revd Judith Revd Judith	(P)
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Wednesday 13th Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion	Mary's House	Revd Judith
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Sunday 17th Edwardstone Lt Waldingfield	5th of Lent 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Holy Communion	Revd Judith Revd Judith	(P)
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Wednesday 20th Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion	Mary's House	Revd David Abel
Thursday 21st Little Waldingfield	19.30 Compline,	Newmans Hall	Tim Harbord

Sunday 24th Boxford Groton Newton Boxford	Palm Sunday 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Morning Worship 11.00 Matins	Revd Judith Revd Judith Revd Judith Christopher Kingsbury	(R)
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Wednesday 27th Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion	Mary's House	Revd Judith
Maundy Thursday 28th Groton	19.30 Informal Holy Communion		Revd Judith
Good Friday 29th Lt Waldingfield Boxford	9.30 Family Service (& Hot cross Buns!) 14.00 Reflections at the foot of the cross		Revd Judith Revd Judith

Sunday 31st Groton	Easter Day 06.15 Sunrise Service At the War Memorial Triangle	Revd Judith
Edwardstone	9.30 Holy Communion	To be arranged
Lt Waldingfield	11.00 Holy Communion	Revd David Abel
Boxford	11.00 Holy Communion	Revd Judith

Daily Prayer An informal service in church with Revd Judith, with prayers for the concerns of the villages, for those who are ill and for the wider world.

All welcome Tuesday 9.00 Edwardstone, 17.00 Little Waldingfield Wednesday 9.00 Groton; Thursday 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford

The Good folk of Groton carried out a makeover of Mary's House During January and a splendid job they did as well Photo's David Lamming



Soap Box

If there is one big change – of many - in society that I have seen over my lifetime that feels less welcome than others, it is the creeping influence of regulation. It is easy to be negative over the way in which regulation impinges on our lives. ‘Elf ‘n’ Safety is a regular topic for critical comment and a butt of many a joke. But it is worth reflecting on what life might be like without the checks and balances of regulation and why it is there in the first place.

Take my own world of the City and, specifically, financial advice for ordinary people. Regulation was present when first I started in the world that was to provide a career for me, but in a low key, non-confrontational way. It changed for a variety of reasons, regrettably all of them quite understandable.

One of the early catalysts was what was known in the Square Mile as the “Big Bang”. Driven by the Office of Fair Trading, it was described at the time as deregulation. I’ll spare you the details, which are still engraved on my brain, but suffice it to say that the job of “regulating” the securities industry passed from the informal hand of the Stock Exchange to a succession of statutory bodies established to ensure fair play.

Was it necessary? I fear so. One of the results of Big Bang was the entry into our cosy, club-like environment of the City of London of a succession of foreign banks, many American, with their loyalties directed towards their home territory and shareholders. Without a formal, and rigid, system of regulation, who knows what may have transpired. Did it help the consumer? Probably not – but it was needed just the same.

Then there was the impetus of two financial scandals that robbed many of their life savings – Barlow Clowes and Norton Warburg. Regulation outside the Stock Exchange rested with the Department of Trade & Industry, as it was known then. Barlow Clowes cost the government millions in compensation, thanks to the inept procedures of the DT&I. And Norton Warburg was the adviser of choice for retiring Bank of England staff – and for Pink Floyd. The result was a judicial revue.

It was a pipe smoking Professor Jim Gower, a senior lawyer, who conducted the investigation into what had gone wrong in the field of

investment advice for ordinary people. His conclusion was that incompetence had as big a part to play in unsatisfactory advice being given to unsuspecting individuals as fraud. His report laid the ground for what became the Financial Services Authority, which is even now going through further change.

This simply reflects my personal experience. The stories of how regulation has become part of everyday life are legion. The inability of anyone to change a light bulb in the church without scaffolding springs to mind. Concern over how a troubled child might be comforted is another that will doubtless have those who hark back to less restrictive times point to how daft current regulation has become.

But life without regulators today seems just a pipe dream. Our telephone and gas and electricity bills are complex enough, but at least we have someone to complain to when we feel we are being treated less than fairly. And do we really want our beef patties to contain more Shergar than Daisy? Not that the food regulators seem to have made a good fist of protecting our interests. I fear that regulation is here to stay. But not all is good or appropriate. We need to be vocal when regulation becomes a burden to the consumer as well as the provider.

Returning to more mundane matters, our Parish Council is organizing what has become a regular Spring litter pick around Little Waldingfield. I cannot recall quite how many years this selfless contribution to ensuring our green and pleasant land remains...well, green and pleasant, but we have not had a shortage of helpers so far. Our next outing is Saturday 2nd March at 10 am – we like to strike early before foliage obscures the problem. If past experience is anything to go by, many sacks will be filled and a few unusual items collected. Please join us if you can.

