

# Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



December 2016  
Vol 16 No12



## BOXFORD FIREWORKS 2016

Once again there was a magnificent turnout of around 1300 people to watch Boxford's Firework display. Fantastic lanterns were paraded up to the Playing Field where Boxted Methodist Silver Band entertained us until it was time for the Fireworks. There was a terrific village atmosphere, and thanks must go to all the volunteers who gave up their time and helped to make the event go so smoothly. Also, thanks must go to local businesses who donated time and equipment to make the evening a success. Overall, a healthy profit was made which will be ploughed back in to village organisations and clubs to improve opportunities for all villagers in Boxford, Edwardstone and Groton.

*Ward Baker* Chairman, Boxford Community Council



Photo's David Lamming

## Box River News

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Final date for reserved copy for the January 2017 Issue is: **December 12th at noon**

*Delivered Free* to every home in Boxford, Groton, Edwardstone, Newton, Little Waldingfield, White Street Green Milden and Kersey and is available to residents in Assington, Leavenheath, Gt Waldingfield, Polstead, Stoke by Nayland, Nayland, and parents of children at Boxford School.

## BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY AGM

Tuesday November 1st saw the AGM of the Boxford Gardening Society, held in Boxford Village Hall. With over 100 members the event was very well attended and the committee cooked a delicious dinner of chicken paprika for the members, whilst the members brought along a staggering selection of puddings for us all to enjoy.

Prizes were awarded for the best 'garden on a plate' and the best wreath, the pictures shows Maggie Thorpe trying to hide behind her prize winning wreath. Maggie also organised a very fiendish crossword, which had many stumped!

The next meeting is on Tuesday January 3rd at 7.30pm and will be the ever popular 'Gardeners Question Time' with experts to answering your gardening problems. Questions should be submitted in advance to [maggiethorpe37@gmail.com](mailto:maggiethorpe37@gmail.com)- we look forward to seeing you then!



## A PASSION TO INSPIRE; A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Golf & Spa played host to a unique 11-course taster dinner on October 25th, bringing together many of the region's top chefs and young, talented catering students – all working as a highly skilled team to raise funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust charity.

The spacious kitchens at the Hotel were taken over by numerous renowned chefs – including one with a Michelin star. Executive Group Head Chef, Alan Paton, who runs the 2 AA Rosette-awarded Lakes Restaurant at the hotel, was delighted to open his doors to his talented colleagues so they could all showcase their skills and produce a sumptuous dinner for over 130 delighted guests. Passionate catering students and professionals alike created an extraordinary range of dishes, from slow cooked hen's eggs with pumpkin risotto and truffle to poached cod with mussels in curry sauce, to blue cheese and white chocolate bread. The dinner was held in the Hotel's elegant Devora Suite and each dish was announced and described by the chef who created it, who also introduced their young team of assistant chefs. The venue, food and wines were all donated by sponsors, so all proceeds went to the charity. The evening included raffle prizes, auctions, bonhomie and, of course, amazing food.

"What an incredible evening, bringing together the best of today along with the talent of tomorrow all in the name of charity. By the end of the 11th, and final, course the evening had raised over £10,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust, rounding off a truly inspiring evening for all involved.



Sarah Gillespie was born in London to an American mother and British father. She grew up in Norfolk, England – interspersed with numerous trips to Minnesota, where she soaked in the sounds of Bessie Smith, Bob Dylan, Cole Porter and early blues and jazz. From the age of 4, Sarah composed songs on piano, and then at 15 began playing guitar. At 18, she moved to the USA, busking in the streets and playing gigs.

**Friday 16 December 8.00 £20**

### **Sarah Jane Morris**

River deep, mountain high, a truly magnificent voice with a special FleeceJazz Christmas concert! Don't miss "the breathtaking range and timbral richness of Sarah Jane Morris's voice." JAZZWISE "Sarah Jane Morris could not sing insincere note if she tried." - Jazz Wise. Sarah Jane Morris Vocals, Tony Remy – guitar, Henry Thomas – bass, Tim Cransfield – guitar. Sarah Jane Morris is a singer at home in a wide range of genres including pop (she worked extensively with the Communards), rock and R&B as well as Jazz . She has a throaty, extraordinarily deep voice. With her flamboyant, idiosyncratic style, she is a singer of awesome eloquence.

**Friday 23 December 8.00 £20**

### **The Alan Barnes Octet**

PRESENTS: A Jazz Christmas Carol \* A treat for anyone who loves music, literature or Christmas! Alan Barnes REEDS and READS (geddit?), Bruce Adams trumpet, Mark Nightingale trombone, Robert Fowler sax and clarinet, Karen Sharpe sax and clarinet, David Newton piano, Simon Thorpe bass, Clark Tracey drums. Reeds maestro Alan Barnes presents an all-star octet to perform his suite based on Charles Dickens' famous seasonal tale. This is guaranteed to be a very entertaining evening

## FleeceJazz

at Stoke by Nayland Hotel

**Friday 2 December 8.00 £18**

### **Jazz At The Movies**

Fronted by acclaimed singer Joanna Eden and featuring the Chris Ingham Quartet, Jazz at the Movies features evocative songs and soundtrack themes from classic films including The Aristocats, The Servant, From Russia With Love, Agatha, Let's Make Love, The Pink Panther, The Ipcress File and many more. Vocalist Joanna Eden ("UK's answer to Norah Jones and Diana Krall" - TIME OUT) studied piano from age 4 and wrote and performed her first song at age seven. She has performed all over the world and supported such artists as Jamie Cullum, the Buena Vista Social Club and the Blockheads.

Mark Crooks on clarinet has incredible phrasing and subtle dynamics. He is a Getzian powerhouse on sax.

Chris Ingham has built a huge reputation as pianist, composer, band leader and record producer.

Arni Somogyi has performed and recorded with a wide variety of leading musicians from pop legend Tom Jones to renowned jazz artists including John Dankworth and Stan Tracey.

George Double is an in-demand session drummer, and has worked with a wide variety of musicians from all walks of music.

**Friday 9 December 8.00 £15**

### **Sarah Gillespie Quartet**

"From Dylan's lyrical bite and languid delivery to the forthrightness of Joni Mitchell with a little rap like percussiveness thrown in: she is an original" - John Fordham  
Sarah Gillespie vocals and guitar, Kit Downes piano, James Maddren drums, Ben Bastin Bass

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

## THIS MONTHS LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear friends,

Thank you....!

With Christmas approaching, no doubt many children are already eagerly anticipating the Christmas presents that they hope to find under the tree or in their stocking. But I wonder whether they look forward with quite the same anticipation to the thank-you letters that they may have to write (nudged by their parents) afterwards...?

Thanking people for what they do is one of the seemingly smallest and yet most important things that we can do in life. It is how we take the time and make the effort to acknowledge and show our appreciation for all that people do and all that they give of themselves. It is high on my priority list and something I always try my best to remember to do. In fact it is almost always the very first item on the "Rector's Report" that I make to each of my five church council (PCC) meetings.

Often it is the very smallest kindnesses and thoughtful acts which can turn the day around and which evoke our gratitude. The touch of a hand, the sending of a card, the making a phone call or sending of a text, to share someone's sorrow, worry or joy; the making of a meal for someone who is facing difficult circumstances, lonely or struggling to cope; babysitting for an hour or two to let a young couple have much needed time going out together; the lighting of a candle and offering up of a short prayer, when more help is needed in a situation than we feel able to give. The Bible encourages us to "give thanks to God in everything" but I wonder if we do, or even, whether, honestly and realistically, we can? When things are going really well, it is easy to enjoy the ride forgetting how much we have to be thankful for. And when life is not going well, it can be hard to find reasons to be thankful.

Looking back over the last year, I would like to say a huge thank you to all who have supported the five churches of the benefice in any way. Regardless of whether or not you are a church officer, PCC member, whether or not you come to church regularly, occasionally or not at all, I am grateful for all the financial, moral and practical support that so many of you in the community have given to the churches – and to me – in different ways. Above all, I would like to express my gratitude to my hardworking and long-suffering husband, Rufus.

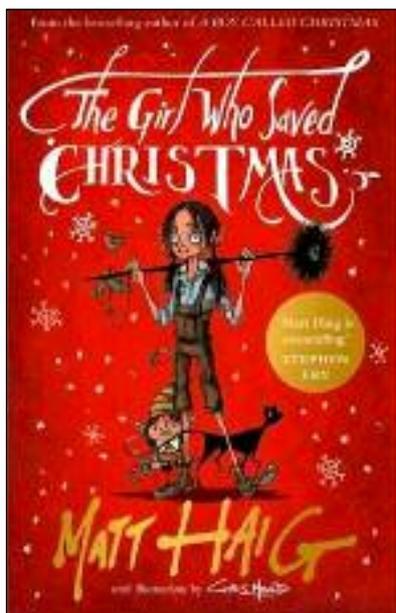
In some areas, church life is flourishing. Our informal Café Church at Boxford Church has a very happy atmosphere and good involvement from the all different strands of the community. Many new people have joined us this year too on our various rotas. Edwardstone now has a loo in its car park – praise be ! But elsewhere in the benefice, a tiny group of people are facing almost impossible odds keeping the life of the church going, as can be seen in Newton, where, for the time being, and until more help is forthcoming, they are reluctantly having to reduce their services next year from two a month to one. Nevertheless, we hold onto the promise that, "Where two or three are gathered together, God is the midst." And God's presence - with each and every one of us - few or many, enjoying the ride or finding the way hard-going - given to us by his Spirit and in the gift of his Son, whose birth we will soon celebrate – really is something to be thankful for.

Blessings, Revd. Judith



## THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ

### The Girl Who Saved Christmas by Matt Haig



Well, with a name like Amelia Wishart what else are you going to do but save Christmas?

We know, thanks to Matt Haig's *A Boy Called Christmas* – published this time last year as the first book in what now looks like becoming a continuing series – how Santa Claus came to be. The sequel, *The Girl Who Saved Christmas*, tells us how Christmas itself began. A brief prologue explains how Amelia, by believing in miracles even though she has never seen one, provided enough magic for Father Christmas's inaugural sleigh-ride and present delivery. The hope spread and powered him around the rest of the world, and Christmas was born.

The main action begins a year later. Amelia – who is a chimney sweep, because we are in lightly Victorian times – is running out of hope. Her mother is ill and all a daughter's wishing does not avert her death nor Amelia's capture by Mr Creeper, owner of the very worst of all the local workhouses, and her incarceration therein.

Meanwhile, Elfhelm – the home of Santa, his helpers and his reindeer – is under attack by trolls who seem (and astute adult readers may be on the verge of spotting a metaphor here) inexplicably and disproportionately angry about something; they smash the village and Santa's sleigh to bits. Christmas, as Alan Rickman's Sheriff of Nottingham once villainously promised, is cancelled.

One year on, Elfhelm and the sleigh have largely been repaired, but Amelia is in a bad way. Abandonment by Santa plus a year of workhouse gruel and punishment have left her spirits lower than ever. Father Christmas takes one look at his new sleigh's magic gauge and knows something must be wrong so sets out to find her. What follows is the traditional search 'n' rescue adventure, which involves a crash landing in Queen Victoria's bedroom (she wants India as a Christmas present but settles for a teapot), vengeance on Creeper and a triumphant return to Elfhelm in time to conclude the troll strand of the narrative, all done with charm, energy and enough wit to keep even the adults who will be reading this aloud as a festive bedtime story alert. The Truth Pixie in particular is the gift that keeps on giving. "I would offer you some cinnamon cake," she says at one point, "but I want it all for myself." Maybe she will share it with the Lie Pixie, of whom she is becoming increasingly enamoured – "He gives the best compliments."

*The Girl Who Saved Christmas* is a lovely, warm, enveloping seasonal read aimed at eight-year-olds upwards, which doesn't stray into tweeness or sentimentality and has enough moments – such as Amelia's mother's death, and the little meditation on grief that Amelia and Father Christmas share on their sleigh-ride back to Elfhelm – to give weight to the whole and stop it becoming a mere shiny bauble to be packed away until next Christmas. Adults who are aware of Haig's battles with depression, the subject of his bestselling book *Reasons to Stay Alive*, will have a deeper appreciation of the book's message about the necessity of hope and the way it feeds magic and magic feeds it, but children will understand it well enough and God knows it's one that bears repeating in as many forms as we can manage this year.

Amelia's tale doesn't have quite the elemental appeal of *A Boy Called Christmas* – a Santa Claus origin story is a tough one to beat – or as solid a structure. The two narrative strands, Amelia's and the trolls', are not so much interwoven as bolted together, and the whole thing feels slightly bloated compared to the first book. But it is a worthy successor nevertheless, and certainly one to make any recipient's Christmas a whole lot merrier.





