

November 2021

Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



WALL OF DEATH SPECIAL EDITION

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



DEATH-DEFYING THRILLS AT BOXFORD WHITE HART

On the weekend of September 24th the Box River Benefice was treated to a thrilling spectacle - the long-awaited return of the Ken Fox Wall of Death. What is normally a biennial event had suffered from an extended hiatus after the timing of ownership changes at the White Hart prevented Ken and his team from being able to perform in Boxford for a number of years.

But boy, was the wait ever worth it - a whole weekend of death-defying thrills and high octane revelry was had by all at the White Hart, the event drawing a huge audience from miles around over the 3 days. After a disastrous couple of years for the pub industry it was heart-warming to see queues 3 or 4 people deep at both the inside and outside bars. Landladies Julie, Bex and their team coped brilliantly with the thirsty crowd whilst Alan Leeder's BBQ team kept a hungry mob at bay with a mouth-watering array of barbecued sausages and burgers.

The atmosphere was electric, the noise was loud and it was a real treat to see so many old and new faces down in the village after so long.

Of course, in this, the 50th year since local Wall of Death legend Tornado Smith died, it is perfectly fitting that the event should return to the Boxford White Hart where Tornado lived and performed for so many years. Ken Fox's show is the natural successor to Tornado Smith's and in every shuddering, thrilling loop of the track there beats the heart of the original Tornado show that gained worldwide fame in the 1930s and 40s.

This year the show consisted of riders Ken Fox, son Alex Fox and Alex's wife Abigail (although they were all shown how to do it properly by Alan Leeder on the handlebars at one point). Each rider skilfully thrilled the crowds in the packed gallery with a series of heart-stopping maneuvers at high speed that take years to master.

The bikes the riders use are 1920s Indian Scouts, famous for their low-end torque and the perfect choice for the towering 20ft high Oregon pine Wall. They have to be specially modified with stronger tyres, stiffened suspension and a modified engine to cope with the high Gs. The team also uses 1970s Hondas and a specially adapted go-kart that looks straight off the set of Mad Max!

It was a fabulous weekend that won't be forgotten in a hurry. Ken told the BRN that the Boxford White Hart is without doubt his favourite place to perform and is keen to return again with his team in 2 years time.

You can read an in-depth profile of Ken Fox on page 28, whilst Tornado Smith's story is explored in full on page 22.



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The Boxford Christmas cards are now on sale in the Post Office. £1.10 will be donated to Boxford village hall for every pack sold. Queen Bee Designs

Box River News

Trudi Wild, Twin View, 18 Stone Street, Boxford CO10 5NR
Telephone: 01787 210946
email: editor@boxrivernews.com

Deadline date for the December 2021 Issue is:
November 15th at midday



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NEWTON NEWS

New Playgrounds

Newton Parish Council is very pleased to announce that the two new playgrounds on the village recreation ground have now been completed. Both have their obligatory safety certification and, consequently, they are now safe to use. Already we have received plenty of positive feedback from young people and parents. We hope our children will find these modern playground facilities a place where they can socialise, have fun and develop a range of physical abilities.

The completion of the playgrounds means the rejuvenation of the recreational facilities in Newton is now complete. In addition to the playgrounds, the village has a new Multi Use Games Area suitable for a range of sports and an outdoor Forever Fitness Centre designed for all age groups. All the facilities are free to use, and we hope villagers and members of neighbouring villages will enjoy these new facilities in the years to come.

Finally, Newton Parish Council would like to thank Babergh/Mid Suffolk for their generosity in providing most of the funds to build these wonderful facilities.



Neighbourhood Plan

The Newton Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Babergh District Council who are satisfied with the content. They will now organise an electoral Referendum in the coming weeks. The Parish Council would like to thank everybody involved in compiling such a thoroughly professional document.

Parish Council Coffee Mornings

The Parish Council is hoping to run these events throughout the year so villagers can meet Councillors and friends to chat about 'village life' over a coffee. It is likely the first one will be linked to the Newton Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.

Articles for the Box River News

Villagers are reminded that if you wish to advertise a village event, the editor of the Box River News is very happy to accept notification from individual members of the village (email: editor@boxrivernews.com)

Newton Parish Council

NEWTON CHARITIES *(William Alston)*

The Alston and Plampin charities were created in 1564 and have continued to offer support to villagers in need, who are sick or bereaved ever since.

The benefactors gave rent charges over land so that income could be used for the relief of poverty. The capital has been added to over the years to produce a small annual income.

Although there is probably little actual poverty in the village these days, the Trustees have continued the tradition of making small cash gifts at Christmas to a few of the more needy in the village. Occasionally we are able to offer help to those who have severe health and financial difficulties. In addition, a contribution of £50 is made annually towards the Christmas parcel fund set up by the Parish Council and the Trust. Gifts of flowers or pot plants and cards are made to those who are sick or needy or experiencing stressful circumstances. These gifts are much appreciated by the recipients in the village who take comfort in the knowledge that the village is there for them and thinking of them. If you are aware of anyone in such circumstances, please let one of the Trustees know.

Our income is supported by donations and we are always grateful to receive these. Several years ago, Newton Green Trust kindly resolved to support the Charities on an annual basis and has done so ever since. Other streams of donations such as coffee mornings have been cut due to the Covid 19 restrictions, but hopefully they can recommence later this year.

At the end of 2020, our long-standing Treasurer and Chairman decided it was time for him to step down. We cannot thank Alan Vince enough for all he has done to ensure the maintenance of the Charities and the good works it undertakes. It was my privilege to try to fill Alan's shoes and I was appointed as a Trustee by the Parish Council. In addition, the Reverend Robert has now assumed the role of an ex-officio Trustee of the committee.

The current Trustees are now: Robert Parker McGee, Sue Presland, Janet Taylor, Maureen Williams
Sue Presland

RIDE & STRIDE

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored us for this cycle ride. We were very lucky with the weather and cycled 35 miles visiting 21 churches. We raised £250 which will be shared between All Saints Newton and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

Thank you!

Marianne and Richard Anthony



JOIN THE FIRESIDE CLUB!