Brian Tora is Chairman of Little Waldingfield Parish Council.

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GARDENING IN MARCH HARRY BUCKLEDEE

The invasion of moss in lawns is quite a serious problem now. The cause may be bad drainage or impoverished turf. Mowing too close in the Autumn can cause moss to grow and smother the grass. Steps should be taken to correct the poor physical conditions and treat the lawn with lawn sand. Aerate the turf by raking it several times to remove dead grass, debris and moss, then spike the whole area with a four prong fork. This action is important to maintain good drainage so that rain is not allowed to remain on the surface and create conditions ideal for disease. Watch out for patches of Fusarium disease which shows up by patches of dead grass, up to a foot in diameter with a mass of pinky white threads over the patch. Treat with a propriety brand of fungicide, following the manufacturer's instructions. Several applications may be necessary to affect a cure. A good home made mix of Lawn Sand can be made up by using the following: 3 parts Sulphate of Iron, 5 parts Sulphate of Ammonia, 8 parts dry sharp sand or dry fine grade peat. Mix thoroughly and apply to the grass at a good handful per square yard. The Sulphate of Iron will kill the moss and the Sulphate of Ammonia will encourage the grass to grow above the moss. Some blackening of the grass may occur especially if there is no rainfall for two days, but this is only temporary.

The buds of Rhododendron's, Azalias and Camelias which turn brown and fail to open, can be caused by one or two things. It can be frost damage, in which case the damaged buds are soft and can be easily pulled away from the shrub. Or it can be a condition known as Bud Blast, in this case the buds are brown and covered in black hair like growth. The buds remain firmly attached to the shrub and do not rot. Cutting off and burning the affected buds and spraying with a fungicide will help control the disease. Spray with an insecticide to destroy the leaf hopper which is thought to spread the disease from plant to plant. In the case of Camelias the browning of buds is more likely to be frost damage. Keeping the plants watered in dry weather will help them withstand an attack.

The heavy winter rainfall will have washed much of the nutrients out of the soil. Over wintering like sprouting broccoli and spring cabbage will need a two oz per square yard dressing of a quick acting nitrogenous fertiliser like Sulphate of Ammonia, Nitro Chalk or dried blood. Loosening the soil; around the plants with a Dutch Hoe will

aerate the soil and promote good growth as well as the control of weeds. Spring flowering pansies, polyanthus, daisies and wall flowers will all benefit from similar treatment.

Top 10 jobs this month

- 1.Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
 - 2.Protect new spring shoots from slugs
 - 3.Plant summer-flowering bulbs
 - 4.Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
 - 5.Top dress containers with fresh compost
 - 6.Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
 - 7.Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
 - 8.Weeds come back in to growth - deal with them before they get out of hand
 - 9.Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
 - 10.Open the greenhouse or conservatory doors and vents on warm days
- Frosts can still be a hazard, so keep vulnerable plants protected at night if frost is forecast. March winds are also notorious for their ferocity so check exposed plants are well supported.

Clean and repair your garden tools, book the lawn mower in for a service and check garden furniture for any rot. When it is warm enough, treat sheds, fences and trellis with wood preservative; brushes and rollers are fine for most things, however a sprayer is well worth buying for tricky projects such as woven panels!

Make new beds and borders - mark the shape with sand trickled from a bottle, remove the top layer of growing vegetation and dig the ground over, incorporating as much organic matter as possible. If you are making a bed in the lawn, remove the turf and stack it upside down somewhere out of the way - after a year or two it will rot down into fantastic compost. Alternatively chop it up and bury upside down in the planting hole a good spade's depth down. Beware - if you just dig it in the buried grass will regrow and regrow. Mulch bare soil once you have done the work and remove moss and weeds from paths, terraces and driveways. They may be boring tasks but if you don't get on top of the garden now (especially the weeds!) it will be a nightmare for the rest of the season.

Last but not least, take good care of your back!!



**BOXFORD
GARDENS
OPEN**

Sunday 2nd June 2013
11am – 5pm

**Calling all gardeners...
WE NEED YOU!**

This event is a popular one in the local calendar, raising money to benefit St Mary's church. If you have not opened your garden before, please consider doing so this year. It is a rewarding experience, as those gardeners who already open will confirm.

Please call Angela on 01787 212264 to discuss or email me on angela@tolpuit.com



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Parish Council Matters

Minutes of Little Waldingfield Parish Council Meeting

15 January 2013

Present: B Tora, M Ewen, R Williams, R Ridgeon, V Flute, D Kiddy
Cllr. J Antill, 4 members of the public

Declarations of Interest: None.

Correspondence: A letter of resignation, with immediate effect, has been received from C Hamblett.

Minutes of the last Meeting: These were agreed as a true record and signed.

Matters Arising: None.