# Skincare Stocking fillers



Mum ✓ Sister ✓ Best friend ✓ Husband ✓

Buy family and friends stocking fillers they will love this year with our mini Dermalogica skincare kits.

We have been having such fun this week choosing some of our favourite products from cult skincare brand Dermalogica to make up these fabulous stocking filler skincare kits.

Containing a selection of cleanser, moisturiser, toner and masque, the products all come in a handy travel size. We have a special shave kit for the men in your life too. The contents of the kits have been specially chosen to complement each other and will suit all skin types.

**Our fabulous kits are on sale now for the amazing Christmas offer price of just £10.**

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## FEEDBACK FROM BRYN HURREN

Your Babergh District Councillor

Firstly the news that Babergh/midsuffolk have appointed a new chief executive to replace Charlie Adan. His name is Arthur Chavinio and he will be in post in the new year, I wish him all good luck and look forward to meeting him once he is in post. One of the first things he will have to put his mind to is the fall out following the council's decision to move H.Q. to Endeavour House in Ipswich which is proving unpopular to staff and public alike. Moving nearer to home the Mobile Phone Mast on the By-pass has received planning permission and hopefully will be erected in the late spring of next year, I have asked if it could be a little quicker but we will see and the time as always will soon pass. My thanks to all who helped with the petition including James Cartlidge and for getting this scheme off the ground and running. It is wonderful to see all the shops and business's trading so well and I hope we can all support them as much as we can, it may cost a little more to shop locally but well worth it to keep the village vibrant. The new management at the Post office/stores have made good changes which are certainly worth a look and a great improvement. We should soon have the Local Shop's signs on the By-pass and then all we will need is a car park ( thinking caps on for that one ) The last of the houses at Station Field was allocated last week and the new residents have as far as I know all moved in, there was an unexpected hitch with the shared ownership houses which has now been sorted out after many frantic phone calls. Thanks for the feedback from those who have contacted me and I hope these village homes bring you all much happiness and security. If there are any issues that anyone needs help with on district council matters please contact me. All Best Wishes Bryn.

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## NEW MOBILE MAST

For a long time, Boxford has been one of the worst mobile telephone signal not-spots in South Suffolk. As such, I am delighted to announce that planning permission has now been granted for a new mobile telephone mast. This mast, located on the A1071, will bring dramatic improvements to the communicative capacity in the village and will be a huge asset to both residents and local businesses.

In March of this year I launched my Better Mobile Signal for South Suffolk campaign in Boxford and was very pleased when nearly 1000 members of the community signed a petition to Government on this subject. Following the launch I met with Telefonica to discuss the problems that we are facing in the constituency and highlighted the case of Boxford as a community that has essentially no signal and the numerous issues that this can cause. As such, I am particularly pleased that they have submitted an application and that it has been approved.

As this mast is owned by Telefonica it will provide increased signal for those residents who are on O2 and Vodafone. In the fullness of time it may be that other providers come onto the mast but I am not aware of any such plans at this time. Though the planning permission has only just been granted, and no official timeline has yet been announced, I understand from the provider that the mast may be completed in the first half of next year.

I hope that the residents of Boxford will join me in welcoming this long-awaited news.

*James Cartlidge MP*

Member of Parliament for South Suffolk

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## SAD NEWS FROM SESAW

Here we are at the end of another year, approaching another festive season. Apologies for my unenthusiastic intro but like everyone at SESAW, my little heart is very heavy just now. It's difficult to be cheery as Mum's dear husband, Ron, passed away recently. The two of them started animal rescue decades ago, right here in their own home. My canine pals, Barney, Daisy and Tyler were Dad's constant companions and nearly as inconsolable as Mum but everyone has been very kind. SESAW is closed, except by prior appointment and the wonderful Volunteers are working hard to keep the Sanctuary running as smoothly as possible. We are grateful to all our supporters, both at this sad time and throughout the year. Without all these good people, SESAW could not exist. Despite our sorrow, our fundraising Christmas Fair will go ahead as animals in need continue to arrive. There will be something for everyone and you can say hello to me too. Try the Parcel Game, Tombola and Raffle then enjoy a snack at the Old School, Long Melford, 10-3pm on 20th November. Meanwhile, best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe Christmas from all at SESAW [www.sesaw.co.uk](http://www.sesaw.co.uk)

## FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

Your Suffolk County Councillor for the Stour Valley

➤ **Good news for Suffolk's Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Results 2016.** Provisional figures which have been published by the Department for Education show an increase in Suffolk children achieving a Good Level of Development and achievement in their Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) results. These include key areas of learning and development such as communication and language; physical development; and personal, social and emotional development.

Children are assessed by their teacher at the end of the Reception class in school. For most children their early learning will have included attending an early education place at a pre-school, day nursery or childminder before moving into school.

In Suffolk 70.2% of children achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) this year. This is slightly above the rest of England. The percentage of children eligible for free school meals achieving a GLD compared with those not eligible, has also improved this year. This means the gap between the groups has narrowed by 7% points.

It is particularly pleasing to note the improvement seen for children eligible for free school meals across the county. The results include a group of children who first received a free place at two years old rather than aged three, because their parents were eligible, for economic reasons. This national policy seems to be making a difference to the children whose families are less well off, because we can see they have achieved more compared to children with similar backgrounds who did not have a place at two in previous years.

To find out if a two year-old is eligible for free childcare, visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/guidance-for-parents-and-carers/free-early-learning-for-2-year-olds/>

All children, no matter their family circumstances, are entitled to free early education (childcare) from the term after their third birthday up until they start school full time. More information and details of how to apply can be found here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/guidance-for-parents-and-carers/>

➤ **Delivery of the new Greater Anglia rail franchise is key focus at this year's Suffolk Rail Conference.** Rail network infrastructure requirements needed to deliver the new Greater Anglia Rail Franchise were the key topics discussed at this year's rail conference held on Monday 24 October in Ipswich.

The phasing of rail infrastructure was one of the issues delegates explored with rail industry leaders and representatives from Government departments including Network Rail. Improving track capacity, signals and level crossings are just some of the areas required for improvement to support new rolling stock and additional train services, which have been confirmed as part of the new Greater Anglia rail franchise contract announced in August.

The conference was attended by speakers from Greater Anglia, Network Rail, and the Department for Transport. Representatives from the Transport Research Laboratory, Crossrail and The East West Rail Consortium also provided presentations on rail innovation and new opportunities for businesses that wish to use this opportunity to benefit from faster, more reliable services.

This annual conference is a key date in the diary each year in helping to lobby Government and rail organisations to deliver better East Anglian passenger and freight rail services. The new passenger franchise is the reward for this effort but there is still more to do for the Suffolk's residents and businesses to make it a reality in the next decade.

➤ **Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk - Thousands of children to receive free safety reflectors as part of new road safety campaign.** Suffolk County Council has worked in partnership with BBC Radio Suffolk to launch a new road safety campaign this autumn – 'Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk.' The campaign will see over 12,000 badge reflectors given to primary school aged children, which can be worn on their coats or backpacks to reflect the beam of vehicles in darker conditions to ensure that children are seen as they walk with friends and parents. The idea and concept for the campaign was developed earlier this year through discussions with BBC Radio Suffolk. A design competition took place as part of the events and activities at this year's Suffolk Show with the winning design selected from over 190 entries. A major part of undertaking this campaign was the determination to promote exercise, walking and physical activity amongst young people. It was understood that to achieve this, the children and their families needed to feel safe before stepping out during the darker months. So the reflector campaign was born! The campaign is part of Suffolk's Year of Walking, which celebrates walking in Suffolk, promotes walking events and encourages new walking opportunities.



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friday & saturday 12 - 11pm

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## A STORY IN THE MAKING

For those of you familiar with the tale of Robin Hood, or not. One of the characters is a minstrel chap by the name of Alan a Dale.

Now this years pantomime by Boxford Drama Group is 'Robin Hood' and not wishing to break with tradition the minstrel chappy will be involved, and that's where the story begins.

Being a period piece the minstrel needs to play something to accompany his verse.

Those with a musical gift, and I have to admit not to being one, are not that keen on their treasured possessions being mauled and mishandled by others. Certainly, not a bunch of amateur actors with scant regard for the niceties of caring for said instruments.

However, there are members of BDG who are the proud owners of Guitars, but no, that was not going to cut the mustard.

'It has to be a Lute.' Sayeth the director.

Have you ever tried to borrow a musical instrument let alone a lute?

Lutes are almost as plentiful as chocolate fire guards.

So it was, that back in February the editor of this fable, ordered a set of Plans for the making of a Renaissance Lute. It can't be that difficult and we always make our own props.

In due course the plans arrived and that's all they were. A set of plans with some numbers and info on what woods would be required.

Instructions as to 'How to Make a Lute' were not included.

Undeterred a few days' research on the internet furnished just a little more knowledge but it was going to be down to 'Suck it and see'.

A visit to a specialist supplier of woods for musical instruments, in July, was not a one hundred percent success.

The Indian Rosewood needed to make the bowl of the lute was still somewhere in India. Whether it was still part of a tree and by what date it might arrive in Blighty was also unknown. 'It should be September' stated the very helpful person behind the counter.

Not to worry there are plenty of things to be getting on with before September, I thought.

And there were, I made the mould for the bowl, the neck, the fret board, the bracers, the peg box and the bridge. But come the end of August there was still no news on the wood from India.

Given that the pantomime was scheduled to start on the 31st November, this news posed a significant problem.

I estimated that it would take two months to make the Lute and the person charged with the odious task of playing the minstrel needed at least two weeks to learn the first 1,728 Chords.

What to do? We do like a challenge.

Use a different hardwood was the solution, although what effect that will have on the acoustic qualities of the lute remains a mute question.

Anyway, we pressed on with the scrap Teak available in my workshop and bye and bye there was the bowl all finished and looking like a pear split down the middle.

After another week of fixing and fiddling there was a finished instrument. Now I am not an expert and I do not profess to being a Lautist but if it looks like a Lute and sounds like a Lute it is certainly not a Duck.

However, to find out what the end result is like and who the author is, you will need to come along to this years Panto at Boxford Village Hall.

*David Phillips*





# NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

## BOXFORD UNITED CHARITIES

Registered Charity Number: 207861

The Trustees of Boxford United Charities will meet on Monday 28th November 2016 and will consider applications for grant aid from residents living in the three parishes of Boxford, Groton and Edwardstone, for educational, medical and general charitable purposes. Applications from individuals or organisations (serving the above area) are invited and should be made in writing to Guy Godfray, Clerk to the Trustees, 17 Swan Street, Boxford, Sudbury CO10 5

### LITTLE WALDINGFIELD CHARITIES

Also known as John Wincoll – 209981

The charity was originally set up in 1869 to relieve "conditions of need, hardship or distress".

However, if you are over sixty-five, retired and have lived in Little Waldingfield for a year or more you may be eligible for the Christmas gift. Please apply by 30th November to the Clerk, Sue Mitchell on 247173

## GROTON UNITED CHARITIES

The Trustees of Groton United Charities will be meeting to review applications for grants in November, and will be pleased to receive requests from individuals living in Groton and from organisations in Boxford whose activities benefit the residents of Groton.

Requests for grants should be sent to the Clerk to the Trustees, Jeremy Osborne, at Waterside Barn, Groton Street, Groton CO10 5EE or by e-mail to jeremyosborne1@btinternet.com

## Breast screening mobile

The Breast screening mobile will be once again visiting Sudbury, at the King Fisher leisure Centre, October to December 2016. Please note this is an invitation service only, screening women aged 50-70 years. If you are over 70 years of age, you may self-refer for a mammogram once every 3 years: call us on 01284 713941. If you have a breast problem see your GP. Please let us know if you cannot make an appointment.

## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS - CAN YOU HELP !

Boxford Community Car Scheme provides transport to medical appointments for registered residents of the Hadleigh & Boxford Practice, for Hospitals, Dentists, Opticians etc., standard reimbursement for running costs of 45p per mile. Any assistance you could offer would be greatly appreciated. Details from Sue Green on 01787-210603.

## British Legion Poppy Wreath

With Pride & Honour Sheila Gooderham lay a Poppy Wreath at the War Memorial in Boxford on Remembrance Sunday. In Remembrance of The Women's Land Army. The 'WLA' was first established in WW1, but re-founded shortly before the "For all those ladies that helped feed our country

## Boxford Christmas card

The profit from this year's Christmas card will be donated to The Boxford Guides.