Newton Fireside Club was formed many years ago to give lonely villagers an opportunity to meet for a cup of tea and a chat in front of a roaring fire in the village Hall. Since then, the function of the club has evolved and villagers of all ages and circumstances have now joined. Each fortnightly meeting has a theme. In the past we have had talks from beekeepers, the new owners of Perrywoods, the warden of Ager Fenn and many more. Sometimes we have games sessions and there is often food and drink involved!

In addition to the regular fortnightly meeting, we also arrange trips out to places of interest.

Upcoming meetings in November and December are:

Tuesday 9th November - Whist Drive

Tuesday 23rd November - Team Quiz run by Paul & Sue Presland

Tuesday 7th December - Make your own Christmas decoration

All of these will take place in Newton Village Hall at 2.00pm. Members take it in turns to provide cakes or biscuits and be responsible for making tea and coffee and washing up.

In addition, there will be a trip to Perrywood in Tiptree and we are off to Newton Golf Club for a Christmas dinner.



Our get together on Tuesday 12th October was a fish, chip and fizz lunch. The Codfather kindly delivered the fish and chips which were delicious. The fire was lit and 20 or so members enjoyed a very convivial lunch with a quick quiz provided by Alan Vince, and a raffle as well.

New members would be warmly welcomed as would suggestions for activities and places to visit. We're sure that people will have all sorts of new and exciting ideas.

Please contact Moira on 01787 374652 or Sue on 01787 379204 / 07881 383998 if you would like more details.

Hope to see you soon!!!

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NEWTON FIRESIDE CLUB COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 20th NOVEMBER

10.00 - 11.30am

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL

* REFRESHMENTS * BRIC-A-BRAC *
* BOOKS * CAKES * RAFFLE *

Please do come along to our first coffee morning since lockdown!!

We hope to see lots of new faces the fire will be alight and there will be a warm welcome for all.

For further details please contact Sue on

01787 379204

OR

07881 383998



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

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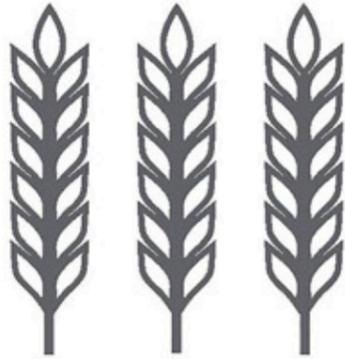
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SCOUTS IN PRIMROSE WOOD

On 7th October Boxford Scouts enjoyed the early evening working in Primrose Wood whilst helping the community and environment. The weather was warm and dry and perfect for the main project of creating a new 'Insect Hotel'. They came well prepared with bags of selected natural materials like sticks, canes, broken clay pots, bricks, sheep's wool, dried seed heads and other small creature friendly materials. They showed a good deal of independence and motivation, so were a pleasure to work with. Sarah Williams of Chequers, through a chance conversation in Primrose Wood, had generously provided and delivered 3 pallets and heavy construction waste materials right to our building site. Without her help this project could not have gone ahead. Thank you Sarah. The scouts produced a splendid construction which was imaginative in its contents and sometimes challenging.



Teams also took a break, in turns, and did some clearing of a track which was overgrown. The dangerous "trip wire" on the board walk was tackled by another scout and we then went on to pick up water from the river to scrub the bird dirt and verdigris from the large circular seat. The very vigorous making of a path to reach the river left a few with some nettle stings which seemed to be a proud badge of effort! Everyone got involved in scrubbing or drying off the seat. By now it was dark. The last bit of fun was the torchlit 1/3 mile walk back over the water meadow, through the wood and the new plantation to the bridge, and back to the car park. Not much chance of seeing any night-time wild life as the noisy excitement would have sent them back to their lairs!

How lucky these Scouts are to have Neil Barkham and his team who give their time regularly to helping develop the interests of these young people. As a village we should be grateful for their continuing efforts for the youngsters of the area.

Tina Loose

Remember!

The Box River News can be seen in full colour each month by downloading from the website.
www.boxrivernews.com

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NEW HEADTEACHER FOR BOXFORD SCHOOL

Many of you may have seen me in my role as Local Authority Associate Headteacher leading the school this term. It has been an extremely positive start to the academic year (see our Newsletters here:

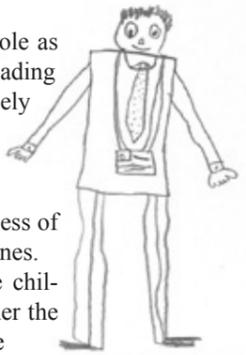
<https://bit.ly/boxford-school-newsletter>)

as the children have begun a gradual process of reintegrating under the new Covid guidelines.

It was a delight to finally have all the children and staff together under the same roof recently as we celebrated Harvest with Father Rob in the church. To finally hear some singing was joyous.



MRS LEA



MR. PAGE

You will have seen in last month's edition that children are enjoying our wonderful new library with much thanks to many of you in the local community for your generous support.

Looking ahead to the new year, the Governors have been successful in appointing a permanent new Headteacher from January.

Mrs Emma Lea will be joining the school from her current position of Headteacher at Bucklesham Primary.

Ian Page

Interim Headteacher

(Thank you to Beckett & Orla Wild for their portraits of Mr. Page and Mrs. Lea!)

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The Blooming Garden

Nutty about Nerines.

'Nerines, like some plants and many people, give no trouble provided that they are given precisely what they want'. Peter Smithers.



