

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



December 2017
Vol 17 No 12



BOXFORD FIREWORKS and LANTERN PARADE 2017

Once again the weather held for a magnificent Firework display attended by over a thousand people at the Playing Field. The Fireworks were stunning and provided by Dynamic Fireworks. The quality and variety of the lanterns was even more impressive this year and thanks go to Mark Miller and Karen Baker for organising the lantern making throughout the week. As usual, the number of volunteers who helped set up, take down and run the event is too many to name individually, but sincere thanks go to all of you who helped - the event would not happen without you.

This year's event was dedicated to Anne Holdgate who sadly passed away recently. She will be sorely missed by many people and the village will always be grateful for her commitment to the community.

All the money raised from the Fireworks is pumped back in to the community by the Community Council. We are always looking for

helpers for the various events we put on, so if you are interested in being involved, please contact us.

Box River News

Eddie Kench, Kiln Cottage, Stone Street, Boxford CO10 5NR

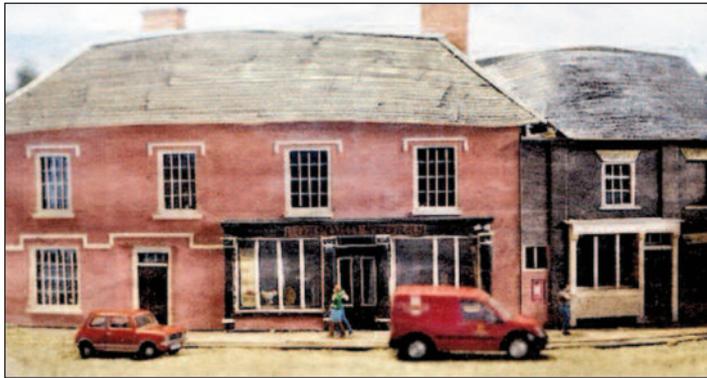
Telephone: 01787 211507 e.mail:
ed.kench@btinternet.com

Final date for reserved copy for the
Christmas and New Year 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, Shelley Stoke by Nayland, Nayland, and parents of children at Boxford School.

MODEL OF BOXFORD FINDS A NEW HOME



Mr Winters, who has made a beautiful model of Boxford Village has been trying to find a permanent home for it for some time and is delighted that Howard Watts, the owner of Riddelsdells garage, which incidently is the oldest in the country, has offered to make room for the model and put it on permanent exhibition in his showroom.

Howard said: "When I heard that it might go to Boxford our sister town in New England USA, I realised something had to be done to keep it here". "I am delighted to help and, in the showroom, it will be on display 24 hours a day and perfectly safe."

"Geoffrey made me a small model of the garage -it opened in 1900 - but it will be great to have the whole of the heart of this wonderful village on show."

Mr Winters said "it belongs here and I am sure it will prove an attraction and bring visitors - especially Americans - to the village."

Tina Loose, chairman of the Boxford Society said: "Trying to find a home for Geoffrey's model has been a problem. We had been trying for the last 18 months to get a permanent place for it to be displayed."

Grateful thanks are due to our friends in the Boxford MA History Society for offering to house the model. With a population of around 8000 and the History Society having a great house in the centre of the town, the model would, we are sure, have attracted a lot of attention. Its only a pity that we do not have two model villages with one on display in the USA

LANTERNS ON PARADE AT BOXFORD FIREWORKS



FleeceJazz

at Stoke by Nayland Hotel

Friday 1 December 8.00 £15

Josephine Davies: Satori

"A truly gifted and imaginative saxophonist, Davies undoubtedly possesses the art of the improviser and has produced an album of exuberant lyricism and consistently engaging tunes" - All About Jazz. Josephine Davies sax, Paul Clarvis percussion, Dave Whitford ~ bass

Playing drums from childhood, Paul Clarvis at school and performed with the National Youth Orchestra. Among jazz musicians with whom Clarvis has worked with include Alan Barnes, Gordon Beck, Tim Garland, John Law, Henry Lowther, Sam Rivers, Andy Sheppard, and Stan Sulzmann.

Dave Whitford held the bass chair in the award winning Cornwall Youth Jazz Orchestra and worked in a variety of musical genres. Dave quickly established himself as one of the most in demand young bass players in London.

Friday 8 December 8.00 £18

The Spirit of Trane: Gilad Atzmon & the OHE

"Coltrane is for us, jazz at its best: an authentic creative wave of constant transformation and innovation. 'Trane is for us; first and foremost ... a spirit.'" - Gilad Atzmon

"Gilad's sheer dexterity makes for some delicious, mind challenging listening" - Sammy Stein, Jazz in Europe
 Gilad Atzmon tenor and soprano sax, clarinet, bass clarinet, Frank Harrison ~ piano, Yaron Stavi bass, Enzo Zirilli drums
 Marking fifty years without John Coltrane, Gilad Atzmon & The Orient House Ensemble attempt to reflect upon the beauty of the

man's music. John Coltrane was the most influential tenor saxophonist in jazz history. .

Friday 20 December 8.00 £20
Ian Shaw and Barry Green

"Best Jazz Vocalist" at the BBC Jazz Awards in 2007 and 2004, and nominated in the Best UK Vocalist category at the Jazz FM awards in 2013, Ian Shaw, is a popular performer both in the UK and the US. He has been cited, along with Mark Murphy and Kurt Elling, as one of the world's finest male jazz vocalists.

Ian Shaw vocals, Barry Green piano.

Ian Shaw's career in performance began unusually for a jazz musician on the Alternative Cabaret Circuit, alongside such performers as Julian Clary, Rory Bremner and Jo Brand. During the next few years Shaw moved from the singer-pianist format to working with his new band to an eventual move into jazz. He has also performed regularly in the States including Jazz at the Lincoln Center (New York). Collaborators over the years have been many and include Quincy Jones, Abdullah Ibrahim, Guy Barker, Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, Iain Ballamy, Barb Jungr, Cleo Laine, John Dankworth, Cedar Walton and Joe Lovano.

Barry Green Studied classical music and Jazz at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and now plays regularly at jazz venues all over the UK. He has played and recorded with many jazz luminaries. Barry is now a professor of jazz piano at the Guilhall School of Music and Drama. He has also played in clubs and festivals in Germany, Ireland, Spain, Slovenia, Italy and Spain and elsewhere around Europe.

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 MONTH'S LETTER FROM REV JUDITH

Dear friends,

Introducing.....Messy Church!



You've probably heard of Café Church – maybe you've even tried it out, held at Boxford every first Sunday of the month: relaxed, informal, friendly, with – of course – great coffee! But have you heard of Messy Church?

Well this month, Messy Church comes to the benefice in the form of an optional after-school club at Boxford School. Messy Church is a way for children (and adults sometimes too) to explore and enjoy the Christian faith through stories, music, games, sharing food, fun and friendship together, and through all kinds of craft activities – some of them definitely messy!

People run Messy Churches in many different ways, all over the country. One thriving one that I know about is based in Blakeney Church, north Norfolk, where, as in Boxford, the church and the school are next door to each other. But wherever they are held, and whether they are small or large, the keynotes of Messy Churches are always: creativity, hospitality and celebration. The great thing about Messy Church is that – just like Café Church - its emphasis is not on rules or regulations, nor on directives or dogma, but on warmth and welcome.

I am very grateful that Helen Heath and a team of helpers have been willing to give a Messy Church monthly after-school club a go. The first one will take place in the demountable classroom round the back of Boxford School on December 12th and will run from 3.15pm to 4.30pm, including a snack and a drink. We think the children will have a great time!

But the idea of Messy Church can appeal to adults too, for two reasons. Firstly, because many of us enjoy being “hands on” and doing craft and other “messy” activities. Secondly, because, for many of us, life itself can be messy. Things don't always go to plan, we often have to think and do things “on the hoof”. Our beliefs or faith may not be neatly defined. Life has untidy edges, things we can't always fix or sort out, questions we can't always answer. And of course, those things are true of the kind of people Jesus could always be found with. They were the very people he had most time for, not for the people who thought they had got life and religion totally sorted, knowing all the answers.

We would therefore be very happy for any parents, grandparents, carers or guardians, to join the children at 4.15pm to enjoy the last 15 minutes of the club.

If you would like to know more about the ideas and ethos behind Messy Church and see the kinds of things people do at Messy Church, there are two websites you can go to:

<https://www.messychurch.org.uk/> or <https://www.brf.org.uk/messy-church>

To end with, one of my favourite prayers about life, not as it should be, but as it really is:

“Dear God, please bless the mess!”

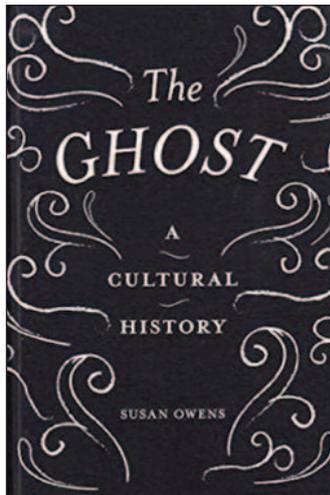
Blessings,

Revd Judith



THIS MONTH'S GOOD READ, DECEMBER 2017

The Ghost by Susan Owens



Samuel Pepys scoffed at the idea of ghosts. Yet after an evening spent swapping ghost stories with friends he crept to his bed “almost afeared to lie alone”. Little has changed in the intervening centuries.

Today we smartly dismiss the notion of ghosts yet remain entranced by ghost stories in books, films and on television and given the chance most of us can recount an eerie encounter which defies logical explanation.

Ghosts have been part of our culture since humans first sat around a fire and told each other stories. Ensnconced in castles, pubs and country houses all over the country, woven into our literature and art, ghosts maintain a vice-like grip on

our imaginations just as they did for Pepys.

Art historian Susan Owens heard her first ghost story aged ten when her headmaster told the school assembly he had seen the ghost of his father as he cycled to work. She has never met a British person, she says, without a ghost story to tell.

Charting the history of ghosts in British culture from the eighth century to modern times, Owens reveals not only how ghosts have endured but also adapted to different art forms, fashions and technology, shifting shape with an astonishing talent for survival. Ghosts, she says, “hold up a mirror to us”.

Early English ghosts appeared in folk stories and manuscripts as grotesque corpses in varying stages of decomposition or taking the form of horses, dogs and cows. They brought warnings of danger to village communities or suffered in purgatory for their misspent lives.

The English reformation attempted to banish ghosts just as it swept away Catholic incense and Latin services. One 16th-century cleric insisted that “sowles departed do not come again and play boo peape with us”. Yet come again they surely did.

As oral traditions dwindled and literacy improved, ghosts reinvented themselves for a new age. Late 16th-century pamphlets announced news of famous personalities, like the libertine Robert Greene, who had returned from the grave to confess their misdeeds. Ghosts appeared in their funeral shrouds – “wrapped up in a sheet” – and demanded vengeance, like Hamlet's father doomed “to walk the night”.

As the spirit of scientific inquiry attempted to pin down unearthly spirits in the 17th century, writers sought rational explanations for ghostly tales. One sceptic asserted that ghosts were the product of “franticke imaginations” while another thought they were optical illusions yet few were willing to dismiss them entirely.

In the age of enlightenment, believing in spirits came to be seen as a sign of ignorance by intellectual society, ghosts remained popular in poems, plays, novels and art. Oddly, Owens ignores the Georgian bodysnatching mania, which made the prospect of being raised from the grave a very real risk.

Both the credulous and sceptics alike queued in 1762 to hear the Cock Lane Ghost, which communicated by knocking, until it was revealed as a hoax.

Two years later Horace Walpole published the first gothic novel, *The Castle of Otranto*, whose haunted corridors and characters stepping out of portraits provided a model for ghost stories ever since – not least in Harry Potter.

In the 18th century, the development of more sophisticated printing techniques allowed ghosts to be depicted in finer – and gorier – detail, while watercolours enabled artists to portray ghosts as transparent.