Over the years this group has helped shape the lives of many young girls from the village and surrounding areas to become valuable members of our community.

They are on sale in the Post Office now at £4.00 for a pack of 10 cards with envelopes and £1.10 from each pack sold will be donated to the group.

For the last two years we have used Charles Evans for the design and whilst he lives in Yorkshire he is a frequent visitor to this area where he runs residential painting classes, you may have seen him outside the White Hart with a group of 12 students at the end of September.

Thank you from 3PR



## Thank You from 3PR

We are amazed how the people of the three Villages and one Club have responded to our appeal for funds to buy an up to date advanced defibrillator which will allow us to treat very small children, plus a training defibrillator for all the group to use. Now, thanks to your generosity we can also replace our second teams ageing machine as well, this will be introduced once the team has been updated in its use

It has proved that we live in a wonder full caring community

Thankyou

Vic Rice. President 3.P.R.

## OFFICE EQUIPMENT SALE

Single pedestal and table desks

2 and 4 drawer filing cabinets

Various storage cupboards

Desk Chair

Various items of office equipment

telephone 01787 211182

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# Wot's On

## ROBIN HOOD

### BOXFORD'S CHRISTMAS PANTO!

Robin and his merry band, the delightful but penniless Maid Marion and her faithful Nurse, Nora, the evil Sherrif of Nottingham and even a surprising appearance from an unexpected historical character at the end, combine to make a memorable panto for Boxford. Full of songs and bad jokes, together with a bit of slapstick, Robin Hood will set the mood for Christmas this year!

Wed 30th Nov Family Night £8 adults £4 Children - Bar, raffle but no supper - starts 7pm

Thurs 1st Dec till Sat 3rd £15 with traditional Christmas Dinner served in the interval as well as Bar and Raffle

Tickets will be on sale Saturday Morning 29th October from 9am till 10am at Boxford Village Hall. Then from Boxford Post Office or by calling David Phillips on 01787 211951.

## QUIZ AND CHIPS

Saturday, January 14th 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall

The Groton Church fund-raising team have another treat for you: a whole evening of "Quizzing" and a delicious meal brought in from the Chip Shop [you can choose what you have with your chips, for instance fish, chicken, sausage etc] Please bring your own wine, beer etc., soft drinks and glasses provided. This should be a good evening, so get your clever friends together, and buy your tickets, which will be available soon at only £10 each, from Pat Kennedy Scott[210319] or Jayne Foster [211360] All proceeds to St. Bartholomew's Church.

## A Boxford Benefit for Peter Hibben.

Veronica Hobbs is organising a big Valentines Disco Dance on Saturday, February 11th to benefit Peter Hibben (details below). Local businesses and organisations are generously supporting the event so she is able to pass on all profits to Peter to help him with his future care.

This is a 'Tickets in advance only' event, where a professional DJ will play music that will suit everyone from Dad Dancing to hits of the seventies up to the present day. There will be a Buffet Supper and a full bar and some interesting raffle prizes!

### VALENTINES DISCO DANCE

Saturday February 11th 7.30 pm till late at Boxford Village Hall.

Tickets £12.50 (IN ADVANCE ONLY) from: Veronica Hobbs 01787 211529, Sylvia Tait 01787 210053, Eileen Norman 01787 210229, David House 01787 210918

A Boxford Benefit for Peter Hibben!



# Valentine's Disco Dance

• DISCO  
• BUFFET SUPPER  
• LICENSED BAR

SPECIAL RAFFLE!

## Saturday February 11th

### 7.30 till late

Boxford Village Hall

Tickets £12.50 (IN ADVANCE ONLY)  
Veronica Hobbs 01787 211529  
Sylvia Tait 01787 210053  
Eileen Norman 01787 210229  
David House 01787 210918

BOXFORD CHURCH GROUP PRESENTS



# Robin Hood

A VERY MERRY PANTO FOR CHRISTMAS!

## 30 Nov to 3 Dec

Tickets on sale 29th October Boxford Village Hall 9am to 10am  
Then in Boxford Post Office

Wednesday November 30th 'Family Night'  
Tickets £8 adults £4 children-starting at 7.00pm (No supper)

Thursday 1st to Saturday 3rd Tickets £15-starting at 7.30pm.  
2 course Christmas supper served during the interval

Licensed bar and raffle all evenings.

## FESTIVE FAYRE

FUNDRAISING FOR BOXFORD  
VILLAGE HALL

TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup>.  
DECEMBER – FROM 6.30 P.M.  
TO 9.00 P.M.

TOMBOLA/VARIOUS TABLES  
OF LOCAL PRODUCTS/PLUS  
MORE.

FOR MORE DETAILS AND FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO BOOK A TABLE, PLEASE  
CONTACT :- VERONICA HOBBS - 01787 211529

# Wot's On

## LWHS Programme of Events - 2016/2017

### 7th December

The Angel Roofs of East Anglia by Michael Rimmer.  
Michael will reveal the history and development of this fascinating subject. Outstanding photographs will reveal the visual quality of these works of art.

### 18th January

What did your grandfather do in the great war? by David Empson.  
LWHS member only event - A talk on medals & military research through the ages.

### 15th February

Chilton: A journey through time by David Burnett.  
Beginning in the late Bronze Age, incorporating discovery of Saxon treasure and riotous church behaviour, with memories of Chiltonians past and present.

### 15th March

Henry Adams Cupper by Geoffrey Robinson.  
A Suffolk Pioneer, a transatlantic journey into the unknown.

### 19th April

Connections between Suffolk and India by Ashley Cooper.  
Ashley is a brilliant speaker and this talk will be full of surprises.

### 17th May

The Life and Art of Thomas Gainsborough by Mark Bills.  
Mark is a director of Gainsborough's House, so who better to speak to us.

### 14th June

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

## CHELSWORTH CHRISTMAS FAIR

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CHELSWORTH

3 DECEMBER 2016 11am to 3pm

Kick-start your Christmas shopping at our Fair held in the beautiful 13th Century All Saints' Church. Around 30 stalls selling gifts and produce. Raffle, wonderful bric-a-brac and tombolas. Carols from members of the Hadleigh Community Choir. All proceeds to the Church.  
Entry £3, children free. Free parking.

All Saints' Church, The Street, Chelworth, IP7 7HU

Website: <http://www.chelworth.org.uk/village/index.html>

Sponsors: The Peacock Inn, Chelworth

## CHRISTMAS IN LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

*Christmas Carol Service*  
St. Lawrence Church  
Tuesday 20 December at 7pm

*Sing Carols round the Village*  
In aid of CRISIS  
Thursday 22 December  
6pm at The Swan

*Christmas Eve Communion Service*  
St. Lawrence Church  
Saturday 24 December at 9pm



**Boxford**  
**Carols 'round**  
**the tree**  
Mon. 19th Dec.  
8.00 p.m. Carols  
Mince Pies  
Roasted Chestnuts  
Mulled Wine  
'round the tree  
at The Hart  
Singing  
BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
www.boxford.me.uk  
THE BOXFORD  
THE HART

**FUN & GAMES NIGHT**  
Saturday 28th January 2017  
7.30pm for 7.50pm prompt start!  
**BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL**  
**£60 PER TEAM - MAX. 8 IN A TEAM**  
Contact Stephanie Atkins 01787 21044  
Mark Miller 01787 211596  
[mark.miller@talktalk.net](mailto:mark.miller@talktalk.net)  
BoxfordCommunityCouncil@gmail.com  
www.boxford.me.uk  
Registered Charity No. 204852

# Wot's On

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2ND 5.30 PM -- 8.00 PM

SATURDAY 3RD 11 AM -- 5 PM 4TH 11 AM -- 4 PM

Come and join us for a fabulous festive weekend of Christmas shopping with 40 fantastic stalls, food market, entertainment, Father Christmas in his grotto, children's fairground rides and funfair, strolling Disney entertainers, wine bar, hog roast, hot food, mulled wine....all in our lovely medieval village. For more information go to [www.lovelavenham.co.uk](http://www.lovelavenham.co.uk)

## Boxford WI

Our Speaker this month was Vernon Lever a local Artist. Vernon has been painting for around 10 years and takes his inspiration from the Suffolk landscape. He demonstrated his watercolour skills with a painting of Pin Mill. His advice is to keep the colours simple and to use a limited palette. This year Vernon's work appears in the Sudbury calendar. As well as doing his own art, Vernon is also Chairman of the Lavenham Arts Society, Chairman of the U3A Art Group and runs 6 art classes including passing his skills on to children. How does he find the time? We all enjoyed Vernon's talk and demonstration and it has inspired those artists amongst us to take up our paint brushes again! Thank you Vernon it was a pleasure to have you visit our WI.

### Future meetings

7 December	Christmas party	Village hall 2pm
8 December	Craft club	Mary's house 2pm
4 January	Food waste a talk by Richard Upton of Waitrose	Village hall 2pm
11 January	Craft club – sensory bands	Village hall 2pm
27 January	Festive lunch	Lavenham village hall
1 February	Tai Chi demonstration	Village hall 2pm
8 February	Craft club – Snail making	Mary's house 2pm
22 February	Book club	Mary's house 2pm

## Boxford Study Centre Literature Group

An 8 week course on Monday afternoons 3.30-5.30pm

Meeting in Grotton Village Hall, CO10 5EL

Starting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

Tutor: Hugh Black-Hawkins

## UNHAPPY FAMILIES

*"All happy families resemble one another but each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way."*

Tolstoy: "Anna Karenina"

We shall explore the different ways families are unhappy. This will involve examining the absence of families and the changing ideas of family over the last 400 years in the following texts:-

Monday January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	)	Shakespeare - Henry IV Parts 1 and 2
Monday January 30 <sup>th</sup>	)	
Monday February 6 <sup>th</sup>	)	Poems by Philip Larkin and Simon Armitage
Monday February 20 <sup>th</sup>	)	
Monday February 27 <sup>th</sup>	)	Jane Austen - Mansfield Park
Monday March 13 <sup>th</sup>	)	Lorna Sage - Bad Blood
Monday March 20 <sup>th</sup>	)	Alan Ayckbourn - Bedroom Farce
Monday March 27 <sup>th</sup>	)	Poems by Larkin, Armitage and others.

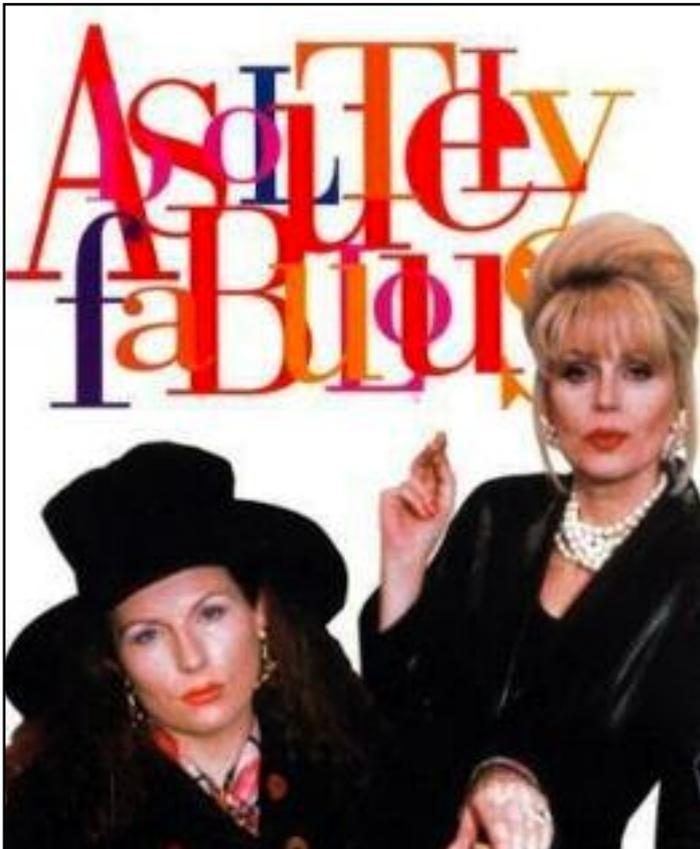
Course Fee: £70 for the complete course, payable on the first or second meeting. £8 for each single class.

Newcomers to these classes are very welcome.

Further information from:

Mrs Dawn Todds, Moor Farm Cottage, Edwardstone, Sudbury CO10 5PY.  
Telephone: 01787 210344

Please contact Mrs Todds if you are interested in attending.



Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 16th December

Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029

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

LEAVENHEATH CINEMA SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER

Tickets Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266)

£3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person

## BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY

### Gardeners Question Time

Rupert Eley of Place for Plants

Sarah Cook former Head Gardener at Sissinghurst and Iris specialist

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE TO MAGGIE THORPE

[maggiethorpe37@gmail.com](mailto:maggiethorpe37@gmail.com)

GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME

Tuesday 3rd January 7.30pm  
at Boxford Village Hall

# Wot's On

## NEWTON VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES

### DECEMBER 2016

Saturday 3rd	10.00 am	Church Xmas coffee morning
Tuesday 6th	2.00 pm	Fireside Club - Xmas decorations
Wednesday 7th	7.30 pm	Village Hall committee meeting
Wednesday 14th	7.30 pm	Parish Council meeting
Monday 19th	12-12.30 pm	Fireside Club - Xmas lunch at Cock & Bell

### JANUARY 2017

Tuesday 5th	2.00 pm	Fireside Club - tba
Saturday 8th	10.00 am	Newton Green Trust coffee morning
Wednesday 11th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 17th	2.00 pm	Fireside Club - tba

### REGULAR EVENTS

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

Monday evenings: (6.00 pm) Trayfit high intensity exercise class (call Tracy 07772 575325)

Monday and Thursday evenings: Western Partner Dance Club (call Chris 371006)

Tuesday evenings: JT Steppers Line Dance Club (call Jean on 377434)

Friday afternoons: Art and Craft club (call Anne on 312346)

Friday evenings: Sudbury and District Wargames Club (call Brian on 312160)

## Groton's Cheese and Wine Party

Saturday, December 3rd, 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall

Tickets will soon be available for this popular annual event; all the usual attractions, excellent food, Pat-and-Gerald Bar, Raffle, etc, all for the price of £8 each from Pat Kennedy Scott [210319] or Jayne Foster [211360]



## THE MILDEN SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Enjoy a festive Christmas  
concert with The Milden Singers



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec doors open 7.00pm  
Show time at 7.30pm. Includes buffet

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec doors open 1.30pm  
Show time 2pm includes afternoon tea

Both performances with licensed bar.  
Tickets £6 from Pearl 01449 741876 at &  
in aid of Milden Pavilion with charity raffle.



BOXFORD CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

Hosted by the Friends of Boxford School on

## FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

### 5.30- 8.30PM

**FREE ADMISSION  
ALL WELCOME**

Boxford CEVC Primary School  
Stone Street, Boxford  
CO10 5NP

Reg charity no. 1037332

## LAVENHAM CHRISTMAS FAIR

Friday 2nd December - 5.30 to 8.30 pm

Saturday 3rd - 11.am to 5.pm

Sunday 4th - 11.am to 4.pm



- \* Friday night switch on
  - \* Father Christmas Grotto
  - \* Hot Food & Mulled wine
  - \* Craft & Festive stalls
  - \* Childrens Rides
  - \* The Big Wheel
  - \* Fun for all the family
- FREE ENTRY**



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# CHELSWORTH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 3 December 11am to 3pm

- 🎄 Gifts, Produce and Brocante
- 🎄 Raffle for wonderful Hampers & Prizes
- 🎄 Tombola and Lucky Dip
- 🎄 Christmas Cards, Wreaths and Decorations
- 🎄 Luxury Christmas Cakes and Accessories
- 🎄 Jewellery, Candles and Crafts

All Saints' Church, Chelworth IP7 7HU

🎄 £3 Entry (Children Free) Parking Free 🎄  
All proceeds to maintaining our church

Christmas Carols from members of the  
Hadleigh Community Choir

Sponsored by The Peacock Inn, Chelworth

Brought to you by Friends of Boxford School  
and Boxford Community Council

# Boxford Santa Run

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December



Starting at 3pm from  
Stone Street Road

ROBS reg charity 1037532  
BCC reg charity 304662

St. Bartholomew's Church Group  
presents a



## QUIZ & CHIPS NIGHT

with Peter our Quizmaster  
Tables of Six

on  
Saturday  
14<sup>th</sup> January 2017

at 7.30p.m.  
Goston Village Hall

Chips and a choice of Fish, Sausage, Pie or Chicken  
Choices to be given when booking tickets please

BYO Drinks  
Glasses and Corkscrew available at Hall

Tickets £10.00  
Please ring Pat 201319 or Jayne 211360 to book



## CHRISTMAS FOOD APPEAL

Please help the Foodbank this Christmas,  
In the 3 weeks leading up to Christmas 2016, Colchester  
Foodbank are aiming to provide Festive Fayre parcels for local  
individuals and families in crisis and facing hardship over the  
festive season.

Can you help by donating an item or two from the list below?

- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Box of sweet or savoury biscuits
- Children's sweet selection box
- Small box of assorted sweets
- Small fancy cakes or Yule log
- Snacks, crisps or nibbles
- Chutney, pickles or savoury dips
- Coffee and Hot Chocolate
- Toiletries: shampoo, shower gel, deodorant

Collection boxes will be found until **NOVEMBER**  
**25<sup>th</sup>** in:

- Reception at Boxford Primary School
- The Boxford Village Shop.

Thank you!

COLCHESTER FOODBANK  
HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Registered charity number 1152187



# The Box River Parishes Church News

**Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton**

**Priest in Charge:** The Revd Judith Sweetman  
The Rectory, School Hill, Boxford CO10 5JT  
Tel: 01787 210091; e-mail: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com  
*The Revd Judith's day off is normally Friday but this may vary according to circumstances*

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

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

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

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

**Benefice house:** Mary's House, 5 Swan Street, Boxford CO10 5NZ.  
For much more information about the five parishes in our Benefice please go to our Church Near You web site at [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com).

Box River Benefice

## café church



An informal time of worship  
With fresh coffee and pastries!

Boxford Church  
Sunday 4th DECEMBER  
11.00 AM

Come and enjoy  
our comfortable new chairs!

## GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

### Diocesan Synod

The synod held its autumn meeting on 12th November in Ipswich. Bishop Martin began his presidential address by calling for prayer for all those suffering from the violence in Aleppo and Mosul (see further below). He introduced the new diocesan secretary, Anna Hughes, who will take up her role on 30th January 2017. Currently, Anna is CEO of the charity 'Suffolk Mind' and she is a former Finance Director of Ipswich Town FC. Synod broke into small groups to discuss implementation of the strategic priorities of the diocesan vision (watch this space for more news) and then heard encouraging presentations from the Revd Margaret Blackall on the Pettistree Friday Service and from the Revd Carl Melville on 'family@church'. Michael Wilde, DBF vice-chairman, presented the revised diocesan budget for 2017: with a net £324,000 reduction in costs and a realistic assessment of Parish Share collection, the aim now is for a £7,000 surplus at the end of 2017. If achieved, the diocese will be in a position to apply for up to £3m growth funding from the Church Commissioners. Charles Darley, the Interim Diocesan Secretary, informed synod of the many 'turn-around' changes made in the last 5 months, and thanked all concerned for their support. Finally, synod gave unanimous approval to a motion about Food Waste, proposed by the Revd Andrew Dotchin on behalf of Colneys Deanery Synod. It is hoped that this will now be debated as a diocesan motion at General Synod in February. (See the New Wine for the terms of the resolution: more on this next month.)

## THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

**Churchwarden:**

*Peter Dilnot*

**Assistant Churchwarden:**

*Michael Gray*

*Mobile: 07931 043926*

*Email: [boxford.warden@btinternet.com](mailto:boxford.warden@btinternet.com)*



**Cafe Church** will be on **Sunday December 4th at 11.00 am**. All are very welcome to this informal time of worship. We serve good coffee and pastries!

We will be holding our candle lit **Christingle Service** on **Sunday December 4th at 4.00 pm**



This service is where we raise funds for the **Children's Society** and enjoy a family candle lit service. The latest report from the Society on the impact of its work said that over 18,000 young people turned to The Children's Society for help over the past year. The Report, *The Difference We Made*, shows that the charity's services across the country worked directly with 18,193 young people during 2015/2016, while its campaigning work has contributed to over 5.6 million positive changes to children's lives, a 311% increase on the previous year. The report reveals how the charity is helping vulnerable children and young people, including those affected by child sexual exploitation, mental and emotional health, going missing, or substance misuse, and those in care or leaving care. The report assessed children and young people directly helped by The Children's Society over the past year and found that 73% had experienced a positive change in at least one key area of their life.

### Christmas Services

**Sunday December 18th** A Carol Service for the whole family at **6.30 pm** followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

**Saturday December 24th** Christmas Eve Midnight Communion at **11.30 pm**

**Sunday December 25th** Christmas Day A Family Service for Christmas Day at **10.00 am**



The **Boxford 2017 Calendar** is now on sale in the Post Office. It makes a great gift and souvenir. Priced at £7.00 a copy, all proceeds go to St. Mary's Church, or you can email Chris Kingsbury at [ChrisKingsC@aol.com](mailto:ChrisKingsC@aol.com) and we will reserve you a copy.



## THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

**Churchwarden:**  
**Vacant**

### Edwardstone Church Rocks!!

Edwardstone Church came alive on 15th October when ZHL Strings, buskers from Covent Garden, set the place alive with a mixture of classical and contemporary music. This amazing evening was all thanks to an inspirational flash from Jan Paul who saw them performing in Covent Garden and invited them to Suffolk.

Over 115 people enjoyed two separate recitals on the organ with a medley of classical and popular melodies from David Richardson. David set the scene for both the first half and second half and so thrilled us all that, by acclaim, he joined with ZHL Strings in a fantastic closing finale.

The lucky audience enjoyed canapes galore as plate after plate arrived which was washed down with beer and wine. An envelope draw for champagne and a well visited bar ensured a final total of £2,500 was raised for the Church.

An evening to remember for us all and certainly one to be repeated.

**Saturday 24th December.** Our **Carol Service** takes place on **Christmas Eve** as usual at **6.00 pm**. Do come and join us.

### Rota

**Sunday 18th December at 9.30 am Morning Worship**

**Sidesman/Coffee** David and Sheila Saddleton

**Flowers** No flowers in Advent – All for Christmas

**Cleaning** Diana Hawke



## THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

**Churchwardens:**  
**Vacant**

### Christmas carols

Groton's Carol Service this year is to be on Wednesday 21st December 2016 at 7.00 pm. Do join us for this traditional service of readings and carols when we look forward to the annual celebration the birth of Jesus Christ. As the bidding prayer puts it, "Be it our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in the manger."

### Quiz and Chips

**Saturday, January 14th 7.30pm** at Groton Village Hall

The Groton Church fund-raising team have another treat for you: a whole evening of "Quizzing" and a delicious meal brought in from the Chip Shop [you can choose what you have with your chips, for instance fish, chicken, sausage etc] Please bring your own wine, beer etc., soft drinks and glasses provided. This should be a good evening, so get your clever friends together, and buy your tickets, which will be available soon at only £10 each, from Pat Kennedy Scott[210319] or Jayne Foster [211360] All proceeds to St. Bartholomew's Church.



## THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

**Churchwardens**  
**Vacant**

### Rotas

### Flowers

No flowers in Advent

### Sidesmen

**14th** Mrs. Gardiner and Mr. Powell

**20th** Mrs. Ridgeon and Mr. Bowden

**24th** Mr. and Mrs. Simpson

(If you are going to be away and unable to help, please let Tricia know on 01787 247932.)

On 25th October Reverend Judith led the funeral service for Betty Rattee. Many friends from the village joined Betty's family and her

friends, some having travelled far to be with us. The occasion, although sad, was joyful too, as we listened to memories of her from her family and friends. After a long life of service may she rest in peace.

Our Five Villages service on All Saints Day, 30th October, was very well attended with many friends from Newton, Groton, Edwardstone and Boxford. It was so good to welcome them, especially those who had not visited us before. We all enjoyed being together for the service and the time spent afterwards with Reverend Judith. Refreshments were served and much appreciated.

Our **Christmas Carol Service** will be held on **Tuesday 20th December at 7:00 pm**. There will be mulled wine and mince pies.

Please join us to sing carols round the village on **Thursday 22nd December**. We meet at The Swan at **6.00 pm**. We shall be collecting for CRISIS.

The **Christmas Eve Communion Service** will be held on **Saturday 24th December at 9.00 pm**.

Thank you to all those who help us in the church services, who decorate the church and all those who so generously donate towards the Restoration Fund and the general upkeep of the building.

23rd October. Our Service of Morning Worship was conducted by Revd.



## THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

**Churchwarden:**  
Christine Cornell,

"Opus", Sudbury Road, Newton, Tel: 370331

David Stranack and we were pleased to welcome him to All Saints' for a return visit. Thank you to Nancy Roser for playing the organ for the service and also to our helpers for the refreshments.

**Sunday 11th December at 4.00 pm.** Our **Carol Service** will take place in the Nave of the Church and the Mill Wheel Singers are making a return visit. Please come and enjoy the words and music, which benefit from the amazing acoustics of the Nave. Mince pies and wine will be served in the Chancel. We will be delighted to welcome you to this festive occasion.

**Saturday 24th December at 3.00 pm.** Our **Crib Service** is an informal service for all ages, with children particularly welcome. This service will include carols and songs with children in mind and there will be a simple retelling of the Christmas story. During the service the children will be invited to gather round for the blessing of the Crib. Please come and join us as we host the first Service of Christmas Eve in the Benefice.

Thank you to all who came to join us for various services during 2016. A special thank you to Revd. Judith for all that she does for us in church and out in our community, and to our organist, Nancy Roser and our Churchwarden, Christine Cornell and all helpers. We appreciate 'the behind the scenes' work that our Church Pages Editor, Rufus, carries out for us. We wish you all peace at Christmas and during the coming year.

**Reduction in Newton Church Services** from January 2017.

Please note that, with much regret, Newton church council (PCC) has decided to go down from two Sunday services per month to one, on a trial basis, losing the 9.30 am service on the second Sunday of the month and retaining only the 11:00 am service on the fourth Sunday of the month. This is because the one or two people who always set up for services, organising refreshments and tidying up afterwards, are under increasing pressure, due to illness and caring responsibilities, such that they are unable to sustain two services a month. Please do consider whether or not you would be able to join the team on a regular basis, so that this very sad situation can be rectified in the future. Revd. Judith We wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

## BENEFICE NEWS

100 Years, 100 Treasures: A celebration of Suffolk Churches

David Lamming still has a small stock of this colourful book (price £5), produced to celebrate the centenary of our diocese in 2014 and featuring two of the churches in our benefice. It would make a good Christmas present or stocking filler, or why not buy one to keep in your car? Contact David at Tel: 01787 210360 or e mail djlammings@hotmail.com.

**Copy Date for Church News in the Christmas and New year Box River News:**

**Please, NO LATER THAN 10th December 2016**

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

Thank you. Rev'd Judith. 01787 210091

**email address: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com**

December 2016

A Service Rota for the Box River Benefice

SPECIAL SERVICES THIS MONTH

\*\*\* *Christingle, Carol Services, Crib Service* \*\*\*

\*\*\* *Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services* \*\*\*

**Village Daily Prayers** Each week, in the five churches: informal, friendly service, 30-40 minutes, with Revd Judith. We pray for those who are ill, concerns of the villages, and for the wider world. Do join us! Please let Revd Judith know of any people or situations for prayer: Confidential messages can be left on tel. 210091 or emailed: [rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com](mailto:rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com). **The winter months rota is:** Tuesday 9.00 Edwardstone, Wednesday 9.00 Groton, 16.00 Little Walsingham at Newman's Hall; Thursday 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford.

**\*\*Please note: there will be no village prayers between 19-24 Dec and 26-31 Dec\*\***

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>  
Lt Walsingham 15.00 Holy Communion Newman's Hall (Reserved Sacrament) Lay Team

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent</b>		<b>(P)</b>
Boxford	08.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith	
Lt Walsingham	09.30	Morning Worship	Revd Judith	
Boxford	11.00	<b>Café Church</b>	Revd Judith	
Boxford	16.00	<b>Christingle Service</b>	Revd Judith	

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>  
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd Judith

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent</b>		<b>(P)</b>
Boxford	11.00	Holy Communion	Revd Judith	
Newton	16.00	<b>Carol Service With the Millwheel Singers</b>	Revd Judith	

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Boxford 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd Judith

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 15.00 Compline Newman's Hall Lay Team

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of Advent</b>		<b>(P)</b>
Edwardstone	09.30	Holy Communion	Revd Judith	
Boxford	18.30	<b>Carol Service</b>	Revd Judith	

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
Little Walsingham 19.00 **Carol Service** Revd Judith

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>  
Groton 10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House Revd Judith  
19.00 **Carol Service** Revd Judith

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>		<b>(W)</b>
Newton	15.00	<b>Crib Service</b>	Revd Judith	
Edwardstone	18.00	<b>Carol Service</b>	Revd Judith	
Lt Walsingham	21.00	<b>Christmas Communion</b>	Revd Judith	
Boxford	23.30	<b>Midnight Communion</b>	Revd Judith	

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>		<b>(W)</b>
Groton	09.30	Family Communion	Revd Judith	
Boxford	10.30	Family Service	Revd Judith	

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>  
Boxford

**\*\*Please note that there is no Mary's House Communion today\*\***



This year, 15 crosses were 'planted', or laid, in addition to the parish council wreath - one for each of the 15 men from Groton who gave their lives in the two world wars (11 in the 1st; 4 in the 2nd.) People came forward to plant the crosses as the names were read out. They included the granddaughter of someone killed in the 1914-18 war, and the son and nephew of two brothers killed in the 2nd WW.

## Soap Box

Well, 2016 has certainly been full of surprises, if nothing else. First we had the unexpected decision of the British people to vote to leave the European Union. Now we have someone who was viewed as a rank outsider becoming the 45th President of the most powerful nation on Earth. Waking up to the news that Donald Trump had succeeded in defeating Hillary Clinton to take the Presidency set me thinking about the possible consequences.

Make no mistake, this was no mean achievement. At the very beginning he was viewed as unlikely to gain even the Republican nomination, but one by one he ousted his opposition. He has thus become the first ever to win this office without ever having held a position in government or serving in the armed forces in America. Hillary Clinton, in contrast, has been a senator, is a qualified lawyer, was First Lady for eight years and served as Secretary of State under President Obama. The American people seem to have delivered a strong message.

What should we take from this result? Perhaps the first thing is that opinion polls can no longer be trusted. Having got the outcome of both our referendum and the US Presidential election wrong, you have to wonder why the methodology is failing. Interestingly, on both occasions it seemed that it was older working class men that swung the balance in favour of the underdog. One Republican supporter opined that the opinion polls had got it wrong before the election had taken place on the basis that the typical Trump supporter was unlikely to participate in an opinion poll. He probably got it right.

The second, and more worrying, conclusion must be that political opinion is polarising in a way that seems to favour right wing extremist parties. While these surprise results could of themselves bring about some significant changes in terms of both social and economic development, if this trend continues in those elections due next year, we could have some very large shifts in the political landscape in Europe in particular. Such an outcome would make the Brexit decision seem largely irrelevant.

Amongst the possible casualties of both Britain leaving the European Union and Donald Trump becoming the US President could be globalisation itself. America can become a more insular economy if it so chooses. While the fall in the price of oil has put the development of shale oil and gas reserves on hold, the reality is that the US could relatively easily become energy self sufficient. A more isolationist America would

carry consequences for European security. Trump has already indicated that he believes Europe needs to bear more of the cost of NATO, which has worrying implications, given the aggressive stance taken by the Russian president in recent years.

So we end 2016 with a lot of imponderables created by the two unexpected poll results. 2017, which sees general elections in both France and Germany, could contain even more surprises. While I remain broadly optimistic (Trump is already softening his line on a number of his more extreme positions and arguably his election could make our negotiations easier), I am very conscious that life could be very different in a couple of year's time. There is an old Chinese curse that goes along the lines of "May you live in interesting times". That certainly applies to all of us right now.

*Brian Tora* is a local writer and broadcaster.

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# GARDENING IN DECEMBER HARRY BUCKLEDEE

Trees, although rather pricey these days, are a good investment for the future. With the right care and attention they will last a lifetime or longer. The planting of a tree requires careful planning in choosing a suitable site where it can grow undisturbed for many years. Before buying a tree, find out what size it is expected to grow to in about 20-30 years, then decide if your garden is large enough to accommodate such a specimen.

Many trees are planted too close to the house or too near the boundary fence and are grubbed out because they have out grown their allotted space. There is no need to remove such a tree, it can be made into a pollard. To pollard a tree means cutting the main branches back close to the crown so that a thick head of growth shoots out from the top of the trunk. This process should be repeated every two or three years. By reducing the size of the top growth, root growth is also reduced and therefore less likely to invade foundations etc.

There are many trees of a compact and slow growing nature suitable for small gardens. Amelanchier Lamarkii is an ideal tree where space is limited, has white flowers in spring on coppery foliage which turns red in Autumn. Any of the Birch family, with their silvery white bark and upright growth, take up little space. Prunus Amanogawa is an excellent tree for small gardens and restricted areas. It grows upright like a Lombardy poplar and is clothed in pale pink flowers in April - May. Do not buy container grown trees that are pot bound, these are usually slow to get moving when planted out. Although soil temperatures will be cooling now, there is still time to plant deciduous trees and shrubs. In fact they will be best in their permanent positions ready to make new growth when the soil temperature rises in March. The planting of evergreens is best delayed until end of March.

Many house plants are grown as Christmas presents and some of these require special attention. Azaleas need a bit of extra humidity and should be mist sprayed frequently with tepid water. Cyclamons should not be watered until they show signs of flagging when they should only be given enough water to wet the whole compost. Make sure that any surplus water is drained off.

Poinsettias should be kept away from droughts and fluctuating temperatures. These conditions and over watering are usually the cause of leaves dropping.

Mummified fruits which are still remaining on fruit trees and any that

have fallen, should be gathered up and burned. They are a source of Brown rot Disease which seriously affect the storage life of fruit.

Dead and diseased branches on trees and shrubs should be cut away as soon as possible. Make the cut well below the affected area and treat the wound with a fungicide such as Medo.

Sweet Peas that were sown in October will soon have made 5 or 6 leaves and should have the growing point pinched out. This will encourage young shoots to grow from the base of the plant. These shoots will give better results than the original growth which is always liable to die off prematurely.

Frost, rainfall and winds are increasingly common, sunshine hours are much reduced and it can be bitter with a risk of snow. You may not want to be working outside at this time of year, but luckily there's not a lot to do. Keep an eye on winter protection, and if you have a greenhouse, make sure the heater works. It's time to think about pruning apples and pears too.

## Top 10 jobs this month

- 1 Check your winter protection structures are still securely in place
- 2 Check that greenhouse heaters are working
- 3 Insulate outdoor taps and prevent ponds from freezing
- 4 Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls)
- 5 Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding
- 6 Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops
- 7 Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted
- 8 Take hardwood cuttings
- 9 Keep mice away from stored produce
- 10 Reduce watering of houseplants

Ensure all stand pipes and irrigation lines are drained to avoid damage from freezing. Put lagging around outdoor taps to enable use throughout the winter. Now is a good time to consider installing garden lighting, water pipes and drainage.

Add lights and power points to sheds and outhouses, so that you can garden on wet days and in the evenings.

In dry spells, you can treat timber structures with wood preservative and stain. Make sure you use appropriate products - creosote, for example, is no longer legal.

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**Future Events**  
AGM on 6th April 2017, 7.30 pm  
'Submarines' by Richard Channell  
Summer School - 15th July 2017  
Talk & visit to **Landguard Fort**,  
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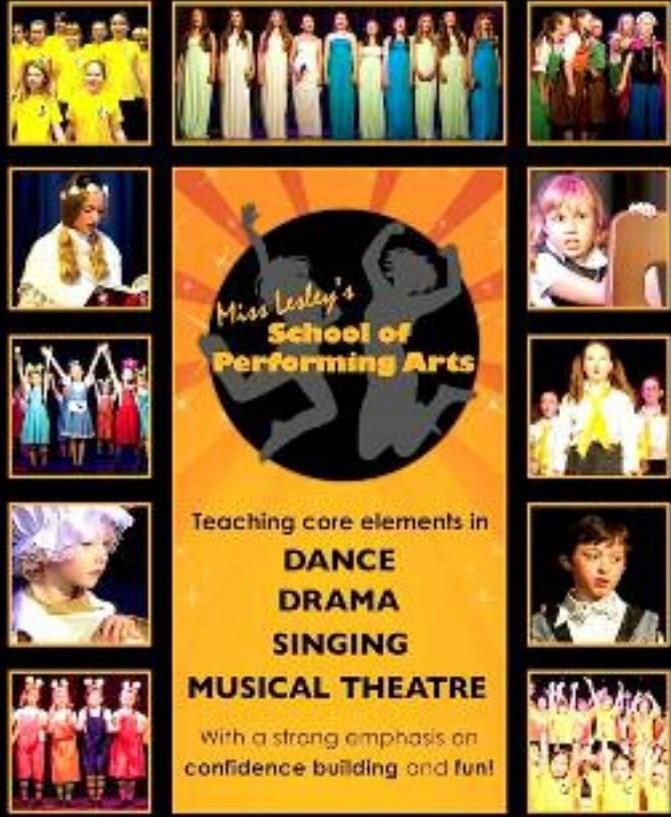
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# OVERPAID, OVER SEXED & OVER HERE A Talk by Ian McLachlan

LWHS was delighted to welcome Ian McLachlan, aviation archaeologist, 'Force Historian' and author to the Parish Room to tell us the extraordinary story of the US Army Air Force (USAAF) in East Anglia during the Second World War, and particularly their social and cultural impact.