If you want the lovely, pink spidery blooms of nerines gracing your garden in October, then make sure you choose *Nerine bowdenii* hybrids. These get their leaves in summer before the flowers. Once the flowers die down the bulbs will be dormant until spring. The bulbs are hardy down to -15c degrees. Some people have trouble getting them to flower but as Peter Smithers said, if you give them what they want you will have no problem. They must not be planted too deeply; their noses must just protrude. They need a sunny site; the bottom of a south facing wall is perfect. They don't mind poor soil as long as it is well drained. If you feed them

too well, they will produce an abundance of glossy leaves at the expense of flowers, but if they don't flower at all then you can give them some tomato feed in summer, but don't overdo it. The other magic ingredient is watering



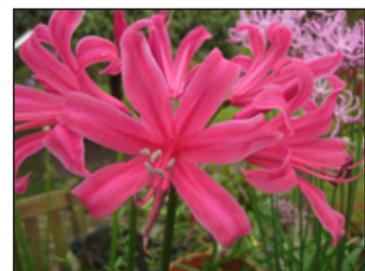
in summer; just because they like a summer baking does not mean that they can go without water to initiate flowering. The other rule is once they are planted, then leave them undisturbed as they resent disturbance. They probably won't bloom the first year after they are planted as they need time to settle in. You can find *Nerine bowdenii* in shades of pink or white; they are all lovely. The white ones are not so reliably hardy and some of them suffer from a virus. I have found the lovely 'Blanca Perla' to be very reliable.

Finding plants to set them off takes a little thought. Michaelmas daisies would soon swamp them. I grow them with the blue flowered *Geranium 'Rozanne'* which can be cut back to keep it neat. *Hesperantha coccinea* has spikes of starry flowers and the pink or whites look lovely with nerines. You may know this by its old name of *Schizostylis*; this is one of the plant name changes which is quite welcome, as *Hesperantha* is easier to remember and to spell.

But if you have a greenhouse then you can grow the even more glamorous *Nerine sarniensis* and its hybrids. They are not hardy because they grow their leaves in winter and so they would not survive frosts. They all need to be kept reasonably dry when they are dormant with just enough water to stop the bulbs shriveling up. In winter they should ideally be kept at 8c-10c, but I keep mine just frost-proof with a fan heater and I haven't lost any yet.



Nerine sarniensis.



Nerine 'Zeal Giant'.

red and they look as if they have been sprinkled with gold dust. I have several *sarniensis* hybrids and they are all fabulous; many of them have the shimmer of fairy dust to their petals which is caused by the crystalline structure of their petals. Two of my favourites are 'Zeal Giant' which has enormous dark pink flowers and 'Mr. John' with purple stripes on its shimmering pink petals. But each year I add more, so now I have a whole shelf of my greenhouse dedicated to nerines and it is one of the joys of October to spend time in there admiring them. Actually, my overall favourite nerine is *Nerine undulata* which is supposed to be hardy but I have kept mine in a pot in the greenhouse for more than twenty years. Each year it has masses of the most delicate, pale pink spidery flowers. Last year, I counted 46 bloom spikes. Newer nerine hybrids are crosses between *Amaryllis belladonna* and *nerines*. These are called amarines and they have beautiful enormous flowers. My favourite is *Amarine belladiva* 'Aphrodite' with pale pink, striped flowers, but there are several other gorgeous ones available.



Nerine 'Mr. John'

Each year, it is sad when summer comes to an end but with a greenhouse full of these jewels there is always something to look forward to.

Chloris.

For more from Chloris follow:

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THE NOVEMBER LETTER FROM FATHER ROB

Dear Friends,

It was the look on their faces as they approached the blessed body and blood of our Lord for the first time at the Altar rail; hands outstretched and eyes wide in wonder. 10 adults and teenagers coming to Confirmation and another 10 children receiving First-Communion at a younger age. During my time in previous parishes we built up strong traditions of bringing people, young and old, to the Holy



Table through these two rites of passage and each time it invigorated the congregations with a sense of holiness and awe. As newcomers, young people and their families grew in number, so the church community began to deepen spiritually and become more embracing of new (and old) ways of faith (we sometimes need reminding that the Church of England pre-dates the Reformation by a millennia!). In Box River, we have just passed agreement to begin allowing children to come to Communion before Confirmation and for older children and adults, Confirmation remains an important passage of faith and learning.

Our churches are here to bring people and whole communities into a life-long relationship with the living God. Faith is never just a private or individual affair (that is a distortion of post-enlightenment thinking). Faith is always communal. It requires us to live, pray, learn and serve each other in community. We cannot be a Christian on our own. To be a Christian requires us to live in community with others and constantly seek ways of deepening our relationship with God through it. At the centre of this sits the Eucharist. It is the most primitive form of communal prayerful action and has been central to the Christian paradigm from its origin. As Christians, we meet Christ in the breaking of bread, where we encounter His true and real presence ("This is my body, given for you." Luke 29:19). This is a free gift of God, through which we receive untold spiritual blessings. All are invited – why would we ever want to turn down the invite when it is offered?

When people encounter and come to know God through our ancient parish churches, they become a part of a rich story of community, prayer, reverence and pilgrimage, going back centuries. In every generation, Christ calls us home. By the grace of God, this rich legacy will continue long after each of us have been united with the saints eternal. But there is still much to do.

Recently, our ministry to newcomers, young people and families has grown significantly. It is always a challenge to stop the bureaucracy and management demands getting in the way when you have 5 churches to look after, but we have been intentional about prioritising work with youngsters and newcomers.

I asked one such newcomer the other day why they had begun attending regularly. He said to me that church on Sunday morning provided him with a purpose for stopping – an hour when everything else had to take a back seat and he could just focus on something beyond himself. That struck me as wonderfully insightful.

We aspire to be churches where everyone can find a home, feel wanted and safe, encounter God and live out a life of faith in community, irrelevant of gender, sexuality, age, race or social situation.

Over the coming months, there will be numerous opportunities for you to walk deeper into the mysteries of God with us. We will have our usual Forest Church, weekly Eucharists (or Mass),

Intergenerational Family Eucharists and Evening Services. Then there are the one off special events, like Newton's Patronal Festival when we celebrate all the Saints' in glory, the annual Memorial Service where we remember our loved ones now departed and our Remembrance services where we honour those who have laid down their lives for our safety and freedoms. We also plan to begin holding occasional film nights, and as we approach Christmas there will be a plethora of services and activities to help us recognise God through the baby Jesus.

We are also hoping to begin classes – Teaching the Faith. These will not just be for those who wish to be Confirmed, but also for those who are simply curious to explore their faith further and for those who maybe feel they need a bit of a refresher. Such a course can be especially good if you have had a growing curiosity about faith recently. Do get in touch if you'd like to know more.