Planning Matters: Between meetings no objections were raised to an application for the erection of two dwellings at Hammonds Holt.

Applications have been received for the demolition of The Cottage, Church Road and for two replacement dwellings to be erected on that site, one with three bedrooms and one with four. The meeting was adjourned to enable neighbours to comment. In reply to questions Cllr. Antill confirmed that the Babergh DC Heritage Officer wishes to inspect the interior of The Cottage as there is doubt as to the age of the property and to then consult with the developers prior to any works taking place although this is not compulsory prior to any decision being made, and the decision cannot be delayed whilst waiting for such agreement. Concerns were expressed that a building possibly dating back to the 17th century, although not listed, can be demolished prior to any archaeological or historical survey being performed. Residents of a neighbouring property have requested of Babergh DC a comprehensive review of the cottage and site following inspection of the title map at Bury Records Office. Concerns raised include the fact that the submitted street view is not to scale and gives a misleading picture of how close to boundary walls proposed buildings will actually be and the size of the proposed houses, the loss of privacy due to windows in gable end walls, and insufficient off road parking and lack of turning spaces. Councillors expressed particular concern over parking issues as there are already problems with on street parking in Church Road, with residents not using their off street parking facilities and agricultural vehicles unable to progress without long delays waiting for vehicles to be moved. Complaints from farmers and residents re damage to cars or property are commonplace, particularly at harvest time. Our reply will reflect these concerns. The meeting was reconvened.

Police Matters/Speedwatch: There has been a worrying increase in reported crimes between September and January – 2 x burglary other dwelling, 1 theft and 1 criminal damage.

Speedwatch statistics presented by R Ridgeon show a slight improvement to the number of speeding vehicles reported over previous months. Little Waldingfield sessions far exceeded those undertaken by any other village in the partnership.

Financial Matters: Between meetings cheques were signed in favour of P Sargeant for telephone box panels, Lt Waldingfield Church £50 donation from Jubilee celebrations, Lt Walding field Playing Field £75, donation from Jubilee celebrations of £50 and £25 towards utility costs of day, Lt Waldingfield Parish Room £50 donation from Jubilee celebrations, Lt Waldingfield Friendship Club £50 donation from Jubilee celebrations, SALC for website training fees, Lt Waldingfield Parish Room for room hire for Village Review and V Flute for Village Review stationery expenses.

The prepared budget was discussed and a decision made to request a precept for £4230, the same as that for 2012/13. The required form was signed by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Parish Clerk.

Website: A comprehensive report was presented by the new Webmaster Andy Sheppard on changes and updates made on advice from the Suffolk CC coordinator. In the month 22 December to 29 January 61 people have visited the site, and some feedback has been received. A number of suggestions on new material for publication have been made and the PC need to discuss this further and submit agreed information to Andy.

Village Review: V Flute circulated the results and a draft action plan to the meeting. Councillors to bring their views to the next meeting for the Action Plan to be agreed and implemented. Actions to be taken prior to the next meeting – Clerk to enquire if broadband receivers can be erected on listed buildings and in a Conservation Area. A village champion is needed for highspeed broadband, but answers are required from Suffolk CC prior to asking for a volunteer, so the Chairman will contact Colin Spence.

Public Transport: Nothing to report.

Footpaths: A new Footpath Warden will probably be required following the resignation of C Hamblett.

Churchyard: The replacement tree for the verge in front of the Church is still to be purchased.

Any Other Business: R Williams was proposed as, and unanimously elected as the representative on the Parish Room committee.

Dates of next meetings set as 26 February, 16 April, Annual Parish Meeting 21 May, 2 July.

Newton Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held on 9th January 13

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

Attending: James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor), Louise Wilby (Suffolk ACRE), Kim Best (Babergh District Council), D Crimmin (Clerk) and one resident.

Apologies for Absence: Peter Holbrook (Babergh District Councillor) sent his apologies as well as PCSO Hemmett.

Declaration of Interests: None were declared.

Requests for councillor dispensation: None were received.

Minutes of meeting held on the 14th November 2012: The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Public Forum: Mr Robertson raised the issue of a covenant on the land at Whisper Wood. As this is outside the remit of the planning process undertaken by BDC, there is no further engagement that NPC can take on the matter. The reports are contained in Appendix A.

Local Housing Needs Survey: Louise Wilby gave the headlines from the Newton LHNS, her analysis of these results and her recommendations as follows:

Summary 215 local housing needs survey forms were delivered with the parish magazine to all homes in Newton in September 2012. 69 completed forms were returned; giving a 35 % return rate which is good for a postal return survey. Parish housing information:

Age: People aged 60 and over made up 49%, and 18% are under 25 years old. This indicates an older age profile than other recent villages surveyed. Properties: 76 % have three or more bedrooms, and 72% are detached. Tenure: 86% of homes are owned either outright or with a mortgage; this is in line with other parishes, where it tends to be between 80-90%. 11 % of survey returns are living in Babergh District Council housing or housing association housing.