Ian began by giving us some background information on this 'friendly invasion', which comprised the strategic long range bomber groups of the 'Mighty Eighth' and the tactical forces of the Ninth Air Force - more than 70 airfields in East Anglia alone - see map below:

- 450,000 to 500,000 US Airmen served in UK from 1942 to 1945, mostly based in East Anglia.
- More than 50,000 were killed or missing in action by 1945.
- Arrivals began in 1942, with about 30,000 in place by Christmas.
- The first operation was on July 4th, Independence day appropriately, with 6 crews.
- D-Day peaked at some 436,000 personnel.
- The 8th air force was the largest air striking force ever committed to battle, and could send 3,000 aircraft on a single mission with 20,000 airmen aloft - simply astonishing figures.

Ian then introduced the 1942 'Short Guide to Great Britain'. Issued by the US War Department; this is a little dated now, after 72 years, but still provides a frank, funny and useful introduction to foreigners on how to enjoy the UK; he gave us the following great extracts:

- You are Britain's guest, don't refer to the First World War by saying America came over & won it, and don't play into Hitler's hands by mentioning the war debts.
- Never criticize the King or Queen.
- Don't be a show off, and don't rub it in that you are better paid.
- Look, listen and learn before you start telling them how much better we do things.
- Two actions on your part will slow up friendship with the British Tommy - swiping his girl and not appreciating what his army has been up against.
- Don't say 'bloody' in mixed company and don't say 'bum' - we seem to have slipped somewhat.
- The British can't make good coffee; you can't make good tea. We can now whilst they still can't!
- If invited for a meal, go easy; it could be the family's rations for a whole week.
- People get used to the English climate, eventually.

In truth, US men bragged because they were scared and the British thought they were undisciplined and noisy. This was true of some but not all; they were simply homesick young men in a strange environment, aliens in sedate East Anglian villages, which was a massive culture shock both ways.

We were then told that German propaganda leaflets sought to increase the division within the sometimes uneasy British-US relationship. For example, some communities resented British girls associating with Americans, with their so called utility knickers 'one yank and they're down' etc.

**Here are some other interesting comparisons from the short guide:**

- US pay rates were three to four times their British equivalent.
- Toilet paper was rationed, 30 sheets per day for US airman, just 4 sheets per day for the British.
- 'US Intelligence' would identify beer delivery days to 'raid' pubs, drinking them dry - not good.
- Fish and chip shops could be 'eaten out' by hungry Yanks, also not good.
- The prices of bikes rose from £2 10s in 1943 to between £10 and £12 in 1944, because they were very popular with airman for getting around / going to the pub, often riding like wild men.
- Cigarettes and nylons became currency for airmen to barter with.

Having already endured three years of war, rationing and hardship, UK residents were used to going without many luxuries, particularly foodstuffs. The Americans brought some comfort, as they soon realised that simple gifts of food, tobacco and fruit were greatly appreciated by locals, particularly children, many of whom had never seen sweets, bananas, oranges or pineapples. Children quickly learnt that 'got any gum chum?' created goodwill, and Yanks responded by unselfishly providing them with treats, and Christmas parties at the airbases which they would never forget. Funds for War Orphans were set up by the Stars & Stripes committees, helping many British youngsters. Coca Cola was popular with the British whilst women liked the imported nylons; Yanks liked our fish and chips but not our warm beer, our meat pies (not enough meat) or Brussels Sprouts (which they detested). Schools were invited to visit USAAF bases, and were ferried to and from by the airmen. In return, the Windmill Girls came from London to East Anglia, to 'entertain the Americans'. Ian also told us of some of the things brought here by the Americans, to great popular acclaim:

- Music and dance - the Lindy hop and Jitterbug - dances which remain popular today.
- Many US bases boasted great jazz and swing bands which were very popular.
- Glenn Miller became a legend after going missing in an air crash in December 1944.
- Many Hollywood stars served with the forces, incl Clark Gable, on whose head Hitler placed a large bounty for capture alive, & Jimmy Stewart, who took a \$12K per month pay drop to join up.
- Airmen regularly visited UK schools to 'fly the flag'.
- Anglo-US hospitality committees formed, along with sponsored clubs promoting goodwill.
- US Red Cross Clubs were set up and administered by the American Red

Cross. These were in major towns and cities, with 15 clubs in central London alone. Rainbow Corner on Shaftesbury Av / Piccadilly Circus staffed 400, catered for 2,000, open 24/7, with 30,000 customers a day.

- At their peak, there were about 400 clubs around the UK, some 13,000 volunteer staff with 10,000 paid personnel - a huge effort.
- Aero Clubs on bases were staffed by American Red Cross (ARC) and British girls, the latter vetted and with good references.
- The ARC established Friendship Clubs, where the two nations could freely mix.
- Dances were regularly held in village halls and on GI camps & bases.

In addition to the work of the ARC, the British Young Woman's Christian Association created the Blue Triangle Service Corps, a pre-service group, to help prepare food for Anglo-American events.

Ian next told us of the less savoury side of Anglo-US relations in many large cities, but particularly London, by women of a professional nature who came to be called 'Piccadilly Commandos'. This was in view of the brazen nature of their 'assault on men in uniform'. Allegedly they could assess which army and what rank, in order to 'set their rate', even on the darkest of London night smogs, simply by placing their hands in certain places!

The problem began in August 1942, 9 months after Pearl Harbour, and during the early stages of the huge US military build-up culminating in D-Day. They were so numerous and persistent that the Foreign Office judged them a serious threat to Anglo-American relations. Many young airmen later admitted to being scared to death when approached by the commandos. Those from small town America often had only the faintest notion of city life, seedy or otherwise; so many of the girls in Piccadilly were comically shameless that young airmen often ran for their lives to protect their virginity - some aircraft were even named after the girls of Piccadilly Circus.

In terms of race relations, the UK was miles better than the US, who Ian advised segregated their airmen, both in terms of crews and also where they could go for rest and recreation; some towns hosted alternate Black and White nights, whilst some pubs and dance halls became Black or White.

Tuskegee Airmen is the popular name of a group of African-American fighter pilots who fought in the war, having been trained in Tuskegee Alabama. Officially the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group, they faced racial discrimination both in and out of service. This name also applied to navigators, mechanics, bombardiers, instructors, crew chiefs, nurses, cooks and other personnel supporting the pilots. Known as the 'Red Tails', 332 FG primarily flew P-51 Mustang fighters in Italy, claiming 112 enemy aircraft, one destroyer, plus countless trucks and trains. Sadly 150 Tuskegee airmen were killed in action.

Criminal activity inevitably occurred given the number of personnel involved. We were told that the UK Government passed the 1942 USA Visiting Forces Act, which provided that all criminal offences by members of the US Armed Forces 'shall be removed from the jurisdiction of the British courts'. US personnel were henceforth arrested by US MPs, investigated, tried and sentenced in the UK by US authorities (as we did in France). By the end of 1944, 768 US soldiers were imprisoned and there had been 18 executions: 16 hangings, 2 by firing squad; 9 for murder, 6 for rape & 3 for both crimes.

Ian told us there were between 60,000 and 70,000 GI brides, despite the US authorities actively discouraging such marriages; men were interviewed by their commanding officer and representative of their denomination, and had to obtain consent before undergoing a medical examination. Women needed written parental consent if under 21; they were also interviewed and medically examined.

After the war in Europe, suddenly the GI's and airmen were gone, back to America, leaving many women in an awful predicament, particularly if babies or young children were involved. Wives formed clubs to promote acquaintance with one another and to exchange information on American ways of living, including news about transportation to the US; this cost £40.00 first class and £29.00 second class - sums way beyond most means. There were demonstrations in October 1945 over the delays in joining husbands. In December 1945 the US Congress passed the War Bride's Act, granting special status regardless of immigration quotas. In January 1946 the first war bride ship, containing 452 brides with children and code named operation 'Diaper Run' set sail, with just one week's notice given. Ships departed from both Southampton and Liverpool, with the War Dept ultimately paying for some 60,000 one-way crossings.

We were then introduced to 'A war brides guide to the USA', published by 'Good Housekeeping' magazine in 1945. The book set out to make their journey a little less fraught and nerve wracking, by providing information on the American way of life, and on how to get on with American people, their sense of humour, manners and more. Wives were advised to not just sit down and die of home-sickness - ways of getting to know people were suggested - the YWCA, hobby groups etc.

Wives were also advised that their social position would be what they and their husband made it. 'There are different social levels - you will be placed in one, partly by your husband's job and where you live - no American can place you by your accent'. 'An unwritten rule is that sports spectators may go quite wild and use violent language, but don't be shocked, it's all in fun'.

Wives were also advised that 'Americans are no angels - there is prejudice in some areas against black Americans, against Jews, against Catholics, against Japanese, some against the British'.

Andy Sheppard

## THE NAMES ON OUR WAR MEMORIALS - DECEMBER 2016



This twelfth instalment of the series brings us to the end of 1916, and is the last one which will include remembrances of men from different years in the conflict. As I only started the series at the beginning of 2016, each instalment has had to include, where

necessary, mention of men who lost their lives in 1914 and 1915, as well as the current centennial year of 1916. Henceforward, all remembrances will be just for the actual centennial year.

In these twelve 'dispatches' we have met and bid farewell to forty of our villagers, who died in the first two years and five months of the war. The war was to continue for another twenty-three months and as we progress through the events of those months we will meet a further forty-two men who never came home, and two more who died after the armistice from wounds sustained in battle. In addition, there are still ten more men named on our memorials, who I have so far been unable to identify in any of the records available to me. Just as a reminder they are

### Boxford

- Harold Brett
- Charles L Munson
- Charles Smith
- Lionel H Smith

### Edwardstone

- Ernest Everitt
- Frederick Grainger
- Leslie Williams

### Newton

- Henry J Fuller
- George E Peggs
- Alfred Willis

Any help you can offer in identifying these men would be most gratefully received, as would any further information about the two men who are the subject of this month's instalment. Please do get in touch by contacting Revd. Judith, email or letter only please, and she will pass it on to me.

This December we encounter two very different men. Our first is **Captain James Fergus Mackain** of Little Waldingfield, 34th Sikh Pioneers, Indian Army. In an attempt to try and paint a picture of the circumstances in which James grew up, which were not in the least like those of most of the men I have introduced so far, I will give a brief resume of his father's life. James was born in 1885 in Bognor, Sussex. He was the eldest child of the Reverend William James Mackain, born in East Stonehouse, Devon in 1854 and Helen Clifford Mackain, nee Morecroft, born in West Derby, Lancashire, (a district just north of Liverpool) in 1849. James was the eldest of three children. At the time of James's birth, his father was at Chichester Theological College training for the priesthood, although earlier in his life, he had served in the Civil Service and the Army in South Africa. The family remained in Sussex until 1904, William being the Rector of Parham, West Sussex, about eight miles north of Worthing, but then they moved to Edinburgh and in 1908 to Harrogate. During this time William held no incumbencies, although he was a Licensed Preacher in the relevant Dioceses. This suggests that William was a man of independent means and his addresses whilst in Edinburgh according to Crockford's Clerical Directory, 28 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh and The Constitutional Club, London, supports this inference. Also, it is clear that his wife, Helen, came from a comfortably off family, her father being listed as an Attorney at Law in the Census records. William clearly took a deep interest in his own family history. He became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1906 and in 1907 he was acknowledged as the Chief of Ardnamurchan of the Clan Donald, and in 1913 he was recognised as the 20th Chief of Clan Iain of Ardnamurchan. Position and ancestry must have figured very large in his understanding of himself.