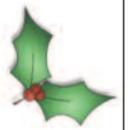
The Victorian era was a heyday for ghosts. Peasouper fogs provided perfect ghostly haunts, the fashion for visiting romantic ruins and windswept moors offered the ideal environment and séances stoked the imagination.

In *A Christmas Carol* Dickens created a ghost with a social conscience while in *Wuthering Heights* Emily Brontë conjured Cathy's ghost as a corporeal creature who gripped the narrator's hand and bled when cut.

Illuminating and entertaining, with lavish illustrations and eloquent narration, *The Ghost* tells the story of our enduring passion for ghosts. Even as we laugh at the gullible Georgians vying for a glimpse of the Cock Lane phenomenon or mock the Victorians attempting to commune with spirits, we are plainly not yet ready to give up the ghost ourselves.



Seasonal Spend... and Save



Suffolk Medical Clinic on Boxford High Street sell a fantastic range of high-end skin-care and cosmetics. From Dermalogica to OPI Nails, we are sure to have something perfect for the special people in your life.

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THE MISER AND THE MURDERER A Talk by Martin Hedges

Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome local historian Martin to tell us of two most interesting though vastly different tales from Acton's past, which had the near 40 audience enthralled throughout.

The Miser

Martin introduced us to two wealthy men named Robert Jennens who died in London in 1725, both descended from one man, John Jennens, though from different women. Both had sons named William Jennens, one dying in 1803 with the other in 1798, unmarried and intestate, and who also left a huge fortune.

Upon his death in 1798, William Jennens (colloquially Jennens the Rich or Jennens the Miser) was described as the richest man in England, given more to penuriousness than hospitality, and clearly hailing from the landed gentry as his obituary at the time made clear:

Died 19 June in his 97th year, Wm. Jennens of Acton Place, near Long Melford in the county of Suffolk, and of Grosvenor Square, Esq. He was baptized in September 1701, the son of Robert Jennens, Esq., Aide-de-Camp to great Duke of Marlborough (by Anne, his wife, and daughter of Carew Guidott, Esq., lineally descended from Sir Anthony Guidott, Knight, a noble Florentine, employed on sundry embassies by King Edward VI), grandson of Humphrey Jennens of Edington Hall, in the county of Warwick, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Nether Whitacre in that county in 1680 and an eminent ironmaster of Birmingham. King William III was godfather to late Mr. Jennens.

So much for being born with a silver spoon in your mouth, apparently the King gave the baby a silver ewer on his birth, which corresponds with his father Robert having been married in Westminster Abbey, in 1700. Rich William was brought up in a town house in Grosvenor Square, Mayfair, which was as fashionable then as now, until his father (another Robert) bought Acton Place in 1708, continuously remodeling it in the Palladian style until his own death in 1725.



A drawing of Acton Place

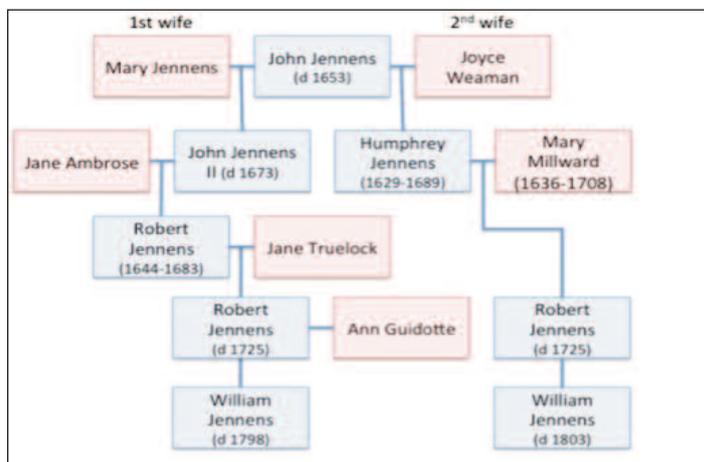
Martin then told us that in his younger days, William was reputed to have frequented London's gambling clubs, not to bet but to lend money to punters at exorbitant rates of interest, before inheriting significant money from two uncles. Upon the death of Robert, William abandoned all building work to live in unfurnished rooms in the basement, along with his servants and dogs, thereby acquiring the now familiar moniker of 'the Miser of Acton'.

Following his death at the ripe old age of 97, which Martin told us made him one of the oldest people in Suffolk at the time, the 'Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle' reported:

A will was found in his coat-pocket, sealed, but not signed; which was owing, as his favourite servant says, to his master leaving his spectacles at home when he went to his solicitor for the purpose of duly executing it, and which he afterwards forgot to do.

No one really believes this story, and as Martin noted: surely his solicitor could have read the will out loud to him, and if all was good, got him to sign the relevant parts. Either way, this brought the intestacy laws into operation, which by all accounts were more complicated than now. As was usual at the time, families typically reused names, giving them to their children and grandchildren, so three Roberts and two Williams (see chart below) were involved; additionally no one could prove the baptism of father Robert, so this was when 'all the fun started'.

By every account William was worth some £250 million in today's money, being described as Britain's richest man at the time of his death. His estate was said to be worth over £2 million then, producing an annual income of about £40,000. The Times of 20 July 1798 published a tabulated list of his worth: capital of £432,509 and annual interest of £119,415. This created considerable interest and huge enticement to 'get rich quick'; coupled with an apparent national pastime of trying to claim your fortune from the wealthy deceased; all manner of unlikely claims



went into overdrive, and to this day there are Jennens / Jennings descendants who believe they are due a portion of the fortune.

The courts of chancery declared the heir to William's fortune was George Augustus William Curzon, a descendant of his aunt Hester Jennens, who received the property. Curzon's mother, Sophia Charlotte Howe, administered the estate on his behalf; when he died young she passed it to her second son, Richard William Penn Curzon (1796–1870), later alleged to have been the illegitimate son of a single woman named Ann Oake. William's personal property was allocated between his next of kin, Mary, Lady Andover, a granddaughter of Humphrey Jennens's daughter Ann, and William Lygon, 1st Earl Beauchamp (1747–1816), a grandson of Hester Jennens, and a descendant of Thomas Lygon.

William's uncle William Jennens, youngest son of Humphrey Jennens and Mary Milford, was a British Army officer in the American Indian Wars. If he was the William Jennings who married Mary Jane Pulliam, then many Americans were coheirs. Litigation on behalf of the American descendants commenced around 1850, and every descendant of anybody named "Jennings" was solicited. The accumulation of funds for litigation was initiated in England, and his Virginia descendants contributed large sums; even unrelated individuals named "Jennings" sent money in the hope of sharing the inheritance. According to Martin, in the mid 1880s the Philadelphia Times claimed there were some 85 thousand US descendants (presumably including every possible variant of Jenens / Jennens and Jenings/Jennings etc.), so the scope for confusion was endless.

The Acton name travelled around the world, as whenever a journalist got bored or had spare time, he/she would regularly reprise the affair as 'an and finally' story - what a game it all was. Jennens (subscription) Societies were established around the world where, for a relatively modest regular sum, you could just possibly hit the jackpot, though of course no one did - the initial court rulings kept William's wealth with the landed gentry, who were not minded to see it given away. Various attempts to gain access to the wealth continued to at least 1929 /30 in New Zealand, more than 130 years after William's death, and setting a world record unlikely ever to be beaten.

The saga is generally, though not exclusively, held to be the catalyst for Dickens' famous Chancery Court case in Bleak House "Jarndyce and Jarndyce" - a central plot device in the novel, which has now become a byword for seemingly interminable legal proceedings.

To complete the story, Lord Howe demolished Acton Place in 1825, leaving just one servant's wing, nine bays wide with a central three bay pediment. According to an 18th painting the centre of the house was eleven bays wide, four storeys high with a three bay pediment; it was connected to the wings by one-storey quadrant arcades and was clearly a very very large house.

What was left of the manor housed senior US Army 136th Station hospital staff during WWII, in support of the 486th Heavy Bombardment Group based at nearby Chilton airfield. The hospital comprised Nissan huts in the manor grounds, with outbuildings housing hospital staff. After the war the manor building was used by the council, before final demolition in the 1960s, and the site is now an industrial one, home to Quansboro Plastics.

The Murderer

Martin clearly enjoys telling this tale of young love, gruesome murder, inadequate policing, unfair trial and the impact of meddling do-gooders, so if you are ready, here it is:

Catherine Foster, a young bride of just three weeks, became the most infamous woman in Suffolk after she was found guilty of poisoning her husband by lacing his dumplings with arsenic. The reason why 18 the

year-old domestic servant of Acton killed her spouse has never been solved, but it took a jury just 15 minutes to decide on her guilt at the Suffolk Assizes trial at the end of March 1847. Three weeks later she was publicly hanged in front of the Bury St Edmunds gaol.



Catherine had been a domestic servant until she married John Foster, an agricultural labourer she had known since childhood, and the only clue to her motives lay in a visit made to an aunt shortly after the wedding. In October 1846 John gave her permission to visit her aunt in Pakenham, near Bury, something which the constraints of domestic service had earlier prohibited. She was away for ten days, but within a few days of her return and exactly three weeks after their marriage, John died following a sudden and violent illness, initially diagnosed as English cholera.

A post-mortem revealed the presence of a large quantity of arsenic in his stomach, whilst traces were also found in the crops of dead chickens that had been seen pecking by the Fosters' yard where John had vomited at the time of his illness. The trial concentrated on forensic evidence and her opportunity to commit the crime, the prosecution claiming she placed poison in a dumpling she prepared for John's supper, causing him to become fatally ill. Testimony of neighbours only hinted at a possible motive; Mary Chinery, living in the adjoining cottage recalled: 'I heard her tell my grandfather if she had gone to Bury before she married she would not have married at all'.

Newspaper reports at the time said that Catherine 'looked guilty, cold and calculating', her demeanour in the dock was emphasised, which served to confirm her guilt. As the verdict was delivered she allegedly 'betrayed no symptoms of emotion' and 'bore the sentence almost unmoved, merely applying a handkerchief to her eyes at the conclusion'.

Catherine's inability or unwillingness to show emotion through any outward display (of pain or regret - perhaps she was physically unable to do this) removed any shred of moral credibility from her as a woman in the observers eyes; it was also suggested that she was indifferent even to her own fate - she was therefore 'a woman who felt no compunction for others'.

After conviction, Catherine was apparently 'visited unremittingly' by the Chaplain of Bury Gaol, other ministers and many 'do gooders', all intent on obtaining her confession, which was needed to prove the judicial system had worked properly. Following her trial Catherine's supposedly private confessions were published, whilst it was claimed she retained a deficiency of "natural" feminine feeling and attributes, and that her repentance was always tempered and hollow.

As Catherine awaited execution she prayed frequently, 'but there was not that appearance of bitter compunction or deep humiliation for her offence which was to be desired' - she parted with her mother 'without much emotion' and 'walked with extraordinary firmness' to the scaffold. Throughout the trial and up to the point of death, she is portrayed chillingly calm and composed; although she performs in an outward sense, she remained emotionally bankrupt as a woman.

The Bury and Norwich Post reported a crowd of 10,000 at her execution, also publishing what was purported to be her written confession after her death (very possibly completely fabricated). Her extreme transgression and the public fascination with her were demonstrated by the number of broadsheets which related the story of her trial, confession and execution, which was attended by 'a vast concourse of persons' of at least 10,000 people - most of whom later became drunk.

Even assuming that she committed the crime, Catherine Foster's decision to kill her husband is not explored for any rational motive. As a 'secret poisoner', she was seen to violate the home and abuse her position as a wife; her execution was therefore seen as necessary in order to restore 'moral order and domestic hierarchy' - as evidenced by letters written at the time - below.