Opinion: 84% were in favour of a scheme; this shows good overall support for a small scheme for local people. Only 11 respondents said No, which is 16 % of respondents. Need indicated by survey returns: Total of 11 households in need from survey returns and Babergh current Choice Based Lettings (CBL) figures for local connection.

From the survey: 5x 1- bed for young singles and one young couple. Majority to rent situation to be reviewed as two interested in shared ownership. None of the 5 completing survey forms are currently registered on Babergh's CBL system. From October CBL register: 6 with a local connection by address of family connection.

Recommendation The recommended number and mix of properties to meet the identified need is 2 x 1 bed flats, 1x 2 bed bungalow (suitable for elderly or younger households), 1x 2 bed house.

A discussion took place with both Louise and Kim Best (BDC) on the interpretation of the results and some of the issues that NPC would face if they wished to progress with the recommended scheme. The councillors agreed their interest in a scheme and will make a decision at the March meeting.

Correspondence (Appendix B): Following a review of the Correspondence the councillors agreed not to write to Government regarding the Sustainable Communities Act.

Clerks Report (Appendix C): Following a review of the Clerk's Report no further action was requested of the Clerk.

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

b.The councillors reviewed the communications from BDC on the proposed grant to nullify the Government changes to the Tax Base for the Parish. The councillors noted BDC's Corporate Manager - Financial Services, Barry Hunter, request on the 7th January 2013 for CPC to "... simply levy their 'normal' precept and we will reduce this by the grant in calculating the Band D Council Tax". The councillors reviewed the decision made at the November 2012 meeting and resolved to agree an expenditure budget of £10,029 and a Precept of £9,000 for 2013 / 14, which is the same as the current year. The Chairman, councillors and Clerk duly authorised the Precept upon Charging Authority.

c.The councillors reviewed the quotation received from D Gotts for cutting the Newton footpaths at a cost of £50 per cut during 2013. Suffolk County Council will be awarding NPC a grant of approximately £200 for cutting footpaths during 2013. The councillors resolved to award D Gotts the contract for 2013.

Planning:a.The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/12/01473 Newton Hall - Application for Listed Building Consent - Alterations to existing backhouse including demolition of existing woodstore, forming link to the backhouse at first-floor level and resolved to support the application.

b.The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/12/01343 1 Hills Farm Cottages, Sudbury Road - Application for Listed Building Consent - Erection of single-storey side extension; insertion of 1 no. replacement window at first floor level on front elevation; insertion of 1 no. replacement window at first floor level and 1 no. replacement window at attic level on side elevation; insertion of 1 no. replacement window in dormer on side elevation; insertion of 3 no. replacement windows on rear elevation; internal alterations and resolved to support the application.

c.The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/12/01424 12 Links View - Erection of single-storey side extension to form annexe accommodation (following demolition of existing attached single-storey garage). Insertion of 2 no. new flat roof dormer windows to match existing to rear elevation of main dwelling and resolved to support the application.

d.No further planning applications had been received since the agenda was posted.

e.Cllr Presland updated councillors on his visit to the land in Valley Road after being invited by the landowner to see the site. The Clerk was asked to outline to BDC the sensitivities of the site usage when they consider whether the usage complies with its current planning status. The status of previous applications, reviewed by NPC were as follows:

Playground and Asset Maintenance Programme: With no Newton resident being interested in quoting for the playground, village hall and playing field grass maintenance, the councillors agreed that the Clerk invite quotations from outside the village. Cllrs Presland and Taylor have reviewed the play ground in light of the RoSPA report and recommended to councillors the following course of action

which was agreed by the council:

- i. The Clerk to get a quotation for replacing the rotten post on the swing bridge
- ii. Cllrs Presland and Taylor resolve the covering of the ends of the pipe and fix the grass matting by the March meeting
- iii. Further bark to be purchased in April.

Parish Survey: The Councillors reviewed the 6 issues and agreed the following actions and review dates:

Housing (1): NPC to consider outcomes of Local Housing Needs Survey to see if an affordable housing scheme should be undertaken. March

Layby on A134 (1): Newton Green Trust has now confirmed its ownership of the layby with the Land Registry and process to remove cars from Layby is now in place. Youth Engagement (2): Cllrs Presland and Parker looking at ways in which all the youth of the village will be willing to take part in an engagement programme. March

Village Cinema (3): Cllr Parker has liaised with Sue Wigglesworth and is now reviewing the costs for holding a film show. March

Recycling (4): Paper and textile recycling banks now located in Village Hall Car Park. A134 Safe Haven (5): James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor) reviewing funding options.