In 1910 William took up the incumbency of Little Waldingfield, hence James' connection with the village, although James does not appear to have lived here at any time other than when on leave. Just what it was that caused William to take this living in rural Suffolk in contrast to his cosmopolitan past is not clear. However, his parents were living in Christchurch Street in Ipswich, and his father died in 1912, so I would hazard a guess that William moved to Suffolk to be near his elderly father, who would have been 85 in 1910. From Little Waldingfield William moved to Poslingford just north of Clare as Vicar, and then after service as Royal Naval Chaplain aboard His Majesty's Hospital Ship Garth Castle from 1915, (a call to duty perhaps triggered by the loss of his son) he was to be found in the Falkland Islands from 1920 to 1928 serving as a Canon at the cathedral in Port Stanley. Back in England, in 1932 he has addresses both in Tunbridge Wells and the Royal Empire Society in London. He died in 1936 and is buried in Ipswich Old Cemetery, along with his wife, who died two years later, and their memorial stands right next to that of his parents.

All of the forgoing, I hope, helps us understand James's background and upbringing, which perhaps also helps set the scene for his all too short adult life. James grew up in a world where the only limitations were those you imposed on yourself. He was not constrained by the hard facts of the rural economy, where son followed father to labour on the unforgiving land just to be able live four or more to a room and keep just enough on the table to feed the many hungry mouths, and where the fear of being made homeless, should the breadwinner lose work, be disabled or die, was all too real.

From the outset, James made the army his career. He was schooled at Clifton College in Bristol and a pointer to his future can be seen in his membership of the school's Bisley VIII competing in the National Rifle Association's championship at Bisley Camp, the Imperial Meeting of 1902. From there he went to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Passing out as Second Lieutenant in 1904, he joined the Indian Army and initially served with the Gordon Highlanders and was then posted to the 34th Sikh Pioneers. James gained considerable military experience in India. Whilst only 20 he was in command of the relief convoy from Lahore to Kulu after a devastating earthquake in the Punjab. He then trained in the Signalling College and saw service in one of the many engagements on the Afghan frontier, receiving a campaign medal with clasp in the process. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1906 and Captain with the command of the Fourth Company of the Regiment in 1913.

When war was declared in 1914 he was home on leave, presumably with his family, who were by then in Poslingford. James rejoined his regiment, which was posted from India very early on in the War, and was in France by October. The regiment formed part of the 7th (Meerut) Division, Indian Army. At that stage the war was still an active, relatively fast moving affair. The two sides were each trying to reach the Channel coast to secure an advantage. The Battle of Ypres in Belgium was fought where they met on this dash to the coast. This ran a dreadful course of attritional attack and counter attack but ended in stalemate with both armies dug in to a system of trenches. The first Battle of Ypres formally ceased on 22nd November but the Front Line was far from stable. Some twenty miles south of Ypres, James was in the vicinity of the village of Festubert. On 23rd of the month German troops made a determined attack and seized half a mile of the Allied trenches on the eastern flank of the village. The Allied troops, among them James's Company, withdrew a short distance to the Rear Trench system and then launched a counterattack. There followed a fierce very close quarters engagement to recover the trenches, which was successful, but during which James lost his life. He was at the time shooting over the top of the trench with his revolver to try and stop the bombardment of hand grenades, which were being thrown by German grenadiers into his Company's position, and which were causing considerable injury and loss of life amongst his men. A bullet passed through his head and he fell instantly.

A brother officer wrote to James's father and said of him "...he was such a fine stamp of a Christian soldier and we looked on him as one likely to go a long way...". He was mentioned in despatches "for gallant and distinguished service in the field." Back in India, the Civil and Military Gazette of 4th December 1914 recorded his passing "...as a man known throughout Northern India as a keen churchman and one of the mainstays of the Church of England Men's Society...".

In December 1915, a year after his death, the Indian Army conducted a hearing described as an adjustment of James's estate, which is in fact part of the process of probate. Over the space of six pages is a meticulous account of James's fiscal life detailing amongst other things mess fees owing and paid, subscriptions to a hospital, subscriptions to the Rifle Club, the Book Club, the Billiard Club and the Hockey Fund, pay due in absence, and a share of a wedding gift to a fellow officer. It is moving in its echo of a conventional, untroubled military life suddenly interrupted by world events. A life, which, no doubt, James fully expected to return to at the end the leave which took him to his family in Poslingford.

James was 29 when he died and he is now buried in the Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Cunchy, though he was almost certainly originally buried in a small battlefield cemetery near where he fell, appropriately named Indian Village North Cemetery, and was reinterred at Windy Corner during the process of grave concentration.

As well as his name on Little Waldingfield War Memorial, there is a tablet in his memory placed by his parents in Grosvenor Chapel, Mayfair, where James worshipped whilst staying at his club in London, and another erected by his friends in India in Lahore Cathedral.

In stark contrast to all of this knowledge of James's life I have pitifully little to offer about our other soldier who we remember this month, **Private Ernest Whymark** of Edwardstone, 26626, 2nd Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment. Ernest was born in 1891 at the White Horse Inn, Mill Green, Edwardstone. His parents were Alfred and Emma Ellen Whymark. Alfred, born in 1854, came from Lindsey and Emma, born in 1855, from Glemsford. Alfred appears to have become the landlord of the

public house somewhere between 1881, when the family is recorded as living in Wicker Street Green with Alfred as an agricultural labourer, and 1891, when the Census records him as a publican. By 1901 Alfred is both inn keeper and farmer, presumably a tenant in both cases. Ernest had six brothers and two sisters and was the youngest but one in the family. In 1911, by then twenty years old, he was an agricultural labourer, most likely working for his father.

Ernest enlisted in Sudbury, probably in 1915. His regiment embarked for France in November 1915 as part of the 30th Division, and he would initially have found himself near Amiens, through which the Somme flows. Whilst some brigades of the Division saw action during the Somme offensive, it would seem Ernest's brigade was posted some miles north of the Somme frontline to the trenches around the village of Berles-au-Bois about ten miles south-west of Arras. The village remained in Allied hands throughout the war, but it was right on the front line and was subject to frequent shelling.

Ernest was killed in action a few days before Christmas 1916 on the 21st December. He was 25 years old. There is no specific action or engagement associated with that date and it is probable he was a casualty of the frequent artillery attacks that took place along that section of the front. He is buried in the small Berles Position Cemetery just a few miles south east of the village. He lies with fifty of his fellow soldiers, eight of whom died in the space of seven days in that December.

In life these two men were poles apart, though in death there is no distinction. Equal was the loss to their families, no matter how their circumstances were arranged. But somehow all the words we can write about James Mackain, and those that have been written in the past, give a powerful presence to that lost soldier, whereas all we really have of Ernest Whymark is a name on a piece of grey granite. It is my hope that by writing these articles, although my words are fewer for men like Ernest, his sacrifice is seen to have the same stature as all of those who left their families for good to fight a war not of their making, and it is my belief that, of the two whose stories we have told this month, it was Ernest's absence that would have resonated longest in the villages hereabouts.

James Mackain will be remembered at the 09:30 service at Little Waldingfield on the 4th December and Ernest Whymark will be remembered at the 09:30 service at Edwardstone on the 18th December.

## Parish Council Matters

### Meeting of Little Waldingfield Parish Council

20th September 2016

**Present:** Councillors Andy Sheppard (Chairman), Stewart Braybrook, Jeremy Coomber, Tim Sheppard and Chris White.

**Attending:** Colin Spence (Suffolk County Councillor), Dave Crimmin (Clerk) and 1 resident.

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Campbell (holiday) and Foster (commitment) sent their apologies as did Margaret Maybury (Babergh District Councillor) and Frank Lawrenson (Babergh District Councillor).

**Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation:** Cllr Coomber declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item in item 16/099a as he is a neighbour and left the meeting while this item was discussed. No requests for dispensation had been received.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 19th July 2016:** The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**Public Forum:** Colin Spence updated councillors on the results of the Devolution consultation and the dates for key votes on the process in both Suffolk and Norfolk.

Routine Correspondence (Appendix A): The councillors reviewed the correspondence and the emails circulated by the Clerk since the last meeting and agreed that no further action was required from the Clerk

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

Finance

a. The councillors reviewed the findings of BDO's External Audit report for the year ending 31st March 2016 and resolved to approve and accept the findings which had no actions brought to the attention of LWPC.

b. The councillors reviewed the LWPC Asset Register as at 1st September 2016 and agreed that it represented all the council's assets.

c. The councillors reviewed the proposed level of insurance cover offered by Community Action Suffolk against the Asset Register and the risks associated with the operation of the council, and resolved that it met the council's requirements.

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

e. The councillors resolved to donate £25 for a new Poppy Wreath.

Planning

a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application B/16/00893 Brookwood Manor Residential Care Home, Holbrook Hall Park - Application under section 73 of the

Town and Country Planning Act (1990) to vary condition 7 attached to Planning Permission B/13/00711 - Requesting condition to be prior occupation rather than pre-commencement to resolve drainage issues. The councillors resolved to object to the variation as the problems with the existing drainage have been ongoing for a number of years and have now been escalated to the Environment Agency. The councillors consider that these drainage issues should be addressed now rather than when the extension is completed. A recent email received by LWPC on the 2nd September 2016 from the EA on the issue of the existing drainage at the home has highlighted:

**“Environmental Permitting Regulations:** The Environment Agency regulates discharges to surface and ground waters under the Environmental Permitting Regulations by way of a permit. A permit was held by the previous owners of the care home, however, the permit lapsed in January 2013. I can confirm that the current owners have submitted an application to obtain a new permit.

**Polluting Discharge:** The Environment Agency has received reports of a polluting discharge entering a tributary of the River Box to the east of the Brookwood Manor estate, and since May 2016 I have been dealing the pollution. Brookwood Manor Care Home treats the effluent from the premises using a sewage treatment plant located near the access road to the home. I can confirm that the pipe discharging the poor quality effluent into the watercourse is the outfall pipe from the sewage treatment plant serving the care home. Regular maintenance and servicing is essential to ensure a sewage treatment plant works effectively. This plant has not been operating properly, and samples we have taken have not been to a standard suitable for discharge to the environment. I can confirm that all effluent from the care home has been tankered off site since 16 August 2016 however, this week the effluent has been discharged to the watercourse once again. Improvements and repairs to the existing sewage treatment plant have now been undertaken by a professional contractor, and I plan to take further samples next week.”

**Closed Churchyard:** The councillors resolved to proceed with maintenance work on the lime trees in the churchyard in line with the PCC's proposal to reduce the crowns of trees T1 and T3 by 25% and pollard T2, on the grounds of safety. Suffolk Tree Services has confirmed with BDC that the existing planning permission given supported the above works. LWPC now awaits the necessary permissions from the Diocese following the PCC's application for the works. Once the permission is received the councillors resolved to proceed with the works within the costs outlined in the STS quotation.

**Future Development in Village:** The councillors reviewed the plans for the public meeting with residents on Saturday 24th September 2016 in the Parish Room starting at 10am and the handouts that would be required. This meeting will be the start the engagement process, with Cllr Tim Sheppard taking the lead, and it is hoped to help shape the level of Community Led Plan that the residents are prepared to support. Following the meeting a survey seeking all residents' views will be undertaken.

**Defibrillator:** The councillors were extremely pleased that Colin Spence had provided £1,995 from his Locality Budget in order to cover the cost of a defibrillator and cabinet from Community Heartbeat Trust. With the Parish Room happy to provide space on the outside of the porch for the equipment the Clerk was asked to get a quotation from a local electrician to install the equipment and to confirm with CHT on the suitability of the location identified.

**Highways and Footpaths:** Cllr Coomber will raise the issues of plants overgrowing footpaths with landowners. The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from SCC Highways when the road markings in the village was due to be painted. Cllr Coomber will update the Clerk on footpath post damage.

**LWPC Assets:** The councillors were grateful that Cllrs Braybrook, Andy Sheppard and White had undertaken the installation of the 2 new dog bins, which have now been included in the weekly emptying schedule.

**Vehicle Activated Signage:** Colin Spence updated councillors on his project to finance a VAS scheme in the four parishes within his Waldingfield ward. He has arranged with Great Waldingfield Parish Council for their Clerk to prepare a business case / options report to see if each individual parish wished to take part in the scheme.

**Little Waldingfield website:** After reviewing the proposal on moving the support of the Little Waldingfield OneSuffolk website from Suffolk County Council to Community Action Suffolk the councillors resolved for this to happen from the 1st November 2016 at a cost of £50 per annum.

**Christmas Tree:** It was resolved by the councillors to defer the re-introduction of a Christmas tree in the village to 2017 due to the health of a key stakeholder.