So, keep a look out, and if that nagging feeling seems to discourage you from coming along, resist it and make the effort – it will be well worth your while.

Above all, please continue to pray for our Church's work. Pray for the newcomers, young people and their families – that they may find a home, more may come and they may all be inspired and choose to remain. Pray for all our longstanding members, for their continued growth in faith, for their wisdom, enthusiasm and hard work, that they may grow in their own discipleship and share their faith with others. And pray that we may all continually encounter the love of God and the joy of the Gospel which lies so deep in the heart of Mary, Joseph, the Holy Family, the Apostles and all the Saints in glory. Because in every generation, Christ calls us home!

With love and blessings,

Fr Rob

rparkermcgee@gmail.com

Tel: 01787 210434

Join us at St Mary's Church, Boxford
where we shall walk to
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Forest Church

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SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2021



Sunday 24th October Last Sunday after Trinity (Ss. Simon and Jude from 28th)	09:30	<i>Intergenerational Family Service</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	All Saints', Newton
Wednesday 27th October Ss. Simon and Jude from 28th	10:00	<i>Simple Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Sunday 31st October All Saint's Day	11:00	<i>Patronal Festival and lunch</i>	All Saints', Newton
	16:00	<i>Benefice All Soul's Memorial Service (remembering loved ones)</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 3rd November	10:00	<i>Simple Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Sunday 7th November 3 rd Before Advent	09:30	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
	11:00	<i>Forest Church</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 10th November	10:00	<i>Simple Eucharist</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Thursday 11th November Armistice Day Service	11:00	<i>Remembrance Service</i>	St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone
Sunday 14th November Remembrance Sunday	10:40	<i>Remembrance Service</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
	10:40	<i>Remembrance Service</i>	St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield
	10:40	<i>Remembrance Service</i>	St Bartholomew's, Groton
	10:40	<i>Remembrance Service</i>	All Saints', Newton
Wednesday 17th November	10:00	<i>Simple Eucharist</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Sunday 21st November Christ the King	09:30	<i>Morning Praise</i>	St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 24th November	10:00	<i>Simple Eucharist (CANCELLED)</i>	
Sunday 28th November Advent 1	09:30	<i>Intergenerational Family Service</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	All Saints', Newton

Please be aware that these services may be subject to change at short notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. You can also follow our live streamed services and obtain service material from the following links:

www.facebook.com/boxriverbenefice
www.boxriverbenefice.com/resources-to-use-at-home

CHURCH SURVEY

Your views are important to us. Please take a couple of minutes to complete our survey so that we can plan for an exciting future together. Thank you.

You can find the link here: <https://bit.ly/brb-church-survey>

If you or someone you know requires a paper copy, please do get in touch at boxriverbenefice@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

All our churches across the Benefice are now **OPEN EVERYDAY** for Private Prayer. If you need support please call Fr. Rob on **01787 210434** or email rparkermcgee@gmail.com



The Box River Benefice
Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton,
Little Waldingfield and Newton

Patronal Festival - All Saints' Newton Green

On Sunday 31st October at 11am, All Saints' Newton Green will be holding their special Patronal Festival. It is an opportunity for us to commemorate the Saints in Glory and rejoice that we have been called to their number. Do come along. Refreshments will be available after the service. All are welcome.

All Souls' Memorial Service at St Mary's Boxford

The All Souls' Memorial Service on Sunday 31st October 2021 at 4pm is an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died. There will be an opportunity to spend some time in gentle reflection, light a candle in memory of your loved one and have their name read out during the service. Simply forward to boxriverbenefice@gmail.com any names to be remembered by Wednesday 27th October 2021 or write them on the list at the back of church, which will be available throughout Sunday 31st October, until 20 minutes before the start of the service. All are invited and warmly welcome.

Remembrance Services

The Remembrance Services will start at our war memorials at 10.40am on Sunday 14th November 2021 for Boxford, Groton, Newton Green and Little Waldingfield. An Armistice Day Service for Edwardstone will be held at Edwardstone's War Memorial on Wednesday 11th November starting at 10.50am.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

THURSDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2021 at 11am
Armistice Day Service at St Mary The Virgin, Edwardstone

SUNDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2021 at 10.40am
St Mary's, Boxford
St Lawrence's, Little Waldingfield
All Saints', Newton



MARY'S HOUSE

We are re-opening for coffee and drop-in from September, on Tuesday and Friday mornings, from 9.30 - 12.15.

If there is anyone who is willing to do a monthly slot to serve coffee etc., it would be great to have some new helpers. If you think you could spare just a few hours a month and meet new people, please get in touch with Pauline (210360)...we'd love to have you on board!



**COME IN AND HAVE A COFFEE AND CHAT!
SEE YOU THERE.**

Bring and Share Foodbank

'Take what you need, leave what you can'

Just a reminder that the Food Bank in the north porch of St Mary's Boxford is still offering non-perishable items for those in need.



Vacancies

- Musical Director and Organist Vacancy
- Children's Helpers
- Lay Ministries & calling to be a Deacon or a Priest
- Boxford PCC Secretary
- Church Flower Volunteer

Please visit our website at www.boxriverbenefice.com for more information

We are still here for you and doing all we can to provide spiritual nurture and support. We will continue to hold live worship and this will be live-streamed over our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/boxriverbenefice

If you need support, please call Fr. Rob on **01787 210434** or email rparkermcgee@gmail.com

We look forward to you joining us in our devotions.



In Memory

All Souls' Memorial Service

Sunday 31 October
at 4.00pm

@
St Mary's Church
Boxford

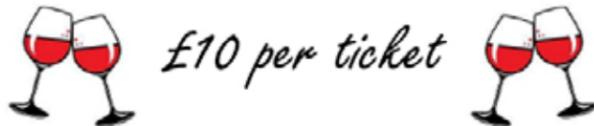
All Souls' is a time when we remember loved ones. During this service the names of those whose funerals we have taken over the past year together with those loved-ones whom you would like remembering will be read out, and you will have the opportunity of lighting a candle in their memory.

If you would like to include a name, please email their details our Administrator on boxriverbenefice@gmail.com before Tuesday 24th October. Please do join us.