Playing field (6): Newton Green Trust has reviewed usage of playing field and do not see any reason to change current arrangements.

Effectiveness of Internal Controls and Internal Audit process: The councillors reviewed the current system of NPC's internal controls and internal audit and resolved that they were satisfied:

- With the review of the Internal Audit as per Appendix E
- That the scope of the audit is in accordance with The Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales, A Practitioners Guide 2011 and the guidelines issued by BDO LLP and by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils
- With the report provided by the internal auditor at the conclusion of audit for review by NPC.
- The councillors further resolved that Heelis & Lodge scope of internal audit work was in accordance with the role required to be undertaken by the internal auditor for NPC
- With the Internal Control processes undertaken by the council.

Risk Management register: Following a review of NPC's Risk Management Register the councillors considered that it was appropriate for NPC's operations.

Asset Register: The councillors reviewed NPC's Asset Register and agreed that the newly installed bench opposite the Saracens Head be recorded at £0.

Spring and Autumn Cleaning in Newton: The councillors agreed to a Spring Clean on Saturday 6th April at 8.30am and an Autumn Clean on Saturday 2nd November.

Newton Fireworks: The councillors reviewed the reasons why the old practice of holding fireworks in Newton was discontinued. The councillors will consider what options are available to re-introduce a firework night display and discuss further at the March meeting.

Christmas Lighting: The councillors will further consider plans for having Christmas lights in the village at the May meeting.

Village Hall and Trust representative updates: The Village Hall committee met in December and have no events planned at present. There were no issues raised by the Trust.

Questions to the Chair:

- A Community Achievement Awards scheme at a local level was raised
- Cllr Williams was thanked for proof reading and the Clerk was thanked for editing and producing the Welcome booklet, which would be distributed to all residents later this month
- The issue of accessing a stile on a footpath to be raised with SCC Rights of Way
- The Clerk was asked to review the process for amending the bye laws.

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th March 2013.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Appendix A Public Forum

James Finch updated councillors on the new road maintenance contract with Balfour Beatty; Troubled Families initiative; County Farms; Highways and Broadband.

In the absence of the Police the Clerk read the Police report for the period 14 November 2012 to 5 January 2013 which showed that no crimes were committed which was the same as the same period the previous year.

Edwardstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 pm Monday 21st January 2013 at Edwardstone Village Hall

Present: Clare Britcher, P Clarke, S Flack, S Norman (Vice-Chair & in the Chair), Garry Peacock & Ian (Jim) Robinson

In attendance: S Gray (Clerk).

Apologies for Absence: C Boggis. Councillors consented to this absence.

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the 19th November 2012: The Minutes of the 19th November 2012 were approved; proposed by C Britcher, seconded by Jim Robinson

Planning Matters: Planning Application No: B/13/00040/TPO Holt School Green Edwardstone Sudbury CO10 5PJ. Fell Oak Tree (T1) reduce Yew trees to hedge height (T2 T3 T4 & T5) fell holly trees (T6 & T7) reduce Laurel trees to one metre (T8 & T9) pollard weeping Ash tree (T10) crown lift yew trees (T11 & T12) fell yew trees (T13, T14 & T15) fell Horse Chestnut (T16) and coppice Cotoneaster (T17). Councillors discussed the above application and had no objections.

2013/14 Precept.

The Responsible Financial Officer presented to the Council the **Accounts for the year** to date and the Councillors discussed in detail the raising of the precept for

the year 2013/14.

It was agreed that, in order for such works as footpath maintenance to be considered in the next financial year, the precept would have to be raised by 1.9% which equates to 33p per elector.

Highway & Footpath Matters: It was agreed for the Councillors to continue reporting to the Clerk all pot holes and any other problems with highways..

Clare Britcher reported that flooding regularly occurred on the road outside her gate. It was agreed for the Clerk to report this to Highways.

Future Agenda Items: Telephone Kiosk • Maintenance of local Footpaths

Dates of Future Meetings: 18th March 2013, 20th May 2013, 15th July 2013

16th September 2013, 18th November 2013

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Groton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 pm Wednesday 16th January 2013 at Groton Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton

Present: D Elliott, Carey Fraulo (Chairman), J Osborne (Vice-Chairman), M Mayhew & Adam Dixon-Smith

In attendance: S Gray (Clerk to the Council)

Apologies for Absence: Gerald Smith, The Councillors consented to this absence.

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the 7th November 2012

The Minutes of 7th November 2012 were approved; proposed by Vice-Chair Jeremy Osborne, seconded by David Elliott

To receive reports and questions from Councillors and Members of the Public David Elliott reported that he had spoken to John Gant at Suffolk Highways regarding the large pot holes in Groton Street and John had personally come out to look at the situation. As a result the pot holes had been filled.