After trial and execution, two letters were written by 'A Norfolk Man in Ireland', published in the Bury and Norwich Post, they referred to 'the constant recurrence of late of these shocking cases of poisoning', and called upon the clergy and press to exercise their duty as 'responsible public instructors'. He favourably compared 'poor Popish Ireland' with 'Protestant Norfolk and Suffolk', 'where it is almost as common for

women to poison their husbands as to marry', thus implying that the benefits of a more enlightened society (as he perceived), offered no guarantees against such insidious menace. 'No man', he claims, 'can be assured of safety', for 'who is to guard against secret poisoning'? 'What man can suspect that the woman who eats his daily bread is poisoning his cup'? The author also suggested a close association between the crime and female sexual deviancy, claiming that: 'The ordinary cause of this revolting crime is the woman's infidelity. Adultery in a woman is the first step to murder and she who commits a breach of one commandment boggles at the others'. Of course, this could just as easily be applied to men!

Catherine Foster was the last woman executed in Suffolk, though not the last publicly hanged in England, which was Frances Kidder in April 1868, for the murder of her eleven year old step-daughter. Concluding his excellent talk, Martin introduced us to the infamous headless horseman of Acton (we thought and hoped he was joking), before wishing everyone a safe journey home.

Our next events will be at 7.30 in The Parish Room on: 15th November. Gary Edgerton will take us on a walking tour through Colchester and its history, from the Romans to the present day, with slides showing: The Castle, Dutch Quarter, Jumbo, St John's Abbey and St Botolph's Priory; plus an amusing aside on Colchester's houses of ill repute.

13th December. Ian McLachlan will tell stories from the Zeppelin raids on East Anglia 100 years ago, the first casualties in Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn, and how the brutes were defeated.

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

Andy Sheppard



THE BOXFORD COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME.

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The Boxford Community Car Scheme has served your community for approximately 10yrs.

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For more information, please contact
Sue Green 01787-210603

Only for residents registered at The Mill, Boxford or
Hadleigh Health Centre.

FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

Your Suffolk County Councillor for the Stour Valley

➤ **Suffolk Fostering Service launches a series of fostering recruitment campaigns.** At this period of preparation for Christmas, Suffolk County Council's Fostering Service will launch a series of campaigns over the coming months to encourage more Suffolk residents to become foster carers. 820 children currently live in care in Suffolk and there is an urgent need for more people to come forward to foster. The first campaign will focus on the need to recruit more foster carers for teenagers.

Suffolk Fostering Service is the longest established provider of fostering services in the county, offering competitive fees, 24-hour support services and up to 21 days paid leave per year.

The first campaign focuses on the real-life experiences of two Suffolk Fostering Service foster carers, Ethel from Ipswich and Sammy from Lowestoft. Teenagers in care have often gone through a great deal in their lives and this campaign aims to give an honest reflection of what it takes to be a foster carer and the rewards that can come as a result.

The campaign is accompanied by a new promotional video which features both Ethel and Sammy, providing an insight into what it takes to be a foster carer for teenagers and the positive difference they make to a young person's life.

The video addresses why the application process can be timely and thorough, with Ethel and Sammy both describing how the vulnerability of the children in care makes the timeframe absolutely necessary. It also makes clear that the robustness and intensity of the process is equally there to benefit and protect the prospective foster carer, ensuring that they are fully prepared and certain of the commitment they are making.

It's really important to get more people talking about foster care and I would encourage South Suffolk residents to look at their own lives to consider whether they have the patience, compassion and the spare room required to provide a child with the secure home life they need."

For more information visit: www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk

➤ **Suffolk County Council Guidance on Neighbourhood Planning**

In recent months, there has been a significant uptake in local communities beginning work on neighbourhood plans across Suffolk. Their principal engagement is with District Councils. However, many of the issues raised in these plans relate to County Council services from education through to the rights of way network. Therefore, a document has been prepared giving guidance on the impact that neighbourhood plans may have on matters that are this Council's responsibilities. For each topic, there are sections on:

- What does the national policy say?
- What can a neighbourhood plan do and how we can help?
- What have others done?

It is intended that this will prove useful for those groups developing neighbourhood plans and provide a more focussed discussion with County Council officers.

➤ **Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service launches 'escape plan' campaign**

The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has launched a new safety campaign and website highlighting the importance of fire escape plans. Visitors to the campaign website www.fire.suffolk.gov.uk will be able to take a quiz to test how prepared they are to escape a fire and create their own escape plan for everyone in their household

The campaign addresses the fact that every year there are 40,000 accidental house fires in the UK. Having an escape plan will allow Suffolk residents to escape the fire quickly and safely.

My Priorities

Education - Supporting Vulnerable People - Jobs and Growth - Localism and the Stour Valley -

Building on Suffolk's Strength all underpinned by strong financial management and low council tax

James Finch County, Councillor Stour Valley Division

Tel: 01206 263649 Mobile 07545 423796

Email: james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk

FEEDBACK FROM BRYN HURREN

Your Babergh District Councillor

Good news to start with this week. The planning application to build 24 more houses on the remaining piece of land at Goodlands was turned down at the Babergh Planning Committee on Wednesday 8th Nov. It was a very narrow decision 7-6 in favour of turning down this application, very narrow indeed. The village viewpoint was well supported by Roger Loose on behalf of residents and Mathew Wooderson who spoke on behalf of the Parish Council as well as myself speaking as the local Councillor representing the village. It was the correct decision and the village views were well represented but I am sure this matter is not over yet and has a way to run. I would like to thank all of those residents who wrote in support of the views of the village and those who came to the meeting in support of us on the day.

As predicted last month the Council offices at Corks Lane have now been closed and all Council business will now be carried out at Endeavour House with all its remoteness and traffic problems, this may not be the only change as the administration is seemingly determined to totally force an amalgamation of Babergh and Mid Suffolk to become one sovereign council. We are in changing and challenging times but it would be nice if the administration thought about the long term effect of the changes being forced upon us the electorate.. I hope everyone in my Council ward and elsewhere have a good break when the holiday season arrives on 24th December and that 2018 is a good one for all of us. The Panto at the Quay is Aladdin this year, Oh yes it is.

All Best Wishes Bryn. 01787 210854.

St. Mary's Church Choir:

We are seeking new choir members having recently welcomed two new members, we need more tenors & basses to join too.

There are normally 4 choral services a month plus 2 choir practices on Thursdays.

If you would like to get involved- & I hope you will- please contact me, David Felstead on 01376 339616, or Patrick Friend, or any PCC member or the Revd Judith. Singing is good from a health point of view too & enables us to meet up with new friends.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE AROMATHERAPY THE BOWEN TECHNIQUE

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

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

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

Linda Rice on Boxford (01787) 210850

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE!

Remember

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

Just go to <http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/box-river-news> and scroll down to the latest BRN icon. The Newsletter is usually available about one day after the published press date. You can also drag any pics you might like onto your desktop but these will be of low resolution. If you would like a high res pic just email the address below and we will send you a PDF or Jpeg ed.kench@btinternet.com

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Elaine Carpenter



N.R.H.P., C.H.P., Dip Psychology

Phone: 01787 210601

Mobile: 07929 744072

HYPNOTHERAPY

Negative emotions such as anxiety and depression, can overwhelm us by rippling out and affecting our whole lives. Hypnotherapy can help you discover how to use the power of your mind to free yourself from fear and gain control back of your life.

I HAVE OVER 28 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS A HYPNOTHERAPIST, HELPING PEOPLE TO OVERCOME A WIDE RANGE OF EMOTIONAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL PROBLEMS.



Call me for an informal chat to see how Hypnotherapy can help you. Now available at KERSEY MILL and BOXFORD

HARE & HOUNDS LEAVENHEATH

traditional country freehouse with 3 real ales
pool table - open fire - beer garden & patio - play area

NEW YEARS EVE - LIVE MUSIC
FLAMING LLAMAS PLAYING LIVE

FREE entry & FREE buffet

Come and help us party into the New Year in style!

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

See our website for the menu or pop in to the pub
(Available from 1st - 23rd December)

BURGER WEDNESDAYS

A pint of beer, cider or soft drink plus a choice from 3 homemade burgers with all the trimmings for just £8

WEEKDAY HAPPY HOUR 5 - 6PM

Becks Vier & Greene King IPA for just £2.50 a pint

OPENING HOURS

tuesday, wednesday, thursday 12 - 3pm & 5 - 11pm
friday & saturday 12 - 11pm
sunday 12 - 10pm
closed all day monday

FOOD IS AVAILABLE

tuesday - saturday 12 - 2pm & 6 - 9pm
sunday 12 - 3pm

www.hareandhoundsleavenheath.co.uk 01787 212396

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Paper Hanger and Interior Decorator

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garydjarvis@gmail.com

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Call Angela for a consultation:

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07974 375254

Give your garden the
makeover it deserves!

We are a local garden design company and can offer a complete design, construction and maintenance package or just a planting plan for a single border.

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GARDEN DESIGN

NEWS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

3PR Stats for October

Our responders covered 382 hrs . There were 12 call outs.

Boxford WI

Our Speaker Ron Murrell introduced us to the ghost stories of East Anglia. These tales have been passed down from generation to generation with sightings of a ghostly black dog known as "Old Shuck" as well as appearances from grey or white phantoms. The Nutshell pub in Bury St Edmunds reputedly has a number of phantoms including a monk and a nun, who were believed to have had an affair. Raynham Hall in Norfolk has the brown lady thought to be Dorothy Townsend the second wife of Lord Townsend then there is Lady Henrietta Wilson of Yaxley Hall who when her mausoleum was knocked down resulted in her ghost returning. Ipswich has a number of haunted sights including Christchurch mansion, the former Spooks restaurant and the Buttermarket. We are glad to report that there were no such sightings at the village hall during our meeting! Our first evening meeting was well attended with a number of ladies expressing an interest in joining us in the New Year. Our afternoon meetings continues to flourish with interesting Speakers as well as an active craft group, book club, walking group and theatre group. So what are you waiting for come along and support Boxford WI and enjoy new experiences in our lively, friendly groups. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Future Meetings

3rd Jan	local Artist Hazel Bradshaw	village hall 2pm
19th Jan	tba	village hall 8pm
7th Feb	Gems- Rowley Collier	village hall 2pm
15th Feb	tba	village hall 8pm
7th March	East Anglian Children's Hospice	village hall 2pm
15th March	tba	village hall 8pm

BOXFORD TO COLCHESTER DIRECT SCHOOL BUS

Would your children like to spend less time travelling to grammar schools / Colchester 6th form college (and back)?

I am a local mum investigating whether a route is feasible, my own children would be using it too. The driver & vehicle would be fully licenced and DBS checked etc. and I would be the co-ordinator contracting with the operator

07:45 BOXFORD -----à CRGS ---à CCHSG (arrive around 08:35)
15:50 CCHSG --à CRGS -----à BOXFORD (arrive around 16:45)

If interested please call or email Mrs Sian Goodman

07760 450247 siangoodman93@gmail.com



Boxford Calendar 2018

Available in the Post Office or Village Stores now.

Makes an excellent gift or souvenir.

£7.00 per copy

All proceeds to support

St. Mary's Parish Church, Boxford

Boxford Charity Christmas Cards

Over the past 20 years we have printed Boxford Christmas cards with the profit going to various good causes within the village.

As we have built up a stock of the previous years cards we have decided to offer them again for this years Boxford card

There are three designs and a pack of 10 cards + envelopes will be £4 with the profit going to the original organisation, Boxford over 60's Club, The Boxford Playing Field and 1st Boxford Guides. They are on sale in the Post Office now.

Queen Bee Designs Ltd.



ANNE HOLDGATE

I would like to say a few words about Anne. She was one of the kindest, hard working and bravest people I have known. She would help anyone in need and could always rustle up others to help as well. She was a member of various committees and was always the first to volunteer and the last to leave. Despite the fact that for many months she knew that she had terminal cancer, she wanted few people to know, so that she could carry on as normal and not be treated any differently. However, this never stopped her helping out at all the events, even if she was in the middle of treatment. She always put on a brave face and somehow did manage to carry on as normal throughout it all.