Festive Drinks and Nibbles

Friday 10th December
7 - 9 pm

St Lawrence Church, Little Waldingfield



£10 per ticket

Available from

Tricia Eddington 247932 or Nancy Roger 882897
nancyroser2004@yahoo.co.uk

GROTON NATIVITY

CHILDREN OF GROTON

Nativity play at Groton on 19th December 2021 at 2.30 in St. Bartholomew's Church.

Christmas party afterwards with cakes and plenty of fun.

If you would like to take part please let us know by the 4th December.

Diana 01787 210927 or dianah.mccorkell@btinternet.com or Jayne 01787 211360 or jaynefoster715@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

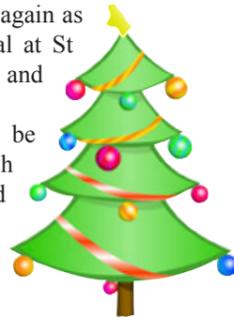
We are delighted to invite you to join us again as we celebrate our Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church, Boxford on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December 2021.

The 5-foot Norway Spruce trees will be available at a cost of £20 each. If you wish to take part in the festival, please could you email boxriverbenefice@gmail.com or telephone 01787 828046 to reserve your tree. Spaces are limited, so it's best to book early.

The trees will be available, for your decoration, from 4pm on Thursday 9th December 2021 (battery operated lights only please).

There will be a prize for the best dressed tree!

All proceeds will be donated to St Mary's Church, Boxford.



BOXFORD FIREWORKS & LANTERN PARADE 2021

This year's Fireworks Display is on Saturday 30th October. The Lantern Parade will start from the village centre at 6.30pm. The firework display will be at 7.45pm on the playing fields.

Ticket prices on the night are £6 for adults and £4 for children. (3 years and under go FREE). Beat the queues and save money by buying your tickets in advance! Fast-track advance tickets £5 adults and £3 for children, available from A. Leeder Butcher and Boxford Post Office.

We hope you enjoy the first fireworks event of the year! Please remember to follow the Fireworks Code and keep pets inside on the night where possible.

Lantern making is at The Spinney from 10 - 4pm each day from Saturday 23rd October until Thursday 28th October. Contact Mark Miller 01787 211596 or BoxfordCommunityCouncil@gmail.com to book a session.

NOTICE

A Triennial Public Meeting

Of

GROTON WINTHROP MULBERRY TRUST

will be held at 7.00 p.m. on 2 November 2021

at

The Village Hall, Broad Street, Groton.

This is an open meeting where all local residents have the opportunity to air their views regarding the Groton Croft.

The Trust manages the Croft, which was bought with contributions by the villagers and others in 1993.

We need your support and suggestions to help preserve this valuable local asset for the benefit of all and future generations!

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD CHARITIES

Also known as John Wincoll - 209981

If you are over sixty-five, retired and have lived in Little Waldingfield for a year or more you may be eligible for the Christmas gift.

Please apply by 30th November to Sue Mitchell on 247173.



You are invited to
"DROP IN FOR COFFEE"
(and cakes!)

in the Church Little Waldingfield

FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER
10:30 - 12:00

Join us for a coffee and friendly conversation.
All welcome!

A voluntary donation to church funds would be welcomed



St. Bartholomew's Groton
are very happy to invite you to
the Annual

Cheese & Wine Party

Saturday 4th December 2021

Groton Village Hall

Starts at 7.30pm

Entertainment, Bar and Gift Stall

Numbers will be limited
Tickets £10.00

All welcome

Get into the Christmas mood!!

Please ring 01787 211360 to book.



BOXFORD & GROTON UNITED CHARITIES

Registered Charity Number: 207861

The Trustees of Boxford and Groton United Charities invite applications for grant aid from residents living in the three parishes of Boxford, Groton and Edwardstone, for educational, medical and general charitable purposes.

Applications from organisations serving the above area are also invited and should be made in writing to Guy Godfray, Clerk to the Trustees, 17 Swan Street, Boxford, Sudbury CO10 5NZ.

Closing date for applications 26th November.

POLSTEAD GARDENING CLUB

Our next speaker will be Paula Baker from Suffolk Prickles Hedgehog Rescue, who will be talking about how we as gardeners can help to save hedgehogs. www.suffolkprickles.org

Also, Lisa Matthews will be giving us an update from the Nature's Citizen project in Polstead.

The meeting will be on Tuesday 16th November at 7pm at Polstead Village Hall, CO6 5AL.

Members free, non-members £5, which includes a drink and nibbles. All welcome.



BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
In association with
Boxford Parish Council
presents

BOXFORD FIREWORKS Sat 30th October

**LANTERN
PARADE
6.30 from the village**

**Fireworks 7.45 on
The Playing Fields**

**Tickets
Adults £5.00
Children £3.00
in advance**

**Adults £6.00
Children £4.00
on the gate
3yrs & under
FREE**

BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Charity Number 304862

FIREWORKS LANTERN MAKING

SATURDAY 23RD OCTOBER
TO

THURSDAY 28TH OCTOBER
IN THE SPINNEY 10AM - 4PM



TO BOOK A SESSION
CONTACT MARK MILLER
01787 211596
BOXFORDCOMMUNITYCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM



THE LINDSEY ROSE

BONFIRE NIGHT AT THE LINDSEY ROSE

SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER, 6 - 9PM

FIREWORKS · HOG ROAST
OUTSIDE BAR · LIVE MUSIC

FREE ENTRY

The Tye, Lindsey, Ipswich IP7 6PP
welcome@thelindseyrose.co.uk
01449 741424
www.thelindseyrose.co.uk



*Due to Covid restrictions there will be no meal served during the interval

BOXFORD DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS

...a romp through
Boxford's
Medieval past!

**BOXFORD'S
PANTOMIME
IS BACK!**



The Burghers of Boxford

1st December to Saturday 4th 2021

Wednesday Family Night: Curtain up 6pm.

Tickets Child £5 Adult £10

Thursday to Saturday Curtain Up at 7.30pm.