The Council agreed that a meeting needed to be arranged with Paul Gant to discuss the various blocked culverts in the parish.

Footpath and Highway Matters: The Chairman, Carey Fraulo, informed the Council that she had personally cycled around the Parish of Groton and recorded all 63 pot holes and their sizes. The Clerk confirmed that this had been sent to Suffolk Highways.

Planning Matters: In relation to the presentation by Nigel Brett and Louise Wilby at the November meeting, the Council discussed whether to proceed with a survey. It was agreed that this could be an Agenda item in March.

Precept 2013

The Councillors discussed the precept for 2013/14 and, after much discussion and consultation, agreed that an increase of £100.00 (£0.45 per elector) was needed to help fund the solicitor's fees for the lease of the land for the village hall.

Groton Village Hall: The Chairman informed the Council that Gotelee Solicitors had been instructed to start negotiations with the landlord to renew the lease of the land for the Village Hall.

Groton Website: The Council agreed for the Chairman to approach local businesses and estate agents to see if they would like to buy some advertising space on the website.

Dates of Next Meetings:

• 6th March 2013 • 1st May 2013 (AGM & APM) • 3rd July 2013

• 4th September 2013 • 6th November 2013

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30

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Meetings of Boxford Parish Council

held in December 2012 & January 2013

Parish Council Meeting on 17th December

Correspondence: The Chairman reported on the resignation of Steve Egglestone from the Parish Council. Members agreed his contribution and skills would be greatly missed. (**The Parish Council is now delighted to welcome new member, Paula Stacey who was co-opted at the 4th February Meeting). The Clerk was thanked for decorating the Parish Council Christmas tree at the festival where 27 trees were displayed from village organisations. The Parish Council was grateful to Richard and Inneka Morris for the donation of the Christmas tree for the Churchyard and the loan of the stand for the festival tree.

Police Report: PCSO Siobhan Hemmett was unable to attend, however, provided a report. She was looking to arrange Police Surgeries in Mary's House. There was a burglary on Brick Kiln Hill.

Suffolk County Council Report: County Councillor James Finch attended and reported that the new Suffolk Highways Contract was due to be awarded that month to include road maintenance, winter gritting, street lighting, traffic signals and bridge works. He advised of a new initiative set up to work with troubled families (Suffolk Family Focus). He spoke of moves to make Suffolk County Farms Estates more commercial and accessible. He concluded by stating the County Councils priorities of Jobs and Growth, Education, Supporting Vulnerable People, Localism and Building on Suffolk's Strength.

Babergh District Council Report: District Councillor Bryn Hurren attended and reported that Babergh Council is aiming to freeze their element of Council Tax. They continue to work hard on budget to achieve this. He attended a meeting with Cllr Norman regarding the drainage problem experienced since the construction of the new Homefield Court flats. The Babergh Arboricultural Officer has inspected a tree in Ash Street that was subject to a recent report and noted that no work is required at this stage. Consideration was being given to reducing the number of grass cuts to preserve wild orchids on the Brook Hall Estate. It was agreed to report large ruts on Footpath 10 (Cox Hill Farm to Running Waters) to the County Right of Way Officer.

Meeting on 7th January

Public Forum: John Moles had attended from Three Parishes Response to thank the Parish Council for the recent donation of a further defibrillator. On the day following its purchase, the equipment was used to stabilize a patient who was then taken to hospital for an operation.

Finance: The Chairman read a thank you letter from the Parochial Church Council for the donation of £1750 towards the upkeep of the Church.

Reports from Members: Complaints had been received regarding cigarette ends littering the pavement outside The Fleece. It was agreed to write to the Fleece and also ask our Street Cleaning Contractor to pay particular attention to this aspect. It was noted the drainage problem at the bottom of the Croft has finally been resolved. Cllr Norman confirmed that the working party planning to improve the surface of the Croft footpath leading from the Playing field to Broad Street was scheduled for 19th January.

Planning: Babergh District Council confirmed that Listed Building Consent had been granted at 26-30 Stone Street.

The Parish Council had no objection to the application for Listed Building Consent for internal alterations at The Old Forge, Church Street.

Meeting on 28th January (postponed 1 week due to the snow)

Finance: Following discussion the Precept for 2013/14 was agreed at £34,200 which represents an increase of just below 2% compared to last year.

Public Forum: Ward Baker, Chairman of Boxford Community Council, attended to ask for financial assistance towards a new storage container costing around £1500. (**A contribution of £1000 has since been agreed largely from glass recycling money from the bottle bank in the White Hart car park – so please keep recycling bottles as it helps towards good village causes).