For many years Anne served the Community Council as our catering coordinator and chief, ensuring every event was well run in her efficient way; much work was done at home as well as numerous shopping trips, which many would not know. She was aided in all of this by her husband Ian, to whom we also owe a huge debt. We have all lost a faithful fellow committee member who served us proudly to the end and was indeed to many of us also a dear friend.

Stephanie Atkins Boxford Community Council

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD CHARITIES

If you are over 65 and retired and have lived in Little Waldingfield for a year or more, you may be entitled to the Charity's Christmas Gift'

If you are disabled or have medical requirements we may also be able to help.

Please apply to the Clerk, Sue Mitchell on 247173

by 30th November 2017

LAVENHAM
CHRISTMAS FAIR
 2017.

Artwork by David Game

Lavenham will be celebrating Christmas early this year so make a note in your diary now for the Lavenham Christmas Fair:

Friday December 1st 5.30 pm - 8.30 pm
Saturday December 2nd 11 am - 5pm
Sunday December 3rd 11am - 4pm

Stowmarket
Chorale

Conductor
Leslie Olive

Christmas
Among the Trees

Featuring Vaughan Williams' 'Fantasia on Christmas Carols' and selections from Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio'

With the childrens' choir of South Lee School

7 pm, Saturday 9 December
£10 adults, £3 children, including refreshments

St Peter & St Mary's Church,
 Station Road West, Stowmarket IP14 1ES

Tickets from www.stowmarketchorale.org.uk or contact tickets@stowmarketchorale.org.uk

Telephone 01359 240676 or pay on the door

Charity Number
 280488

Festive events at SbN

Celebrate the festive period with family and friends throughout December at Stoke by Nayland Hotel.

Christmas Day Lunch
 Enjoy a delicious four-course Christmas Day lunch with the whole family.

Boxing Day Brunch
 Choose from pancakes, cereals fresh fruit and cooked options at our Boxing Day buffet-style Brunch.

Boxing Day Dinner & Dance
 Continue the festivities with a five-course tasting menu and live entertainment!

New Year's Eve
 Ring in the New Year with our Supper & Disco or Gala Ball events.

www.stokebynayland.com/events

For more information, or to book any of our events please contact the Sales Team on 01206 262836 or sales@stokebynayland.com.

Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Golf & Spa, Keepers Lane, Leavenheath, Colchester CO6 4PZ | Tel: 01206 262836

Wot's On

FUN & GAMES NIGHT BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

We will once again be holding our Annual Fun & Games Night in Boxford Village Hall on Saturday 27 January 2018. Teams of 8 contestants will battle through the various indoor games and quizzes to claim the prestigious title. A fun night is promised for all with a licensed bar, raffle and refreshments. The evening will commence at 7.30 with registration and the first round of games at 7.50 promptly. Ticket prices are £60 per team. We have a limit on the number of teams so if you don't want to be disappointed please contact Stephanie Atkins on 01787 210444 or Mark Miller on 01787 211596, or alternatively e-mail Mark on Mark.Miller@talktalk.net We would like to get all teams listed before Christmas and, if you are not in a team but would like to help, please also let us know. It is never too early to book your place, so book it now!

LWHS Programme of Events - 2017 / 2018

13th December Ian McLachlan Zeppelin

Stories from the Zeppelin raids on East Anglia 100 years ago; the first casualties in Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn and how the sky monsters were defeated.

**17th January Roger Green If These Walls Could Talk
MEMBER ONLY EVENT**

A short talk followed by wine and nibbles.

14th February Jenny Antill Between Heaven & Earth,

reflections on the Russian Soul over 1000 years of history. A study of the social and cultural influence of the Russian orthodox church, the importance of the icon, impact of C19th Slavic Revival on art / architecture and the influence of religious images and ideas on soviet authorities in the 20th Century.

14th March Geoffrey Kay A tonic to the nation

The 1951 Festival of Britain

18th April Linda Sexton Sisters in adversity

The Women's Institutes and the devastating 1953 East Coast Floods

16th May Pip Wright A Picture History of Margaret Catchpole

The story of a Suffolk adventuress & chronicler transported for stealing a horse, using paintings by Rev Cobbold. Described in the Australian Dictionary of Biography as one of the few convicts with an excellent memory and a gift for recording events.

13th June Allan Manning The battle of Waterloo

This finally broke the dominance of Emperor Napoleon over Europe and was truly the end of an epoch. Allan has created a very large and detailed map of the battlefield and will take us through the incredible events of that fateful day on 18th June 1815.

All talks will be at the Parish Room in Church Road, Little Waldingfield, commencing at 7.30 pm sharp.

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

Booking Secretary: Diana Langford, Pitt Cottage 01787 248298

Tickets Members £2.00 Non Members £4.00

Little Waldingfield Parish Room

Our next event in the Parish Room will be a 1970s Evening, on Saturday 9th December, with a themed 3 course meal and table quiz.

Tickets cost £10.00 each and are available from Sue Sheppard, School House, Church Road (247980 or email sheppard.susanm@gmail.com). Please bring your own alcohol.

Stowmarket Choral

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 9 December 2017 Christmas Concert at Stowmarket Parish Church, with children's choir from South Lees School, Bury St Edmunds. 7pm, Contact tickets@stowmarketchorale.org.uk to book your ticket.

Sunday 18 March 2018 We welcome Alexander L'Estrange and his jazz band, together with children from South Lee School, Bury St Edmunds, Rougham Primary School and Great Finborough Primary School, to perform Alexander L'Estrange's Zimbe (Songs of Africa) and John Rutter's Mass of the Children at the Apex, Bury St Edmunds at 4pm. Contact the Apex Box Office for tickets. 01284 75800 www.theapex.co.uk



FUN & GAMES NIGHT

Saturday 27th January 2018
7.30pm for 7.50pm prompt start!

BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL

£60 PER TEAM - MAX. 8 IN A TEAM
Contact Stephanie Atkins 01787 210444
Mark Miller 01787 211596
mark.miller@talktalk.net

BoxfordCommunityCouncil@gmail.com
www.boxford.me.uk
Registered Charity No.: 304862

A VERY SPECIAL WEEKEND...

It's Christmas in Boxford

Friday December 8th from 5 till 7pm
Grand Christmas Fair
In Boxford Village Hall

...and Father Christmas!
Gifts, food, refreshments,
crafts, loads of stalls!

Friday to Sunday 8/9/10 December (see times below)

Christmas Tree Festival

IN THE CHURCH RAFFLE!

Pop-up Cafe on Saturday & Sunday, mulled wine, raffle & more!

Friday December 8th from 3 till 7pm,
Saturday 10 till 6,
Sunday 12 till 4

WHATS ON AT THE FLEECE THIS
CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

From 9pm

Live from The Tap Room

AIMEE HELOISE

Christmas Day

Opening at 11am til 2pm

Boxing Day

Brunch Served from 11am til 4pm

Buffet Breakfast.

NYE

Cassette Dog

Live from the Tap Room Free Entry,

Buffett 10pm til Late

Wot's On

THE BOXFORD PANTOMIME

Wednesday 29th November (Family Night - Curtain up at 7pm, no supper) Adults £8.00 Children £4.00

Thursday 30th till Saturday 2nd December (Curtain up at 7.30pm, 2 course Christmas Supper served in the interval) All tickets £15.00

This year it's the classic tale of Cinderella.

With everything you would expect from Cinderella herself, the handsome Prince Charming, Cinderella's father the bumbling Baron Hardup and not forgetting the outrageous ugly sisters, the Fairy Godmother and the long suffering Buttons plus all the usual suspects, but with a local slant!

Written by Joe Barrett, music from Ward Baker and Gareth Price and directed by David Phillips, Boxford Drama Group hope you will be ready to get into the Christmas spirit and come along and buy your tickets at Boxford Village Hall on Saturday morning October 28th between 9am till 10am. (Limit 8 tickets per person).

Later that morning any unsold tickets will go to Boxford Post Office.

Lavenham Christmas Fair

Friday December 1. 5.30-8.30pm, Saturday December 2, 11am -- 5pm, Sunday December 3, 11am -- 4pm.

Fifty stalls under cover in Market Place and Guildhall for Christmas shopping and festive fun. Non-stop entertainment, children's fairground, rides and and Big Wheel, Father Christmas in his Grotto, bar, hog roast and other hot food on the go, ukelele band, jazz band, singers and groups, local choir, morris dancers, owls and birds of prey. Guided twilight tour of our lovely medieval village. Late night shopping on Friday. Organised parking. Free event.

More information: www.discoverlavenham.co.uk

Christmas Fayre

Boxford Village Hall

8th December 5 till 7

If you would like to book a table please call

Veronica 01787211529 or email veronica.hobbs1964@outlook.com

Nayland Christmas Fayre

Sunday 2nd December

A note for your diary! There will be plenty of stalls, a raffle, cake and coffee etc.

Suffolk Villages Festival

Autumn Concerts 2017 Artistic Director: Peter Holman

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2017, 6.00 p.m.

St Mary's Church, Dedham

Mediva: Ann Allen & Adrien Reboisson shawms & recorders, Corina Marti recorders & clavicymbalum

Natalie Carducci fiddle, Erwan Picquet voice, Max Fiorani percussion with a childrens' choir from local schools

directed by Ann Allen

Gabriel's Message Festive Music from Mediaeval England

Box Office: www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com 01206 366603

box@suffolkvillagesfestival.com

For further information: Suffolk Villages Festival

(www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com), 01206 366603

follow us on Twitter (@suffolkvf) & Facebook

Nayland Horticultural Society

We will have a stall at the Nayland Christmas Fayre

Saturday December 2nd 10.30-1pm, Nayland Village Hall.

Fun for all the family: Father Christmas, musical entertainment by

Nayland Primary School, traditional stalls, festive goodies, mulled wine, fabulous food, raffle, Tombola etc Great atmosphere. Free entry.

Hadleigh & District Flower Club

We have just started a new year with our AGM followed by a lovely demonstration from a newly qualified demonstrator, Lorraine Scott. On November 14th Terri Potter is our demonstrator with the title "Attic Attack", and on December 14th our Christmas demonstrator is David Wright with the title "Let it Snow". We meet at the URC Church, Hadleigh at 7.30 pm. Come and join us for an evening of flowers fun and friendship. Visitors £5, Annual Subscriptions £15 plus £2 per meeting. We look forward to seeing you. Any queries tel. Jenny 01473 822971 or Chris 01473 652412

GRAND CAKE SALE

**Saturday 2nd December
9am Mary's House**



**In aid of The Early Learning Orphanage
& School in Entebbe Uganda**
**Cakes • Savouries • Jams • Marmalade
Coffee & Raffle**

Special display of Alison Brain's gifts and beads from Uganda

Joan Smith & Alison Brain

BOXFORD DRAMA GROUP PRESENT

Cinderella



29 Nov to 2 Dec

**Tickets will be on sale Saturday 28th October
in Boxford Village Hall 9am to 10am
Then in Boxford Post Office**

Wednesday November 29th "Family Night"

Tickets £8 adults £4 children - 7.00pm (No supper)

Thursday 30th to Saturday 2nd Tickets £15 - 7.30pm.

2 course Christmas supper served during the interval

Licensed bar and raffle all evenings.



Concert of Christmas Music

Saturday 9th December
At 3.00pm

Christchurch URC Sudbury
(School Street)

Conductor: Stephen Hogger
Pianist: Andrew Clare

Tickets £8 including Seasonal Refreshments

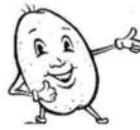
Free Admission for Children

Tickets available at the Tourist Office
Sudbury, and on the door.