All tickets £10



Bar & Raffle

There will be Strobe Lighting

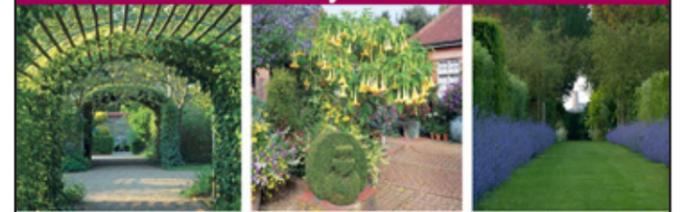
BOXFORD
GARDENING SOCIETY

An afternoon with Alan Gray

& the story of East Ruston Old Vicarage



Members Only Tickets £8.00



Tuesday 2nd November 2.00pm
at Boxford Village Hall



CHRISTMAS ORDER BOOK NOW OPEN

A great range of Festive Meats including
Turkey, Goose, Chicken, Gammon & Ham

Home Baked Vegan & Vegetarian Options

The Classics - Coleslaw & Quiches

Delicious Handmade Desserts

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Hollow Trees Farm, Semer, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 6HX



BOXFORD'S OWN PANTO!

The Burghers of Boxford by Gareth Price

Wednesday December 1st to Saturday 4th

Tickets available from 8th November from Boxford Post Office

* Please note the Wednesday performance starts at 7pm *

Wednesday 'Family Night' Adults £10 Children £5

Thursday to Saturday starts at 7.30 Tickets all £10

HADLEIGH CHORAL SOCIETY

Rehearsals are in full swing for Hadleigh Choral Society's November performance of Vivaldi's Gloria in D and Schubert's Mass No. 2 in G. Along with the choir, the programme will feature professional soloists Zoë Brookshaw (soprano), Laura Smith (mezzo-soprano), Tom Smith (tenor), and Owain Browne (baritone) and the Colchester Symphony Orchestra.



Conductor Christopher Phelps will lead the singers and musicians through the magnificent solos, duets and four part harmonies in an evening to remember.

Concert date: 20th November, 7:30 pm at St Mary's church in Hadleigh. Tickets: £15 / free to students. For more information and tickets visit www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk. Tickets also available from The Idler, 37 High Street, Hadleigh as well as choir members and on the door.

COFFEE MORNING

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Little Waldingfield coffee morning on Saturday 18th September. We raised a brilliant £400 for St Nicholas Hospice Care. Thank you everyone!

The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding.
Shelley Road, Shelley, Suffolk IP7 5QY
Charity No. 1113636

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Saturday 13th November 2021

at

Polstead Village Hall

Polstead, Suffolk CO6 5AL

7 - 7.30pm start

complimentary mulled wine on arrival

mince pies & sausage rolls

bring your own drinks & nibbles

Tickets £5 (includes one book of tickets)

Please contact Chris Southgate

58aldham@gmail.com to book your place

All proceeds go to The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding for the Disabled

Nayland with Wissington Community Council's

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

NOVEMBER 5TH

NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL PLAYING FIELD

Limited parking in village & at the Anchor Inn's Horkesley Road car park CO6 4JL
Please walk if you can. Disabled parking only at Village Hall CO6 4JH

Adults £6 - Children £2 - TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY
from <https://naylandevents.org> or Nayland Post Office

SPARKLERS * GLOW TOYS & NECKLACES
HOT DOGS * SOFT DRINKS * MULLED WINE
available from 6.15pm
Display by Dynamic Fireworks
STARTS 7pm

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

CHRISTMAS FAIR

POLSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER
10A.M. TO 3P.M.

★ ★ ★

LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE
PLEASE TELEPHONE 07969 983554
ALL PROCEEDS TO
POLSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

MELFORD CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY MARKET

The Old School
The Green, Long Melford

Thursday 25th November
10am - 1pm
Free entry

LAST MARKET BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Cakes, cards, art, crafts, chutneys, jewellery,
handmade cushions, baby clothes & SESAW with their xmas stall

Contact Rosey on 07711 242481
to book a table
Refreshments by Melford WI

Gary Jarvis

Paper Hanger and Interior Decorator

01787 211471 or 07733 325669

THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH SUFFOLK

We offer a stimulating monthly lecture programme delivered by experts on all aspects of the Arts. Lectures take place on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 2pm (barring July/Aug or Dec). These are currently delivered via Zoom but from January 2022 will be held at Long Melford Village Hall.



Membership also offers the options of Zoomed Virtual Tours around Places of Interest & Special Interest subject coverage at a small additional cost plus a quarterly arts magazine

Details: Visit our website www.tassouthsuffolk.org.uk, or contact Membership Organiser, Carole Ashton by tel/email 07766 107880 creevesashton@gmail.com

TRY US FOR FREE! by telephoning or emailing your interest, (quoting code BRN5) and a link will be sent to you beforehand.

LEONARDO DA VINCI
PATHFINDER OF SCIENCE
Lecturer: Guy Rooker
TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021
11am

Leonardo da Vinci's contribution to the world both through art and investigation of scientific concepts is unique. He used his powers of draughtsmanship and astute observation in his drawings to make an incredible contribution to our early understanding of anatomy, aeronautics, warfare & cartography. It would take centuries of science and technology to catch up with his thoughts.

LATEST ON THE BOXFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A little over four months ago the first draft of the Boxford Neighbourhood Plan was published. A period of consultation began with a very well attended exhibition in the Village Hall on the 8th/9th July at which the public and other interested parties had a chance to study the salient points of the plan's evidence, analysis, conclusions and projected policies which will help guide development in the parish up to 2037. This followed on from a questionnaire to residents in February 2019 and subsequent informal consultations with individuals and stakeholders both in person and through the website as a result of Covid 19 precautions. The period of public consultation on the Draft Plan has now ended.



The Steering Group was heartened by the interest and engagement shown by the public throughout the process thus far. It was clear from the start that the "do nothing" option had no support and the need for a plan to both maintain the village as a thriving community and ensure its future quality of life seemed to be universally accepted. The responses were many and varied and a big thank you is owed to all those who attended the consultation, submitted comments and have helped to refine and add to the detail.