Police Report: PCSO Siobhan Hemmett was unable to attend, however, had provided a report. Between 16th December and 16th January, there were 5 crimes recorded in the Parish compared to 2 crimes for the same period last year. These included burglaries from outbuildings in Daking Avenue and Siam Hall Lane, damage to a vehicle in Swan Street and a theft from a vehicle in Butchers Lane. Finally there was a theft in Boxford Lane. There has been an increase in burglaries in and around the Babergh West area this year and the Police have increased patrols and crime reduction advice surgeries. Thefts of catalytic converters are also on the increase.

Suffolk County Council Report: County Cllr Finch attended and reported on budget proposals to freeze the County Council share of Council tax. A new oyster type travel card for young people attending college, training or work is soon to be available. Cllr Finch has been pressing the Highways team to complete outstanding projects in Boxford.

Street Lighting Project: Richard Webster, Electrical Services Manager at Suffolk County Council, attended to answer questions. County Cllr James Finch urged decisive action to avoid increasing costs in the future. The Parish owned street lights have a large proportion of high energy lamps which are no longer manufactured, so a program of replacement will be necessary before stocks run down. The Clerk had re-visited her feasibility study and it was noted that the financials support pursuing a grant to assist with upgrades. It was agreed for the Clerk to work with Richard Webster to gain the technical information to support the application. Members commented on the design of the LED lantern which can be seen in Ash Street and on The Causeway. Locally the LED lights can also be seen in Assington. The LED lamps are a low energy, low maintenance option. It was noted that The Swan Street lights are owned by the County Council and there are no plans to upgrade these presently.

Correspondence: It was noted that the Playing Field Committee had matters in

hand regarding the vandalised dog signs. It was agreed to seek cooperation from the owner of Cygnet House in Swan Street to cut back the hedge encroaching the footpath.

Debbie Hattrell, Clerk to Boxford Parish Council

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Readers Letters

Sir

I believe everyone owes Michael Norman, Charlie Smith, Mort Hudgell, Derek Norman, David Elliot, Roger Loose, Colin Martin, Malcolm Grimwood, Chris A and Kevin Verlander a big thank you for giving up there own time to resurface 'the croft' on a very cold morning. It was community spirit at its best and a real combined effort from everyone involved. It must be noted that none of this would of been possible without Eileen Norman as she was the heart of the whole operation as our tea girl.

Philip Mann
Boxford

Sir

I would like to thank the volunteers that turned out on the coldest day of the year to resurface the Croft footpath. Charlie Chris and Steve supplied machines and materials and the labour was done by locals, Colin, Malcolm, Mort, Phil, David, Roger, and Derek from Kersey. Tea was supplied by Eileen at the bowls club midmorning. On behalf of us all we hope it will be enjoyed by all for years to come.

Michael Norman
Boxford



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Box River Benefice, Parish Councillors

Boxford Parish Council

Roger Balls (Chairman)	19 Daking Avenue	210136
Stephen Egglestone	5 Holbrook Barn Road	211369
Cecil Hughes	Kiln Place, Cox Hill	210685
Julian Fincham-Jaques	42 Homefield	210376
Richard Gates	2 Brick Kiln Hill	210432
Sue Green.	34, Swan Street.	210603
Suzanne Impett	Amberley, The Causeway	210035
Michael Norman (Vice Chair)	13 Gunary Close	210229
Darren Rule	4 Brick Kiln Hill	210731
Debbie Hattrell (Parish Clerk)		210943
Bryn Hurren (BABERGH District Councillor.)		210854
James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor.)		01206 263649

Groton Parish Council

Carey Fraulo	Groton Manor Farm,	210391
<i>Chairman</i>	Castlings Heath	
Jeremy Osborne	Waterside Barn	211960
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Groton Place, Groton CO10 5EE	
Sandra Gray	2 Stone Street Road	211465
<i>Parish Clerk</i>	Boxford CO10 5NP	
David Elliott	9 Gunary Close	210802
	Boxford CO10 5QB	
Mark Mayhew	8 Castlings Heat, Groton	211818
Adam Dixon-Smith		210007
	Castlings Hall, Castlings Heath, Groton	
Colin Blackmore		211134
	The Old Rectory, Groton Street.	
Gerald Smith	7 Castlings Heath	210958

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

Brian Tora	Enniskillen Lodge	247783
(Chairman)	The Street, Little Waldingfield CO10 0SU	
Roger Williams	Kirkwall, Church Road	
	Little Waldingfield CO10 0SX	247053
Rick Ridgeon	1 Grove Avenue	249418
	Little Waldingfield CO10 0SX	
Mike Ewen	Cobweb Cottage, High St Farm	211466
	Little Waldingfield CO10 0SS	
Coleen Hamblett	2 Haymarket	07530686429
	Little Waldingfield CO10 0SY	
Vic Flute	14 Grove Avenue	
	Little Waldingfield, CO10 0SX	247554
Dominic Kiddy	16 Grove Avenue,	
	Little Waldingfield CO10 0SX	247077