**Welcome Card:** The Clerk was asked to produce an interim Welcome Card while awaiting Cllr Foster's new version.

**BDC Meeting:** Cllr Andy Sheppard and Chris White will represent LWPC at the BDC meeting in November.

**Pensions Regulator:** LWPC's Staging Date as far as the Pensions Regulator is concerned is the 1st February 2017. Because of the criteria established by the PR and reviewing the Clerk's details against these, LWPC is an employer who doesn't have to provide a pension but still has duties to undertake. The councillors agreed that these duties will be undertaken and compliance reported to the Pension Regulator within 5 months of the Staging Date - 30th June 2017.

**SALC Area Meeting:** Cllr Coomber reported that at the recent SALC meeting there were a number of issues regarding the governance of the meeting that had come to had a head. As a result, SALC were to circulate the committee roles and job descriptions so that any interested party fully understands what the role entails. A SALC Survey for all Suffolk councils will shortly be undertaken which will cover Broadband, Policing, Highways, Planning and Parking.

16/113 Next Meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday 15th November 2016.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

# Parish Council Matters

## Meeting of Boxford Parish Council

### Report of the Meeting held on 7th November

The next full meeting of Boxford Parish Council will be held on Monday 5th December.

#### Peacocks

Members would like to thank all those who shared their views in relation to the peacocks. It was agreed not to take any action. This was in accordance with 18 out of the 25 responders who were in favour of maintaining the status quo.

#### Public Forum

The early stages of the school fencing project was shared with the Parish Council which could cost in the region of £15,000. Financial assistance from the County Council and Parish Council was requested.

J Finch agreed to investigate in view of the safety issue involved. An enquiry was made regarding the wall between the School and the Churchyard where a rail is being considered. Finally the issue of the street light on Stone Street Road between the bus turning area and Bell House was raised as it was advised that the bright light shines directly into a neighbouring property. J Finch agreed to investigate reducing the wattage and turning the light off at 10.00 p.m. The Parish Council were supportive subject to the other residents being happy with this action.

#### County Council Report

Cllr James Finch reported on improvements to Suffolk's Early Years Foundation Stage Results. He also confirmed the delivery of the new Greater Anglia Rail Franchise is the key focus at this year's Suffolk Rail Conference. Thousands of children were to receive free safety reflectors as part of a new road safety campaign.

#### District Council Report

Cllr Bryn Hurren reported on the appointment of a new Chief Executive at the District Councils who will be starting in the New Year. Concerns have been expressed about re-locating their head quarters to Ipswich. A boundary review may affect the District Councillor areas for the future. On planning, the mobile phone mast was passed. The planning at the garage is still on-going. The surface of the footpath to Station Field is being improved. General information demonstrating fairness in the Station Field allocation is being sought. Hedge cuts in the vicinity of Homefield which are the responsibility of the District Council are being chased.

#### Correspondence

It was agreed to chase the Environment Agency for their plans to clear the river Box and the tributary that runs through the Ash Street Estate of considerable vegetation growth.

#### Finance

In addition to the usual business, the cost of the Local Shops signs for the by-pass was approved. A donation of £30 was agreed for the Remembrance Wreath.

#### Risk Assessment

The annual review of the Risk Assessment Policy was carried out. Memorial Safety in the Cemetery has also been checked.

#### Cemetery

Winter priorities had been agreed and 2 Memorial applications were approved. A meeting was being arranged in the Churchyard with Church officials.

#### Reports

Arrangements were being made for a Christmas tree and lights for the Churchyard. An Agenda item was agreed for the December Meeting of "Street Light for Sand Hill".

#### Planning

Permission had been given by the Planning Authority for the Telecommunications Mast on the A1071 layby, for a rear extension at Sparrows, Cox Hill and to reduce leylandii at 10 The Causeway. The Parish Council had No Objections to the applications at 14 Holbrook Barn Road and tree applications at Greenbank, Ellis Street and Boxbank, Rules Yard.

Debbie Hattrell, Clerk to Boxford Parish Council

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## Readers Letters

Sir

As I suspect many of your readers will know, our mother Betty Rattee died at the end of September following her stroke earlier in the year and short stay at Friars Hall nursing home in Hadleigh. We wish to express our thanks to all those who attended our mother's funeral at St Lawrence church Little Waldingfield and who made that day very special for us. We also wish to record our thanks for the way the local community supported and looked after Mum following the death of our father in 2007. Whilst Mum probably never came to terms fully with the loss of her beloved Neil, she very much wanted to stay in the community that she had very happily been part of since she and Neil moved to Little Waldingfield in 1987. That decision has been more than vindicated by the great love and support she has received over the last nine years. Thank you.

With grateful appreciation,  
Robert Rattee and Carol Law

### The Kersey Bell

#### CHRISTMAS MENU

##### To Start

Classic prawn cocktail  
Smoked duck salad  
Chicken liver pate

French onion soup with welsh rarebit croutons  
Honeydew melon and parma ham with cranberry and redcurrant sauce

##### Main Course

Roast turkey with all the trimmings  
Roast beef, roast potatoes, cauliflower cheese and seasonal vegetables  
Pan fried sea bass, crushed new potatoes with a leek and crayfish sauce  
Rabbit and wild mushroom casserole in a red wine jus  
Stuffed mushrooms with chestnuts, spinach and stilton,  
served with roasted new potatoes and salad

##### Deserts

Christmas pudding  
Spiced orange and cranberry sponge pudding  
Lemon tart  
Baileys trifle

2 Courses £18.50 - 3 Courses £23,



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## BOX RIVER BENEFICE

MAKE UP OF PARISH COUNCILS 2015 – 2019

following the elections on Thursday 7 May 2015

[All members elected unopposed, except in Newton]

### BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Roger Balls	19 Daking Avenue	210136
Julian Fincham-Jacques	42 Homefield	210376
Cecil Hughes	Kiln Place, Cox Hill	210685
John Moles	40 Homefield	210203
Andrew Sargeant	39 Homefield	211048
David Waspe	22 Stone Street	828953
Suzanne Impett.	Amberly, The Causeway.	210035.
David Talbot Clarke.	18-22 Broad Street.	211976.
Clerk	Debbie Hattrell	210943
District Councillor	Bryn Hurren	210854
County Councillor	James Finch	01206 263649

### EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clare Britcher	Tudor Cottage, Mill Green	211234
Melanie Childs	Edwardstone Lodge	07952 956417
Paul Clarke	Hazel Cottage, Mill Green	210689
Phil Baker	Mulberry Farm, Round Maple	211452
Shirley Flack	Mill Cottage, Mill Green	210050
Sharron Norman	Dormers, Sherbourne Street	210386
Clerk	Anita Robinson	211673
District Councillor	Bryn Hurren	210854
County Councillor	James Finch	01206 263649

### GROTON PARISH COUNCIL

Carey Fraulo (Chairman)	Groton Manor Farm	210391
Nick Cox	3 Groton Place, Groton Street	210339
Adam Dixon-Smith	Castlings Hall, Castlings Heath	210007
Rona Kelsey	Winthrop Cottage, Church Street	211799
Jeremy Osborne	Waterside Barn, Groton Street	211960
Piers Roberts	Brook House	210619
Roland Cheeseman	1 Rose Cottage Daisy Grn	07770 237921
Debbie Wills	Doggetts Groton Street	210484
Clerk	Anita Robinson	211673
District Councillor	Bryn Hurren	210854
County Councillor	James Finch	01206 263649

### LITTLE WALDINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Andrew Sheppard Chairman	The School House, Church Road	247980
Stewart Braybrook Vice Chair	Cypress House, Church Road	247043
Barbara Campbell	Appleton House, Church Road	
Jeremy Coomber	Gatehouse, Holbrook Hall Park	
Matt Foster	Surprise Cottage, Church Road	07779 003635
Tim Shepherd		
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### Boxford Rovers FC Adults sponsored by Recom Surfacing Ltd.

Boxford Rovers adult team play in the Ipswich Sunday morning Premier league and are currently placed third in the league standings . We have been sponsored with a complete new kit by Lee Comley of Recom Surfacing Ltd a local company with its HQ in Groton .

Lee was impressed the reputation of his football club and has sponsored both the adult kit and also new shirts for the under 13 team .

Photo includes team for our latest match at Homefields , with Manager Chris Waugh on the left and Lee Comley on the right .



Dear Sir

I am very proud to present this photograph to the Boxford Football Club of my father Albert Tricker who plays in the team and lived in Boxford. I hope you like it and it is also a part of the history of the village. Presented with much pleasure from his family. Wife Kathleen, daughters Anne and Jane together with Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

## LAY-OFF FAILS TO HALT BEN TATUM'S CHARGE

Without having picked up his clubs for six weeks, Newton Green's Ben Tatum strode to the first tee and promptly won the Junior Open at his home club.

The 16-year-old, who plays off five, and generally prefers to play football in the winter months, hit a three over par 72 to take the title, previously held by fellow club man and former junior Jed Seeley.

Tatum's performance left him one shot ahead of Ipswich's Sam Byford, who plays off one, had been pipped at the post by another Newton member, Harvey Watts, in the recent Suffolk junior match play final.

The team prize for the Aldous Cup was won by the Stoke-by-Nayland pairing of brothers Max and Isaac Toombs. Although they could not raise a third member for a team, their two Stableford scores, each of 38, off handicaps of 21 and 27, was good enough to give them a count back win. They defeated Newton's Tatum and Oli Page, who had also been forced to play as a pair after a call-off.

**Division 1:** (gross scores) 72 Ben Tatum (Newton Green), 73 Sam Byford (Ipswich), 73 James Cooper (Newton), 75 Lewis Whiting

## FALDO SERIES GRAND FINAL

Faldo Series Grand Final brings International golfing talent to Stoke The directors and team at Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Golf & Spa were delighted to host the prestigious Grand Final of the 2016 Faldo Series international golf event in October for Sir Nick Faldo, in its 20th anniversary year.

Recognised as the only global amateur series for boys and girls, the Faldo Series was established in 1996, and expanded to Asia in 2006. Today, 40 Faldo Series tournaments take place in 30-plus countries worldwide, touching thousands of golfers each year. Past winners include Major Champions Tseng Ya-ni and Rory McIlroy.

After the 3 day event, during which Sir Nick stayed in one of the hotel's luxurious Country Lodges, he commented, "Stoke by Nayland served as a most special site for our 20th Anniversary Faldo Series Grand Final. The hospitality shown to our players and our guests was second to none and the family and staff at Stoke by Nayland were very welcoming. The venue has delivered brilliantly. We made real history on that course and shared true camaraderie inspired by that setting. We are most grateful that Stoke by Nayland shared our commitment to growing opportunity through golf and developing tomorrow's champions."

Jiri Zuska was the overall winner and the first ever Czech champion of the Series, closing out with a final round of 70. An amazing new course record of 64 was achieved by 17 year old Frankie Capan from Minnesota, whose round included 9 birdies and led to Capan finishing joint 2nd overall.

Recognised as Britain's most successful golfer, having won 6 majors, Sir Nick shared his knowledge from over 35 years of competing at the highest level by giving clinics to the young players during the week. He also delighted a gathering of Stoke by Nayland Golf Club members when he staged a very entertaining hour long masterclass for them at the Driving Range. The members had been invited as a thank you from the Club for volunteering as marshals at recent international events held at the award-winning venue.

Tom Williams, the Sports Presenter at BBC Look East TV, included the masterclass and other action from the event in his news report, and Sir Nick was also interviewed via a live feed with the studio during the evening news broadcast, giving the event nearly 5 minutes of air time. The event will also be broadcasted in the USA through various sports channels.

A Gala Dinner with prize giving and an enlightening Q & A session with Sir Nick and his son Matthew, was held to celebrate the event's 20th anniversary in the hotel's stunning Devora Suite. Guests at the dinner included directors from the PGA, European Tour and Ladies European Tour Access Series.

*Below: Winner of Faldo Series final Jiri Zuska with Sir Nick Faldo and family directors of Stoke by Nayland*



(Haverhill), 76 Habebul Islam (Ipswich), 76 Harry Hodgson (Ufford Park). Net scores: 68 James Cooper, 71 Harry Hodgson.

**Division 2:** (Stableford): 37 Max Weaver ocb (West Suffolk), Luke Green (Ipswich).

**Division 3:** 38 Isaac Toombs (Stoke-by-Nayland).

**Aldous Cup:** 76 Isaac and Max Toombs (Stoke), 73 Ben Tatum and Oli Page (Newton).

**Putting:** Ben Tatum.

**Longest Drives:** Sam Byford and Georgia Parker (Bury St Edmunds).

**Nearest pins:** Joshua Goulton (Ipswich) and Harvey Watts (Newton)