Overall the Draft Plan has received very substantial support. All the comments have been objective and an overwhelming majority from residents displayed a clear pride in the village and its constituent elements, properly reflecting the community spirit often noted by external observers. Criticism was helpful, not subjective, and all of the responses are being considered and are shaping the review of the document. The headline policies were strongly supported, but inevitably where they have been developed into proposals for potential site development then residents with neighbouring or abutting interests properly expressed a contrary view. Of course it will never be possible to achieve 100% support where personal interests are affected, but nothing will be advanced in future by way of a development project without significant investment and due planning process.

The Draft Plan is a guide for the future, not a prescription. It is currently being amended and refined and will then be submitted to the District Council for a thorough independent examination before a whole village referendum next year. Many who live within the parish have played an important part in its drafting; it will be their plan and, with their support, it is coming on extremely well.

The Steering Group

BOXFORD WI UPDATE

The ladies enjoyed an entertaining and enjoyable afternoon with Linda Scoles who told a series of amusing stories about the time her and her family settled in Britain when her husband was posted at Lakenheath by the US Air Force in the early 1970s.

The guest speaker at our next meeting on Wednesday November 3rd will be Pip Wright giving a talk on The Amazing Story of John Heigham Steggall – The Suffolk Gypsy.

New members are always welcome, so if you are interested in joining please contact our secretary, Annie Phillips. Secretary, Boxford WI
01787 211729 | annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk



CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

Cheese and Wine Evening at St Mary's Boxford on 1st October 2021

As we approached the beautifully gothic church of St Mary in Boxford, the autumnal mist began to settle around the streets of our ancient village and the streetlights began to glow in the hazy distance. Candlelight could be seen flickering through medieval windows.

We entered the space as beautiful smell of floral arrangements hit our senses. Wonderful flower displays of all colours and shapes greeted those who entered. Then was the encounter of a throng of some 60 people all seated at banquet tables. Slowly as the wine began to pour, conversation and laughter began to echo around the vaulted archways. The



interior décor was delightful with lighting dimmed, ancient artworks illuminated and candlelight aglow. The building was filled with an ambience that was quite unique and special. Everyone present began to discover precisely what this church is for: hospitality, joy, celebration and service. All four were on show in abundance and no-one present could fail to feel drawn by the bond of the present and the past absorbed into the very walls of our gathering.

The wine was fabulous, the cheese delicious and the smellier quite expert. A wonderful evening shared with wonderful people. Thank you to all from the Wine Box and the church for making this happen.

Compiled by R.T. Parker-McGee

LOOKING FOR BAR WORK?

Boxford Village Hall has a bar but no-one to run it!

So we are looking to form a "panel" of half a dozen or so candidates who could be called upon to run the bar for parties, weddings and other functions at the hall. And we will pay you. Most functions will run into the evening so late nights are definitely possible and you'd need to clear up and wash the glasses (we have a glass washer!). Pre Covid closures, we ran 30 bars in a year. Preferably you would need to have some experience but we can teach you if necessary. If you're interested, or think you might be, please get in touch with Joe Barrett, joe@joebarrett.me and I will answer your questions.

COME RING WITH US

The Boxford Church bell ringers are hoping to ring on the day of the Queen's jubilee, in celebration of her seventy years, but to do this we do need some more ringers.

Richard Gates would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to ring a bell to see if they might become a ringer.

He can be contacted on 01787 210432.



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KERSEY SCHOOL PARTNERS UP

On November 1st Kersey Primary school begins an exciting new chapter in its 150-year history - it is joining a family of small village primary schools across Suffolk, the Tilian Partnership.

Tilian is one of a new breed of small, non-profit Academy Trust chains – and one which specialises in small village schools, helping them to work together to achieve the best possible educational standards whilst sharing resources in a way that allows for a wide range of opportunities for the children. In the words of Tilian CEO Andrew Berry “I started out in a small village primary school, and it gave me the best possible start in life. I believe in the unique offer of a small village school, and I want that kind of opportunity for every child in our Partnership.”



As the school recovers from the stresses of the pandemic, the plan is to work with the 8 other primaries in the Tilian network to build on Kersey’s historical reputation for excellence. As Andrew puts it, “Kersey has amazing potential to be one of

the best schools in Suffolk offering high quality education and a rich curriculum, all within the nurturing family atmosphere it has always been known for.” Head Teacher Jess Damant, who is going on maternity leave, says “I am thrilled we have secured a positive future for our wonderful school; it means we can continue to provide the best possible opportunities for our pupils going forward. I’m looking forward to coming back and finishing what we’ve started.”

In her absence, Acting Head Claire Dunnell Paley is excited to be making plans for the school: “I grew up close by and Kersey School has always had a fantastic reputation. I’m so pleased to be charged with taking it forward... and with the cupboard full of recorders and ukuleles, which I can’t wait to get out and have a concert with!” Plans are afoot for an exciting remainder of term for Kersey children including a Nativity with real animals, a winter Farm School with campfire and songs, and an expedition in search of a Christmas tree for Kersey Church.

That certainly works for 5 year-old Marley, who says “Christmas and campfires are two of my favourite things – so it’s great to put them together.”

In the meantime, the message from Ms Dunnell Paley is: “If any of you are wondering what school to choose for your children, then please come and see what we have to offer!”

‘MY ART LAND’

Elizabeth Martland De Alwis

Exhibition of Paintings

Saturday 13th November to Friday 24th December

Elizabeth Martland De Alwis does not remember a time when she didn’t paint or draw, sketching people, dogs, clouds, cats, buildings, hilltop trees & boats since her teenage years.

Since becoming obsessed with light & shadows after discovering Edward Hopper at the Brighton College of Art while studying Illustration, she began her quest for unusual compositions to paint.

Living in The Bahamas for 10 years added warmth to her palette and she now sees colour in a landscape, even on a grey December day.



Boxford, Suffolk

For more information and to RSVP go to www.milltyegallery.co.uk/exhibitions

Mill Tye Gallery and Arts Centre 3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye, Great Cornard, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 0GW (In the old ‘Bakers Mill’ building)

Open: Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Entry is free, everyone welcome.