Edwardstone Parish Council

No confirmation of make up of new council yet

Charlie Boggis (Chairman)	1 School Corner	211325
Sharon Norman	Dormers, Sherbourne Street	
(Vice Chairman)		210386
Sandra Grey Parish Clerk		211465
Paul Clarke	Hazel Cottage	210689
Shirley Flack	Mill Cottage, Mill Green	210050
Garry Peacock	Cock & Spring Cottage	211203
Jim Robinson	Logan Cottage, Groton Street	211678

Newton Green

Roy Gardner	Vice Chairman	312346
Alan Vince		373963
Rita Schwenk		210838
Lee Parker		376073
Paul Presland	Chairman	379204
Philip Taylor		211265
Deborah Williams		378437
Clerk David Crimmin		375085
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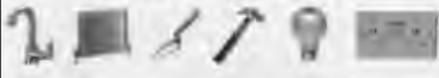
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NEWTON GOLFERS RAISE THEIR GAME FOR CHILDREN

Cheques totaling more than £2,000 have been presented by golfers to East Anglia Children's Hospices (EACH). The ladies' section and seniors who play with the Old and Bold section at Newton Green Golf Club have each spent the last year raising money for the hospices.

A sum of £1,182 was raised by the ladies and £825 by the seniors, with the cheques received at the club by hospice representative Nikki Brown. The donations brought the sum raised by the club for charity over the last 12 months to more than £4,000.



Above: (left to right): Lady captain Di Cunningham, Nikki Brown (EACH) and recently retired Old and Bold captain Ken Rodwell.

NEWTON SENIORS SUPPORT ARTHRITIS CARE



Above: left to right: Muriel Shapley, Pam Hullet and Mick Barlow. The seniors' section of Newton Green Golf Club handed over a cheque for charity in the sum of £750 at its annual meeting.

Present to receive the money from retiring captain Mick Barlow were Sudbury branch Arthritis Care secretary Muriel Shapley and treasurer Pam Hullet.

The meeting heard the seniors section had continued to grow, with about half the members registered for the weekly Brian Eady Seniors Stableford series. As a token of thanks, long-term organiser of the competition, Albert Walls, was presented with an inscribed glass tankard in view of his likely forthcoming departure from the area.

Incoming captain Bill Havers announced the charity being supported during his year would be East Anglia Children's Hospices.

Suffolk Poachers and Smugglers

A Talk by William Tyler

Little Waldingfield History Society was most pleased to welcome William Tyler to the Parish Room on February 13th, where he regaled us with many of the stories on smugglers and poachers he has collected over many years study.

William began by noting that modern day smuggling (of people and/or drugs) and poaching (of endangered animals) was nasty, and that his talk would concern times past; from his many anecdotes we learned that:

- Poachers were originally driven by necessity to feed their families, with possibly many inheriting their craft, or tricks of the trade, from generations of forebears who purloined the products of the countryside as of their right;

- Village communities generally supported poachers, which activity William believed derived from and was encouraged by an ethnic split dating back to 1066;
- Poaching was however a criminal offence, and poachers had to watch their step - most or all of the village poachers were almost certainly known to the local community;
- From Victorian times to probably the 1950's, the village "bobby", who was often an ex-serviceman, realised the need for his fellows to live and for their families to eat. He knew every poacher in the village whilst they knew he went to one of the village pubs for a pint after closing time when he needed one - there was therefore a tolerance for the poacher as long as he didn't "push his luck"!
- Just about everyone in the community was involved in smuggling, including the clergy, if not in the act itself, then by the storage, distribution or purchase of smuggled goods;
- Locally, the counties of Suffolk, Essex, Kent & Sussex were particularly favoured by smugglers, with their long coastlines and proximity to (Norman) France;
- Favourite commodities included tea (with perhaps more being smuggled than bought legally), brandy and tobacco, as popularised in Kipling's famous smugglers song:

If you wake at Midnight, and hear a horse's feet,
Don't go drawing back the blind, or looking in the street,
Them that asks no questions isn't told a lie.

Watch the wall, my darling, while the Gentlemen go by!

Five and twenty ponies
Trotting through the dark -
Brandy for the Parson.

'Baccy for the Clerk;

Laces for a lady, letters for a spy,

And watch the wall, my darling, while the Gentlemen go by!

Them that asks no questions isn't told a lie -

Watch the wall, my darling, while the Gentlemen go by!

Everyone had a fantastic evening hearing some of the more humorous ways of poachers and smugglers, and we now look forward to our next talk on March 13th - A pictorial history of the USAAF 486th Bomb group based at Sudbury, by Malcolm Osborn. *Andy Sheppard*



Winter in Wash Lane
Photo EK