St. Bartholomew's Groton

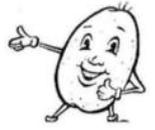
Presents

A



QUIZ & SPUD EVENING

Choice of fillings



At

GROTON VILLAGE HALL

On

20th JANUARY 2018

at

7.30pm

RAFFLE & BYO BAR

Reserve Your Team - Up To Six

Pat : 210319 or

Jayne : 211360

GROTON CHURCH

ANNUAL CHEESE & WINE PARTY

AT

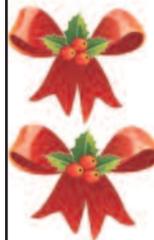
GROTON VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 2ND 2017
AT 7.30PM

Bar and Raffle

TICKETS £10.00

**PAT-201319
JAYNE-211360**



CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
10am - 4pm

**POLSTEAD VILLAGE
HALL**

LOCAL PRODUCE

LOCAL CRAFTS

CAKES

TOMBOLA

REFRESHMENTS

FOR STALLS CONTACT ANGELA 01473827462

PROCEEDS TO POLSTEAD COMMUNITY SHOP

Wot's On

Nayland Christmas Fayre

Saturday December 2nd 10.30-1pm

Fun for all the family: Father Christmas, musical entertainment by Nayland Primary School, traditional stalls, festive goodies, mulled wine, fabulous food, raffle, Tombola etc Great atmosphere. Free entry. Nayland Village Hall. CO6 4JH

Stoke-by-Nayland WEA

'Makers of Modern Thought' by David Sharp

Stoke-by-Nayland WEA presents a series of 10 Lectures starting on Thursday 11th January 2018 in Stoke-by-Nayland Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The course will explore the lives, ideas and legacies of some key philosophical and scientific thinkers over the last two and a half thousand years. Greeks and Hebrews posed fundamental questions about life and human nature. In India the Buddha contemplated wisdom and compassion. Aquinas saw theology as the queen of the sciences but in the Renaissance Galileo and Francis Bacon laid the foundations of modern science. Descartes and Newton heralded the Enlightenment when 'reason' was emphasised by some and criticized by others. Darwin gave us the theory of evolution which is still not accepted by everyone. Nietzsche and Marx have been called the 'masters of suspicion' where philosophy and religion are concerned, but in recent times their influence has waned. Who are the modern philosophers and what are their ideas?

David has taught Religious Studies and Philosophy in schools up to A level, worked in Interfaith projects in Ipswich as faith officer and tutor for various related accredited adult courses and given talks on aspects of religion/philosophy to interested groups. He has been a WEA tutor for the last five years and attends a monthly Philosophy in Pubs evening with friends.

Fees: Adult £54 (payable after the first session). Try the first session (free).

For further information please contact Sue Whiteley.

Phone: 01787 210945 or email: whiteleysa@hotmail.co.uk



Polstead Digital Cinema Friday 15th December

Tickets £3.50 from the Polstead Community Shop or 01787 210029
All films start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.00pm

A poster for 'Boxford Carols 'round the tree'. The top part shows Santa Claus in a sleigh flying over a town at night. The text reads 'Boxford Carols 'round the tree' and 'Mon. 18th Dec.'. Below this, it says '8.00 p.m. Carols'. The bottom part of the poster is red and features a green Christmas tree. Text on the red background includes 'Mince Pies', 'Roasted Chestnuts', 'Mulled Wine', and 'Singing 'round the tree at The Hart'. At the bottom left is the 'BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL' logo, and at the bottom right is the 'THE BOXFORD WHITE HART' logo. The website 'www.boxford.me.uk' is listed at the bottom.

A movie poster for Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast'. The poster features the title 'Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST' in a large, ornate font. Below the title, it shows Belle and the Beast in a grand, candlelit ballroom. The names of the cast members are listed at the top: EMMA WATSON, DAN STEVENS, JULIE EVANS, KEVIN KLINE, YOSHI GAD, PAVAN MCCREGOR, STANLEY TUCCI, ALICIA McDONALD, GUGU MBATHA-RAW, IAN MCKELLEN, and EMMA THOMPSON. At the bottom, it says 'LEAVENHEATH CINEMA SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER' and 'Tickets Telephone: Lesley (01206 262505) or Ken (01206 263266) £3.50 per adult and £2.00 per young person'.



THE BOXFORD



WHITE HART



NOW OFFERING DELIVERY 7 DAYS A WEEK 5-9PM

HOMEMADE PIZZA

MARGHERITA (v) £7.95

Tomato, cheese

HAWAIIAN £8.95

Topped with cheese, ham and pineapple

PEPPERONI £9.00

VEGGIE (v) £9.50

Topped with mushroom, onion and peppers

5-CHEESE (v) £9.50

Topped with blue cheese, mozzarella, parmesan, pecorino
and goat cheese

MEAT FEAST £9.95

Topped with pepperoni, ham and bacon

SPICY £9.95

Topped with cheese, pepperoni, jalapeño peppers

Extra topping £1.00

DRINKS £1.00

Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Sprite, Tango

HOMEMADE PASTA

Penne Pomodoro (v) £7.00

Tomato sauce, cherry tomato, fresh basil

4-Cheese Creamy Penne (v) £8.50

Gorgonzola blue, pecorino, mozzarella, Parmesan

Creamy Chicken Alfredo Linguine £8.50

Creamy Shrimp Alfredo Linguine (v) £9.00

Creamy Salmon Alfredo Linguine (v) £9.50

BURGERS, CHICKEN & SALADS

Vegan Burger (v) £4.50

Chicken Burger £5.50

Hamburger £5.50

Bacon £0.50 Cheddar £0.50 Fresh mozzarella £1.00

Chicken Wings (10 pcs) Spicy or BBQ £7.50

Caesar Salad Chicken £5.50

Caesar Salad Shrimp (v) £7.50

SIDES/DESSERTS

- Garlic Bread £2.50
- Onion Rings £2.50
- Chocolate cheesecake £3.50
- Chips £2.50
- Sweet Potato Fries £4.00
- Apple pie £3.50

BEER & WINE

Can of Beer £1.50 or 4 for £5.00

Bottle of Vino Italiano white/red wine £13.00

FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS OVER £12

Tuesday & Wednesday special ...buy any 2 items and get the 2nd at
½ price (cheapest item ½ price) (excludes drinks)

CALL 01787 211071 TO ORDER

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Wot's On

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER 2017

Tuesday 5th 12.00 for 12.30 pm Fireside Club –Xmas lunch at Saracen's

Wednesday 6th 7.30 pm Village Hall committee meeting

Saturday 9th 10.00 am Church Xmas coffee morning

Wednesday 13th 7.30 pm Parish Council meeting

Tuesday 19th 2.00 pm Fireside Club – Xmas Trees and mince pies

Thursday 21st 11.00 am Wendy's Walk – Xmas party

JANUARY 2018

Saturday 6th 10.00 am Newton Green Trust coffee morning

Wednesday 10th 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 16th 2.00 pm Fireside Club - tba

Tuesday 30th 2.00 pm Fireside Club - tba

REGULAR EVENTS

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

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

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

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

Groton's Annual Cheese and Wine Party

Saturday, December 2nd 7.30pm at Groton Village Hall

By far the best way to start the festive season and get into the Christmas spirit is to come to the Cheese-and-Wine Party in Groton Village Hall on Saturday December 2nd. We will have all the usual attractions, excellent food, Pat-and-Gerald bar, raffle etc, so get your tickets soon at £10 each from Pat [210319] or Jayne [211360]. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Village Players present
Ken Ludwig's comedy thriller

THE GAME'S AFOOT

OR

HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

6.30pm November 30th (early show)

8.00pm December 1st & 2nd

Nayland Village Hall

CO6 4JH

Tickets £7.50 (under 16s - £6)

from our website

www.villageplayers.co.uk

or from Nayland Post Office (from mid October)

An amateur production by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd



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Boxford Santa Run

SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER

STARTING AT 4PM FROM EDWARDSTONE

WITH A SCHEDULED SANTA STOP AT THE BOXFORD FLEECE AT 5.30PM

(FURTHER ROUTE INFO WILL BE POSTED ON THE FOBS FACEBOOK PAGE)

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 Starting on Monday 22nd January 2018

Tutor: Hugh Black-Hawkins

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Monday January 22 nd	Brian Friel	Translations
Monday January 29 th) William Wordsworth	The Prelude
Monday February 5 th) William Wordsworth	The Prelude Books 9, 10 and 11.
Monday February 19 th	Arthur Hugh Clough	Amours de Voyage
Monday February 26 th	Henry James	The Europeans
Monday March 12 th	Shakespeare	Henry V
Monday March 19 th	Shakespeare	Henry V
Monday March 26 th	Rose Tremain	The Gustav Sonata

Course Fee: £70 for the complete course, payable on the first or second meeting. £10 for each single class.
 Newcomers to these classes are very welcome.

Further information from:
 Mrs Etain Todds, Moat Farm Cottage, Edwardstone, Sudbury CO10 5PY.
 Telephone: 01787 210344



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The Box River Parishes Church News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton

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

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.



Church of England's National Christmas Campaign

This year the Church is launching a campaign to engage as many people as possible with the essence of the Christmas Message. This is called #GodWithUs and is accompanied by the logo to the left.

The campaign will include

- Video adverts that tell the story of people's journeys to church at Christmas and what Christmas means to them, which will be released throughout December on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.
- A series of short reflections to be read throughout December and into early January 2018, introduced by Archbishop Justin Welby entitled Your Christmas Journey. The reflections have been written for people who are new to faith and also to help us all grow in our love of God. You can receive the messages as texts by texting GodWithUs to 88802, or by emails, and on social media. This set of reflections are also available as a small booklet published by Church House Publishing costing £1.50. You can find out more by going to this web site <https://churchofengland.org/media-centre/christmas-2017-godwithus.aspx>



MARY'S HOUSE BOOKINGS

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

Please note that the suggested donation is £1.00 per head for a two-hour booking for all meetings. For inquiries about new bookings, please contact Pauline or David Lamming: telephone 01787 210360.

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

Please, NO LATER THAN 10h December 2017

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

Thank you. Rev'd Judith. 01787 210091

email address: rvdjudithboxriver@btinternet.com

THE PARISH OF ST MARY, BOXFORD

Churchwarden:

Peter Dilnot

Assistant Churchwarden:

Michael Gray

Mobile: 07931 043926

Email: boxford.warden@btinternet.com



**St. Mary's Boxford
A Candle lit
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
Sunday December 3rd at 4.00 pm**

This family candle lit service is where we raise funds for the Children's Society. Though Christingles have been taking place in England for nearly 50 years, the idea of the Christingle actually began in Marienborn, Germany in 1747. At a children's service, Bishop Johannes de Watteville looked for a simple way to explain the happiness that had come to people through Jesus. He decided to give the children a symbol to do this. This was a lighted candle wrapped in a red ribbon. At the end of the service, whilst the children held their candles, the bishop said the prayer, 'Lord Jesus, kindle a flame in these children's hearts that theirs like thine become.'

In 1968, John Pensom of The Children's Society adapted Christingle and introduced it to the Church of England. This involved children decorating an orange with a red ribbon, dried fruits, sweets and a candle to create a new visual representation of Christ, the light of the world, celebrated by the lighting of the Christingle candles.

A service for all the family where we raise funds for the Children's Society

Christmas Services at St. Mary's Boxford

Sunday 17th A Carol Service for the whole family at 6.30 pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Sunday 24th Christmas Eve Midnight Communion at 11.30 pm

Monday 25th Christmas Day A Family Service for Christmas Day at 10.00 am



The **Boxford 2018 Calendar** is on sale in the Post Office and Village Stores. Costing £7.00, it makes a great gift and souvenir and all proceeds are to support St. Mary's Parish Church. Otherwise email ChrisKingsC@aol.com and we will reserve you a copy.

During the Advent and Christmas Season, we Journey with Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, the shepherds and the magi as we discover how the historical and geographical aspects of the Christmas story can inspire us. We will hear how a simple girl, and an ordinary man, and a relative, and everyday people can help us gain insight into our own journeys through life. Their experiences will remind us of what we ourselves have also experienced -

that even in times of overwhelming sorrow and intense pain, God offers us overwhelming joy; that even when we are struggling or trying to discern our next steps, God walks with us on our journeys. Surely the joy and hope of Christmas are deeper than the circumstances and events of our lives. May we each be blessed in this part of our journey. Christopher Kingsbury



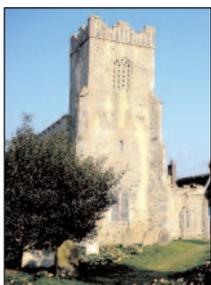
THE PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

Churchwarden:
Vacant

Rota for November
Sunday 17th at 9:30 am
Sidesman/Coffees
Flowers
Cleaning

Holy Communion
Maureen Cooling/Emma Driscoll
Everyone
Diana Hawke

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



THE PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, GROTON

Churchwardens:
Vacant

Acting Churchwarden:
Diana McCorkell

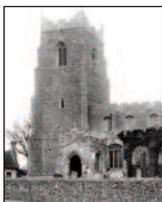
Primrose Cottage, Parliament Heath, Groton,
CO10 5ER Tel: 01787 210927
E-mail: dianah.mccorkell@btinternet.com

Christmas carols

Groton's Carol Service this year is on **Wednesday 20th December 2017 at 7.00 pm**. Please do join us for this traditional service of readings and carols when we look forward to the annual celebration of 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 the babe lying in the manger." We celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas, but as we do so we also worship him as Saviour and Lord.

Churchyard trees

If you notice a tree surgeon at work in the churchyard be assured that all is in order. Three lime trees on the northern boundary, adjacent to the garden of Tyndals, are being pollarded. Periodic pollarding of lime trees is quite normal, and the particular work has been formally approved by the Archdeacon of Sudbury in accordance with the requirements of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015, as well as by the PCC.



THE PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Churchwardens
Vacant

Rotas

	Sidesmen	Flowers
3rd December	Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Eddington	No flowers
10th December	No service	No flowers
17th December	No service	No flowers
21st December	Mrs. Gardiner and Mr. Powell	All
24th December	TBA	All

Our Coffee Morning in aid of church funds was a very happy and successful event. Excellent refreshments, cakes made by Nancy Roser and Fran Gregor-Smith, were enjoyed by all.

Thanks also to Rose Finch and her daughter Gillian, who ran the Bring and Buy stall and the Raffle. Prizes for the raffle were donated by kind friends in the village, and donations came from those who couldn't be with us. In two hours we raised £192.00

19th December Carol Singing round the village in aid of Crisis. Meet at Bramley Cottage opposite The Swan at **6.00 pm**.

21st December at 7.00 pm Carol Service at St. Lawrence Church.

24th December at 9.00 pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion.



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWTON

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

22nd October Our Service of Holy Communion was taken by Revd. James Ridge. We were very pleased to welcome him as Revd. Judith was on her much needed holiday. Due to our Churchwarden's absence various members of our church were extremely helpful in preparing for the service. It was wonderful that Judith Smalley on her return visit to Newton kindly attended to the lighting of the candles. Thank you to Wendy Turner for ringing the bells, to Nancy Roser for playing the organ and to all who helped in any way to give the service a feeling of friendship.

Notices

9th December at 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. Our annual **Church Coffee Morning** in the Village Hall. Stalls, tom-bola, raffle and coffee / tea and cakes / biscuits. A very warm welcome to all.

17th December at 4.00 pm. Our Carol Service

24th December at 3.00pm. Crib Service.

As the year comes to an end we offer our great appreciation to Revd. Judith for all that she has done during the year, in church and in the Village and also to her husband Rufus, who does a great deal of work for us quietly in the background. Thank you to our Churchwarden, Christine Cornell, for being at the helm and keeping us together. Our organist, Nancy Roser, has managed to fit in playing for us even with a tight schedule between churches. Our thanks to all who help in so many different ways and to everyone who comes to join us from the other churches in the Diocese.

We wish you a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful 2018.

GENERAL CHURCH NEWS DIOCESAN SYNOD

The autumn meeting of the Synod was held on 4th November in Ipswich. In his presidential address Bishop Martin focussed on our calling to Christian discipleship: "Each one of us is called by God to follow Jesus, to learn to live as disciples in our diverse worshipping communities, and to proclaim our faith to other. This is the basis of everything else in the diocese." Bishop Martin went on to emphasise the vitality of worship in our Christian discipleship, but saying that for the early Christians "it was not a service you went to, an hour on a Sunday morning. For them, worship was their way of life – being a Christian meant being turned worshipfully to God all the time, orientated to God in a state of bowing down, a life honouring and giving praise to God. It meant that for the first Christians and it can mean the same for us." Bishop Martin concluded by saying that study of the Scriptures and diligent prayer were "at the heart of growing as disciples and the renewal of the church", and this is to be the focus of attention over the next two years. (You can download a video recording of the bishop's address at <http://www.cofesuffolk.org/synods-committees/diocesan-synod>.)

Synod went on to hear a presentation on the work of the Children's Society with vulnerable 10 to 18-year-olds. It then voted unanimously to adopt the House of Bishops' policy statement, "Promoting a Safer Church" together with a strategy for training all those serving on behalf of the diocese. Both the policy statement and the national church practice guidance were commended to parishes "for adoption at their next PCC." Synod also adopted a policy statement on preventing bullying and harassment, and approved the diocesan budget for 2018 and the basis of the parish share allocations for the year.

100 YEARS, 100 TREASURES: A celebration of Suffolk Churches David Lamming still has a number of copies of this colourful book produced to celebrate the centenary of our diocese in 2014 and featuring two of the churches in our benefice (Boxford and Groton). It would make a good Christmas present or stocking filler, or why not buy one to keep in your car? At just £5 it is a snip! Contact David at Tel: 01787 210360 or e mail djlamming@hotmail.com.



Please look at the Churches Together website for details of the various activities taking place over the Advent season:
www.churchestogetherinsudbury.org.uk.

Village Daily Prayers Each week, in the five churches*: an 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. *Tuesday* 9.00 Edwardstone, *Wednesday* 9.00 Groton; 16.00 Little Waldingfield (* held at Newman's Hall, Oct – Mar); *Thursday* 9.00 Newton, 17.00 Boxford. If you don't usually attend please phone to check first as we are sometimes unable to meet. Please note there will be no Village Prayers in the last week of December.

***** Special Services highlighted *****

***** You will be warmly welcomed at all Christmas Services ! *****

Sunday 3rd	Advent 1		(P)
Boxford	08.00 Holy Communion		Revd Judith
Lt. Waldingfield	09.30 Holy Communion		Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00 Cafe Church (Informal worship)		Revd Judith
Boxford	16.00 Christingle Service		Revd Judith

Wednesday 6th			
Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion - Mary's House		Revd Judith
Thursday 7th			
Lt Waldingfield	15.00 Holy Communion* - Newmans Hall (* Reserved Sacrament)		Lay Team

Sunday 10th	Advent 2		(P)
Groton	09.30 Morning Worship		Revd Judith
Boxford	11.00 Holy Communion		Revd Judith

Wednesday 13th			
Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion - Mary's House		Revd Judith

Sunday 17th	Advent 3		(P)
Edwardstone	09.30 Holy Communion		Revd Judith
Newton	16.00 Carol Service, with the Millwheel Singers		Revd Judith
Boxford	18.30 Carol Service		Revd Judith

Wednesday 20th			
Boxford	10.30 Holy Communion Mary's House		Revd Judith
Groton	19.00 Carol Service		Revd Judith

Thursday 21st			
Lt Waldingfield	15.00 Compline - Newmans Hall		Lay Team
Lt Waldingfield	19.00 Carol Service		Revd Judith

Sunday 24th	Christmas Eve		(W)
Newton	15.00 Crib Service		Revd Judith
Edwardstone	18.00 Carol Service		Revd Judith
Lt Waldingfield	21.00 Christmas Holy Communion		Revd Judith
Boxford	23.30 Midnight Communion		Revd Judith

Monday 25th	Christmas Day		(W)
Groton	09.30 Family Communion	Revd Judith	
Boxford	10.30 Family Service		Revd Judith

Sunday 31st	1st Sunday of Christmas		(W)
Little Waldingfield	10:00 Five Villages Service with Holy Communion		Revd Judith

Soap Box

Over recent weeks I have found the main news items particularly dull. By that I do not mean they are unimportant – quite the opposite in fact. Rather, that by sheer repetition they have become tiresome and, worse, have started to lose any sense of real meaning. I refer, of course, to the seemingly endless debate over Brexit, to which I might return at a later stage if it becomes more interesting, and the rapidly escalating series of revelations of sexual misconduct in both the worlds of entertainment and politics.

Far be it for me to condone any of the action taken by a wide variety of prominent people, but we are in the main talking about events that took place many years ago. Standards change over time and clearly much of what went on decades past would not be acceptable today, but the extent of skeleton-in-closet chasing that is taking place leaves an unpleasant taste in my mouth. Doubtless some instances are worthy of revisiting, if only to achieve justice for those abused, but not every incident will be clear cut.

The list of activities that are being revisited in the light of how we view things today is long and growing. Apologies for how homosexuals have been treated in the past take place regularly. The slave trade has been acknowledged as abhorrent and compensation paid. Perhaps the death penalty and corporal punishment will feature at some stage. Should I expect an apology and compensation for being beaten at school, I wonder? The headmaster who gave me six of the best, assuring me it would hurt me more than him is long dead, though the school still exists.

It makes me wonder what we are doing today that will be looked back on by generations of the future who will reflect on how barbaric we were back in the 21st century. I find it difficult to conceive just how a civilised society, such as that in which we supposedly all live, might be doing some things that, on reflection, will be seen as wholly inappropriate. But then, I daresay slave traders of the 19th century saw nothing wrong with their behaviour. And go back still further in time and you will find still more barbaric practices that were presumably considered as the norm in those days.

To return to the current wave of revelations over sexual impropriety, I cannot help but wonder whether the compensation culture that has taken hold of our society is not exacerbating the situation in some cases. While money might not be the principal aim, gaining a certain notoriety or taking a prominent personage – who perhaps you know – down a peg or two might drive some to rake up incidents that might have felt unimportant at the time.

Perhaps some of those seeking to discredit others with tales of impropriety have been encouraged by others. Our car insurance premiums are higher today because of the rush of whiplash claims which ambulance chasing claims companies encouraged in order to create revenue for themselves. Some of you are aware that my car was written off in Sudbury station car park earlier this year. I can't tell you how many calls I've received starting with the question "we understand you've been in a car accident – is this true?" Their disappointment when I explain I was several miles away at the time was palpable.

OK, I'm not suggesting there are businesses out there encouraging anyone with even a hint of sexual misconduct known to them to pursue their case (though if there was money in it, I wouldn't like to bet that they wouldn't try), but making mountains out of molehills is something that can be encouraged by others. I do not deny that there will have been many instances of inappropriate behaviour, some sufficiently serious to warrant criminal proceedings, nor that some prominent people have sought to use their power for personal pleasure, but the extent of recent coverage by the media has been excessive in my opinion. I look forward to real news emerging soon and can only wish that it will be of a more pleasant kind.

Brian Tora is a local writer and broadcaster.

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GARDENING IN DECEMBER INSPIRED BY HARRY BUCKLEDEE

Prepare established rose beds for the winter. Shorten all growths on bush roses by half to prevent the roots being loosened in the soil by wind rock. Collect and burn all fallen leaves from roses which have been attacked by black spot disease. The soil around the bushes will have become compacted and the top inch or two should be pricked over with a fork to expose the soil to the crumbling action of the winter frosts. Do not use a spade for this because it is liable to chop through the roots causing suckers to form. Water the bushes and the soil with a solution of Armillitox mixed as per the makers instructions to kill off any spores of Black Spot present. Continue tidying up herbaceous borders and forking over the ground between plants. If the borders are close to trees, hedges or shrubs check for the invasion of roots which will take the nutrients from plants if they invade a border. Herbaceous borders are, or should be well fed and manured and roots of these woody plants will readily move in to have a feed that was not intended for them. All that is necessary is to chop into the soil around the bed with a sharp spade to a depth of 9 to 12 inches.

Give extra protection to plants overwintering in a cold frame if severe frost is expected. If plants do get frozen leave the covers on until they have completely thawed out. It is rapid thawing that will blacken leaves and stems.

In the greenhouse plant growth is at it's lowest ebb this month and no attempt should be made to try and make them grow more rapidly by raising the temperature unless you can give them some artificial daylight. Temperature must be related to light, to give plants high temperatures in poor light will result in lanky soft growth prone to disease and collapse. Mice can be troublesome during winter in greenhouses and store rooms. Examine stored dhalias, corms and bulbs for signs of damage or mouse droppings and set traps or put down mouse bait making sure it is protected from domestic animals and birds.

If December is kind, keep on with the digging and manuring of the vegetable garden so that at sowing time in spring, all that is needed is for the soil to be raked over to produce a fine tilth ready for sowing small seeds. It is most important to get all the vacant land dug over before the new year to allow time for winter frosts to break up the soil and for winter rain to consolidate the soil so that you will have land in a condition that will be ready for sowing and planting everything, with the possible

exception of potatoes. There will always be land that has to be dug in the spring such as that from which winter greens have been grown and I always plant my potatoes where brussels sprouts have been grown. Land which is growing sprouting broccoli will not be clear until well into May. and if you are growing courgettes and ridge cucumbers the whole ground need not be dug over , just dig over a planting station for each plant of about 12" square incorporating some well rotted compost. The area around the plants can be mulched with grass mowings through the summer taking care not to put newly mown grass close to the stems of the plants

As we approach the shortest day of the year in December you will need work to keep you warm outside, such as digging and tree pruning. Check your winter protection and if you have a greenhouse make sure the heater is working. Hopefully there are not too many jobs left to do this year so you will have time for some fireside garden planning.

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

Lawns, Avoid walking on lawns on frosty mornings. It can damage the grass and often leads to brown footprint-shaped marks.

Continue to remove fallen leaves from lawns before they block out light and moisture to the grass. Grass will continue to grow in temperatures above 5°C (41°F), so if the weather remains mild it may be necessary to use the mower to keep the lawn in trim. Ensure the cut is 3-5mm higher than during the summer to prevent turf stress. On average, this means a cutting height of around 2-4cm (1-1.5in) for a utility lawn. repair damaged lawn edges or patches with turves cut from other areas of the garden. Re-cut all lawn edges to crisp up the appearance of the garden.

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THE NAMES ON OUR WAR MEMORIALS - DECEMBER 2017

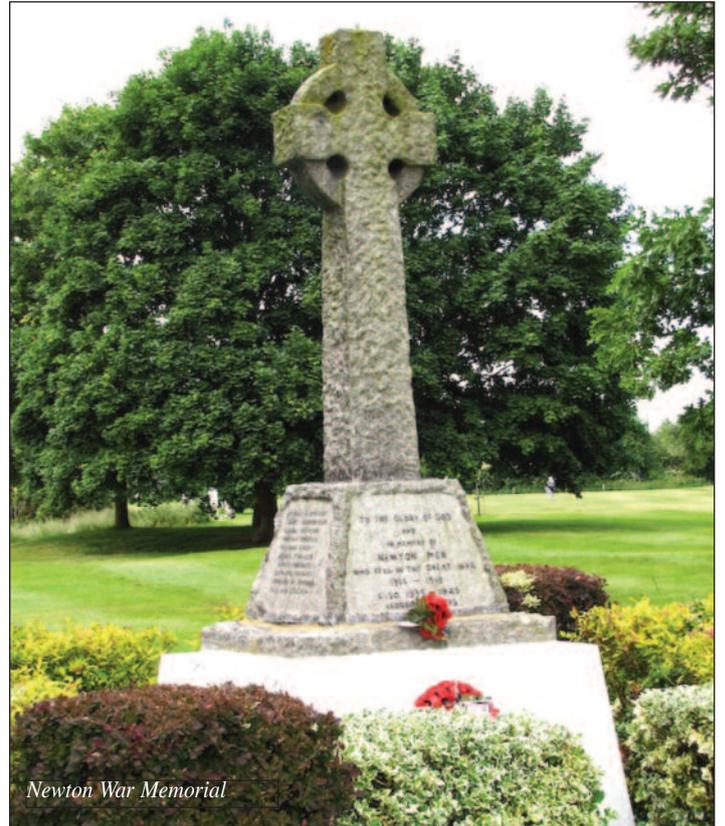
During December 1917 none of our villages lost any of their sons to the War. For this reason, and some issues with my own health, my usual article is replaced with these images as remembrance of all who fought and died in the conflict. *Rufus Sweetman. The Rectory*



Boxford War Memorial



Groton War Memorial



Newton War Memorial



Edwardstone War Memorial



Little Waldingfield War Memorial

Readers Letters

Sir

My family and I would like to thank everyone for their wonderful cards and messages and to thank everyone who came to St Mary's Church and later to the Stoke by Nayland Golf Club to celebrate the life of Anne.

Many thanks for the lovely flowers and for the donations enabling me to send £726.05 to St Elizabeth Hospice, Ipswich
A special thanks must go to Rev Judith for such a lovely service

Ian Holdgate

Sir

Heather Abel and family would like to express their thanks and appreciation of all the support, kind words, cards and warmth they have received from so many of you after the sudden but peaceful death of David on 29th September 2017.

Heather Abel and family

Sir

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our neighbours in Sherbourne Street and any others who drive past our house on a regular basis for their patience and good humour in the face of the "white van city" that has been our verge for the last 9 months. You will all be relieved to know that the work is nearly finished now and we have no plans to do anything else!

With many thanks,

Stephen and Diana Hawke
The Maltings

Sir

Thanks from the Osbornes

The Osborne families of Groton Street would like to thank everyone in the villages who sent them messages of love and support after the tragic loss of Tim, a much loved son, brother and uncle.

The messages and acts of kindness were a real comfort at a very difficult time for us all, and it is at times like this that one appreciates the benefits of living in such close knit and caring communities.

We would also like to express our thanks to the Revd Judith for giving us so generously of her time, caring support and advice.

Thanks also for the donations in Tim's memory after the service in Boxford Church, which have benefitted the RNLI and East Anglian Air Ambulance by £500 each.

Thank you all again from

Jeremy and Rosie, Chris and Katy, Maya and Jack

Sir

Speeding on benefice roads:

It is increasingly worrying that far too many motorists drive on the roads and lanes through the benefice at far too high a speed. The section from Swan Street to Groton Fox and much of Sherbourne Street are particularly affected, even though a 30 MPH limit is in place. It's alarming to pedestrians that drivers don't even lift their foot off the accelerator as they roar by! Please do drive with care, respect and consideration for other road users.

Christopher Kingsbury

Sir

On behalf of St Elizabeth Hospice I would like to say thank you to all who have saved their stamps, also thank you to Boxford Stores for having the collecting box in the shop for me and thanks to Megan and Margaret for bringing them to Hadleigh for me

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year and please keep saving your used stamps for the Hospice

Yours Truly

C Boon Hadleigh

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Parish Council Matters

BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

As many of you may now be aware, the application for the second phase of building on the Goodlands Farm site was rejected at the full Babergh planning meeting on Wednesday 8th November.

Many of you attended the meeting and we'd like to express our sincere thanks to all that were able to come to Endeavour House and support Mathew Wooderson, Roger Loose and Bryn as they made our case to the committee. As seems clear, the weight of numbers supporting the objection from the public gallery helped us to achieve the ultimate rejection; it goes to show what a difference your support can make!

Whilst we celebrate our good fortune and the common sense of the majority of Babergh's planning committee, we also need to acknowledge that there's a high likelihood of either a challenge to the decision or a new application being submitted by the developer for the same site. The decision was narrow; seven versus six and the importance of County Highways' views were stressed – as late as after the proposal to object to the application had been carried on the floor.

It is also worthy of note that there is significant likelihood of potential applications coming in for the "put-forward" sites behind Station Field and behind the Causeway – as well as the two "Calais Street" sites submitted as part of the Joint Local Plan consultation.

We are constantly reminded of Boxford's status as a "Core Village" and the associated mandate for development to happen here. This isn't likely to change any time soon.

Whilst we have not yet been able to properly establish and resource a Neighbourhood Plan, this remains on our list of "urgent" topics to resolve. We should however, continue to think – collectively – as a community, about how we can become proactive in having the greatest level of control over any future building in the village.

In truth, we have two approaches to address all future development applications; the first is to sit back and wait for developer-led applications to be submitted and to support or object to them on their individual merits as they arrive. The campaign to object to Goodlands Farm Phase 2 has been time consuming and relentless and there's no reason to believe this would be any different in regard to any future applications with which we, as a village, are unhappy, for whatever reason.

The second approach is to be more proactive. It's probably fair to say that most of us would be happy to see no new houses being built in the village but our Core Village status guarantees that this won't be the reality. Your Parish Council believes that we should do everything we can to have as much control over future development as possible – and this means that we will need your help to understand the wishes of everyone in the village.

Our intention is to produce a survey, hopefully for distribution with the next Box River News, that asks you to share your thoughts regarding future development in Boxford and its Functional Cluster (i.e. surrounding villages and hamlets). With the resulting data we can begin to devise a formal plan for your consideration.

Should you have any comments or thoughts regarding the questions the survey should ask, please email your thoughts to boxfordpcplanningcomments@gmail.com or by hand to Bell House. Thank you.

Meeting of Boxford Parish Council

The next full meeting of Boxford Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th December. **Report of the Meeting held Monday 6th November**

Public Forum Feedback was given in respect of the recent site meeting and preparations were completed ahead of the Planning Meeting in Ipswich where the Goodlands phase 2 application was to be decided. The considerable challenge of persuading the Planning Committee to refuse permission had been recognised. The Parish Council and residents had pulled together to investigate, gather and present relevant evidence. Parish Cllr M Wooderson, who led in this respect, was to speak at the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. District Cllr Bryn Hurren and Roger Loose were also intending to speak. **By way of an update, the Parish Council are delighted the Planning Committee took on board concerns and decided to Refuse Planning Permission.

County Council Report County Cllr James Finch was unable to attend due to ill health.

District Council Report District Cllr B Hurren attended and confirmed the move to Ipswich had taken place. The Joint Local Plan was still in Consultation. He urged everyone to give feedback to the Boundary Review in respect of their Consultation. The recent proposals to merge Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils will now go before full Committee. He reported incidents of vandalism at the Playingfield and urged vigilance. He is investigating with Beestons the situation in relation to discounted post 16 travel to education.

Correspondence The Parish Council was supportive of a resident's suggestion

to the County Council to extend the reduced speed limit to Brick Kiln Hill and confirmed they would work towards traffic calming in the vicinity.

Finance In addition to the usual business, the Annual Risk Assessment was reviewed.

Two memorial applications were approved

Reports The poor state of the road on The Causeway between no's 3 and 7 was again to be reported on-line to County Highways.

Planning The Planning Authority confirmed permission had been granted on the following applications:-

- Proposed new dwelling and garage at Old School House, School Hill
 - Listed Building Consent to re-render and window repairs at 5 Church Street
 - Listed Building for Internal alterations at Peyton House, Butchers Lane
 - To fell ash tree at Rose Cottage, 42 Swan Street
- Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent had been refused to demolish a section of boundary wall and create new access at Cox Farm, Cox Hill
- The Parish Council had No Objections to the following applications:-
- Conservation Area tree work at Twelve, 12 The Causeway
 - Tree work at 24 Stone Street
 - Extension and garage conversion at Boxbank, Rules Yard
- The Parish Council Objected to a proposed canopy on the front of the school due to the appearance in its setting.

It was agreed to respond to the Joint Local Plan Consultation ahead of the deadline. Cllr D Talbot Clarke and Cllr M Wooderson were to liaise in this respect. *Debbie Hattrell*, Clerk to Boxford Parish Council

Groton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7 pm Wednesday 1 November 2017 at Groton Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton

Present: J Osborne (Chair), C Fraulo, P Roberts, N Cox, R Cheeseman

In attendance: A Robinson (Clerk)

Apologies for absence – D Wills, A Dixon-Smith (approved); B Hurren, J Finch

Reports – B Hurren (BDC) had sent a report confirming that the move to Endeavour House had now gone ahead. There is a proposal to combine BDC and MSDC. The new Boundary Commission recommendations are out for consultation, having taken on board previous criticisms. The proposal is to combine Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton, Kersey, Lindsey and Milden into one ward, and the Parish Council resolved that the Clerk would write to the Boundary Commission supporting this. B Hurren had also advised that the Goodlands application will be heard on 8 November.

The Minutes of the meeting of 6 September were approved and signed.

Reports and questions from Councillors – J Osborne and C Fraulo confirmed that they would attend the BDC Town and Parish Liaison Meeting on 7 November at 6.30pm and the Clerk will book their places.

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♥ Only 23 % of our patients currently use the online appointment system although many more according to our March survey would like to. We want to help to improve this with your support. This will help you and the practice. Members of the PPG will be available soon to offer support and training to those who would like to use the online facilities. Dates will be advertised or contact the PPG if you are interested.

♥ November 13th – 19th is National Self-care Week. This year's theme is "Embracing Self-care for Life" Starting November 3rd the Physiotherapy Team at Hadleigh Health Centre are planning to start a regular hourly session of 'Health Walks' on a Friday afternoon from 2

p.m. lasting about an hour. Everyone is welcome.

♥ Just 10 minutes of brisk walking every day can benefit your health, improve the way you feel and reduce the risk of a number of long-term conditions such as heart disease and type 2 diabetes. Active 10 quickly and simply shows you how many brisk 10 minute walks you're doing and how to fit more into your day.



♥ This is a free downloadable app.

♥ Many patients are not aware they need to give signed permission for their G.P. medical records to be shared with other professionals. There are many benefits for doing this including for example enabling organisations that are working together to support your care by finding relevant information when they need it. The risks need to be explored too. You may be concerned that sensitive information might be shared. This debate will be the opening discussion for the VPPG. We will be interested to hear your views.

♥ For further information or if you would like to join us please contact Lindsay Panton, Chair of PPG 01473 823503 or at hadleighboxfordppg@gmail.com or Tracey Squirrel Practice Manager 01473 01473 820127 tracey.squirrel@nhs.net

Remember

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

Just go to <http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/box-river-news> and scroll down to the latest BRN icon. The Newsletter is usually available about one day after the published press date. You can also drag any pics you might like onto your desktop but these will be of low resolution. If you would like a high res pic just email the address below and we will send you a PDF or Jpeg ed.kench@btinternet.com

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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
Vince Stafford	The Old Schoolhouse	211026
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
Mathew Wooderson	Birdsong 16 Goodlands	211204
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	Groton Manor Farm	210391
Nick Cox	3 Groton Place, Groton Street	210339
Adam Dixon-Smith	Castlings Hall, Castlings Heath	210007
Jeremy Osborne (Chairman)	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		
Chris White		
Clerk. David Crimmin		375085
District Councillors	Frank Lawrenson	
	Margaret Maybury	
County Councillor	Colin Spence	

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Russell Bower	4 Nicholsons Court	
Sue Crawte	South Hill, Church Road	
Jonathan Parker	2 Hall Cottages, Church Road	
Colin Poole	Stow Cottage, Sudbury Road	
Paul Presland	Redwoods, Church Road	379204
Rita Schwenk	1 Assington Road	210838
Philip Taylor	Trotts Cottage, Boxford	211265
Clerk. David Crimmin		375085
District Councillor	Lee Parker	
County Councillor	James Finch	01206 263649

South Suffolk Member of Parliament

James Cartlidge MP

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk

BOXFORD SCHOOL

School life is fast paced at Boxford. This term has been hectic with a harvest festival, lots of trips including a visit to the Warner Brothers Studios as part of the years 5 and 6 Harry Potter topic and a full day dedicated to learning about different languages and cultures. The front playground for our youngest children is in the process of being revamped and due to some kind donations now has a muddy play station, playhouse as well as a sand pit and imaginative play area. Clubs this year are really varied and include gardening club, early morning yoga, Spanish, magic, chess and singing as well as guitar, brass band, gymnastics and drama.

Our school is in the centre of our village and at the heart of our community. It helps the village to attract families, support the local shops and amenities that we all enjoy, is part of the church family and provides an education for our children. However we are keen to do more, we want to encourage more involvement from the wider community in what we are doing, and be even more involved in village life than we already are.

Boxford School is no different from others across the country and remains under funding pressures but our inspirational Head teacher Mrs Davies is resolute in her determination to make sure that our children have a fantastic education and rounded school experience. Earlier this year we launched a campaign asking for "Time, Money and Things" to support our school but also to enable parents and families to become more involved in what we are doing. If you would like to become involved too here are some ideas. I am sure you will be able to think of more.

1. **Support Friends Of Boxford School.** Attend events, supply raffle prizes, buy your shopping through www.thegivingmachine.co.uk purchase a present from our Amazon wish list which will be launched shortly or even donate a cake or a gift. FOBs are a vital element of our school, anyone can join them and they bring us together and give us a fun focus for fundraising. Contact: talktofofs@gmail.com with ideas or offers of help.

2. **New Grants Group.** We are applying for grants, encouraging business sponsorship and partnership working with other groups, businesses and individuals in our community. We welcome working parties from your office, sponsored run donations, matched funding, grants or volunteer days that you can access through work, donations and bequests.

3. **Odd jobs and volunteering.** There is a list of small jobs that need doing by those that are able to roll up their sleeves and get on with things at quiet times in their own day. There are opportunities to help out as a volunteer in many other areas too.

4. **Things donations.** If you have things you are throwing out that may be of use then let us know. If we can use them we will. Furniture, paper, stationary, interesting items, please send us a photo or description via email: office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk and we will get straight back to you.

5. **Governors.** We are recruiting new Governors, particularly with finance, property, HR skills and/or experience in education. This is a strategic role which is interesting and rewarding. To find out more please contact: sallyhaythornthwaite@hotmail.com

We are also looking to fill a part time early morning caretaker role which will be responsible for opening the school in the morning. This would suit someone local and will be a paid role.

(All volunteers and employees will need to have undertaken the relevant safeguarding checks).

Christmas is one of our busiest times at school and we are looking forward to our nativities, concerts and parties. If you would like to come along to the various church services we are involved in please do they are a lovely start to the festive season and remind us that we have a fantastic community in Boxford.

Sally Connolly Chair of Boxford Primary

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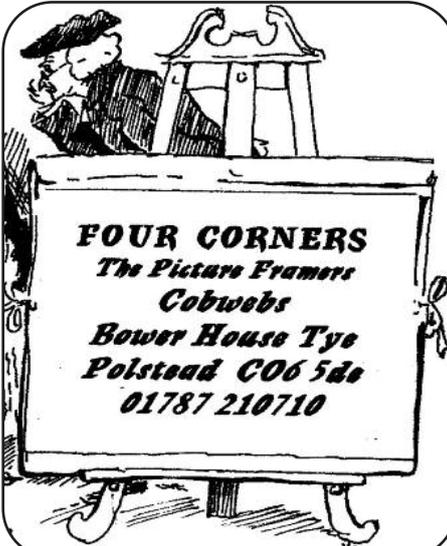
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MILDEN CRICKET CLUB CELEBRATE ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR



Milden hosted its end of season awards and dinner at the Edwardstone White Horse on Saturday 11th November, supported by many players, friends and supporters of our club. Speeches were delivered and recognition of those non playing friends of MCC that help our club function and donate their time and efforts, Jim Roger-Brown, Scott Hurrell, Reg and Justine Turner.

Awards went to Joe Smith for leading wicket taker, Pat Humphries as the leading batsmen. Alan Every walked away with Fielder of the year, together with the Clubman trophy for his outstanding support and work up the ground. Matt Archer was awarded the most improved player, and the duck prize went to Will Ward, although he just pipped Pat Humphries for the most ducks, Pat was leading run scorer !! Big Alex Zahid won the cow corner award, normally awarded for those more agricultural shots but now recognised really as how many times the rope is cleared for six. Milden Cricket Clubs President Tissa Rigby presented Joe Smith with the Player of the year trophy which he unanimously won this year and Tom Konopka was awarded the Chairman's trophy by Martin Roffey in recognition of back to back promotions and championships, with Milden

The most hotly contested award for this season was 'Best Tea of the Year', Matt Archer and James Harding came 2nd and 3rd respectively but it was Nick Leppard that walked away with the prized apron, his double egg sandwich strategy tipping it in his favour.

A very special thank you must go to Mick Fallon, Ben Abbott and the entire team of the Edwardstone White Horse team that not only looked after us superbly on the evening but continue to support our small and fiercely proud club during the season and especially at the Awards Evening, we are indebted and very grateful.

With less than six months to go before the new season starts, much work is underway to prepare for the new season. If you would like to get involved on a playing level, new members are very much encouraged, especially younger people, we still aim to set up a friendly XI to give more cricket to the community, but we need you the community to get involved.

Finally, congratulations to our neighbours and friends at Edwardstone Cricket Club for another successful season and we aim to reintroduce the fixture for the John Bailey Cup next year, promoting as much local cricket as possible.

Tom Konopka, Captain.

TRUSTEES RETIRE FROM NEWTON GREEN



Geoff Challacombe, Alan Vince, Andy Dodds and Ken Mazdon

Awards representing 80 years' service as trustees were presented when Newton Green Golf Club celebrated its successes over the last year.

Four trustees, Ken Mazdon, Alan Vince, Geoff Challacombe and Andy Dodds have relinquished their positions as the members' club has moved to incorporated status. Directors now take over the responsibilities of the trustees, and chairman Peter Philpott presented inscribed glass bowls to the long-serving trustees.

EDWARDSTONE CC CELEBRATE MORE LEAGUE SUCCESS



Edwardstone CC Awards dinner celebrated a very successful and enjoyable season. The team came second in Hunts County League division 2 beating every other team at least once. Star performances over the season included Sam Chapman scoring 210 runs on the last day of the season v Cavendish and also from Sam Whymark who managed to take two hattricks during the season.

A team based on youth has once again developed over the season and will now get the chance to play against even better opposition as it has just been confirmed that we have also been promoted to Division 1!

At the awards dinner Sam Whymark won the bowling trophy as leading wicket taker with 35 dismissals. Tom Whymark won the economy bowling trophy having bowled many good spells during the season and Sam Chapman won the batting trophy after a record breaking season in which he scored 5 centuries and 4 fifties. Other batsmen in the runs were James Thorogood with 4 fifties and skipper Jack Clark who scored 63 in the club record partnership with Sam on the last day of the season. Iain Young continued to make runs and was runner up in this years' averages. Fielding is always an important part of the limited overs game and this years fielding award went to Harry Young. With a young team, we have been one of the best fielding sides in the league, with many spectacular catches taken, some even by the older members of the side. Brothers Tom and Rob Whymark shared the trophy for most catches over the season.

For some games this year the team had a new opener in Lewis Davey and he was awarded this years Young Player of the Year. Players from the colts were able to make their debuts this year in the clubs friendly games and we hope some will move into the league side over the next year.

This years winner of the Barham Trophy for the person who contributed most to the club activities over the year went to Ray Gibbons. He does win this award quite often but for very good reason! Thank you to all the players, committee members who have contributed to yet another competitive season and particular thanks to our skipper Jack Clark who in what has been a very busy year continues to lead our side to success.

Our thanks go to Steve and Kerry at the Fox and Hounds for once again making sure the awards dinner ran smoothly and that everyone had a great time.

If you are interested in playing cricket and are aged 8yrs and over, please contact us through our website: www.edwardstonecricketclub.com