For Exhibitions, Art Classes, Workshops and more visit www.milltyegallery.co.uk



‘Almost Time for Tea’



Elizabeth painting in her Boxford garden studio located at the top of Swan Street

The exhibition of paintings begins with a **Preview day** on Saturday 13th November where the gallery will be open until 7pm. It continues until 4pm on Christmas Eve 2021.

Much of the recent work to be exhibited was painted close to Boxford, particularly of Edwardstone, Groton & Stoke by Nayland.

For more information and to



MILL TYE GALLERY
AND ARTS CENTRE

My Art Land

Elizabeth Martland De Alwis Exhibition of Paintings

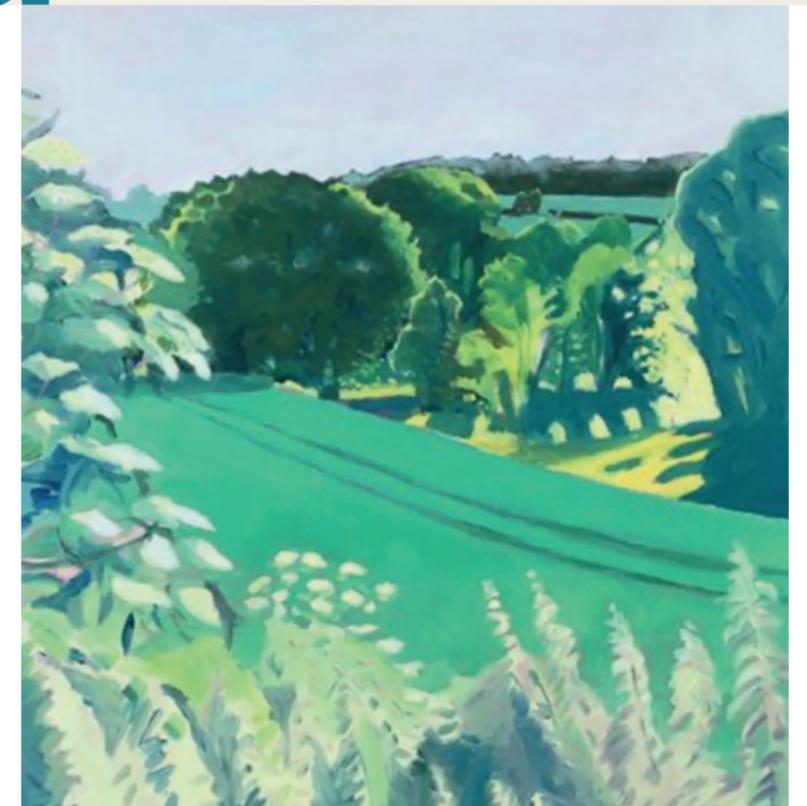
The Exhibition of Paintings begins with a Preview day on **Saturday 13th November** where the gallery will be open until 7pm. It continues until Christmas Eve. Please RSVP to the Preview Day.

Mill Tye Gallery & Arts Centre
3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye,
Great Cornard, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 0GW

Opening times:

Friday, Saturday and Sunday
11am to 4pm. Free Admission.
Everyone welcome.

Mill Tye is sign posted off the Bures Road in Great Cornard, approximately a mile out of Sudbury Town Centre. The turning is opposite the King’s Head Pub. Parking is in the car park before the railway level crossing. The gallery is a short walk opposite the picturesque Mill Pond, before the river, in the old ‘Bakers Mill’ Building.



RSVP to the Elizabeth Martland De Alwis Exhibition of Paintings @ milltyegallery.co.uk

Elizabeth Martland De Alwis
Exhibition of Paintings

Starts: Saturday 13 November — Ends: Friday 24 December

Tornado Smith, Boxford's Famous Daredevil.

In October 2021 the Wall of Death came to Boxford again and reminded us of our famous son George 'Tornado' Smith. For older residents it is very important that we all pronounce his name correctly. If you do not say 'Tun-ahdo', you will mark yourself out as a newcomer to those who remember him, have written about him or those who have come to know his story.

'Boxford Through the Ages', the recently published history by Roger Loose, mentions Tornado in some detail and this month's story expands still further on this fascinating, nationally celebrated personality.

George William 'Tornado' Smith was born on June 19th 1908 in Newton in an end of terrace cottage opposite the Saracen's Head public house. His parents were George Smith, originally from Edwardstone, and Elizabeth (Liz) Baker, a Boxford girl (one of 13 children). Shortly afterwards the family moved to Whitestreet Green where George Snr. became landlord of the Baker's Arms. Tornado's three brothers John, Stanley and Basil were born there. In 1921 the family moved to the White Hart in Boxford. Tornado's parents were at the Hart for over 30 years and stories in the village show they were popular and that Liz was very kind towards the more needy of the parish, often providing a quick snack.



The family Smith at The White Hart. John, George (Tornado), George Snr., Stan, Liz & baby Basil.

Tornado's days at Boxford School do not appear to have been happy ones as he reported being nervous and had nightmares about it. Certainly, like many of the period, he was caned for what would barely raise an eyebrow today. One caning was for 'being too daring' in riding a soapbox on wheels down the hill. One generation's crime is sometimes another's source of amusement. Nervous or not, it was a sign of things to come. Ironically, when he was a child, he was scared of everything and admitted he wouldn't even walk past a pond in case he fell in. He left school at 14 and was apprenticed as a carpenter and wheelwright with Frank Self in Swan Street.

Tornado was a fine looking lad and had Ruby Alleston as his girl friend for two years in their teens. We have met her before in the August BRN story of the Pattles. In her book 'There's a story that my mother told...' by Neil Lanham her son, Ruby describes their fun, scheming and clandestine meetings and her continued fondness for him. Her father, a totally controlling man, finally parted them as he thought the young Tornado (still called George at that time) was 'just a lad from the village' and not suitable for his well-educated daughter from Sudbury High School. According to Ruby, her father changed his tune and approach when Tornado became famous and looked as though he would become wealthy by Boxford standards. Ruby's tales and his letter to her throw a fascinating light on this interesting and colourful character.

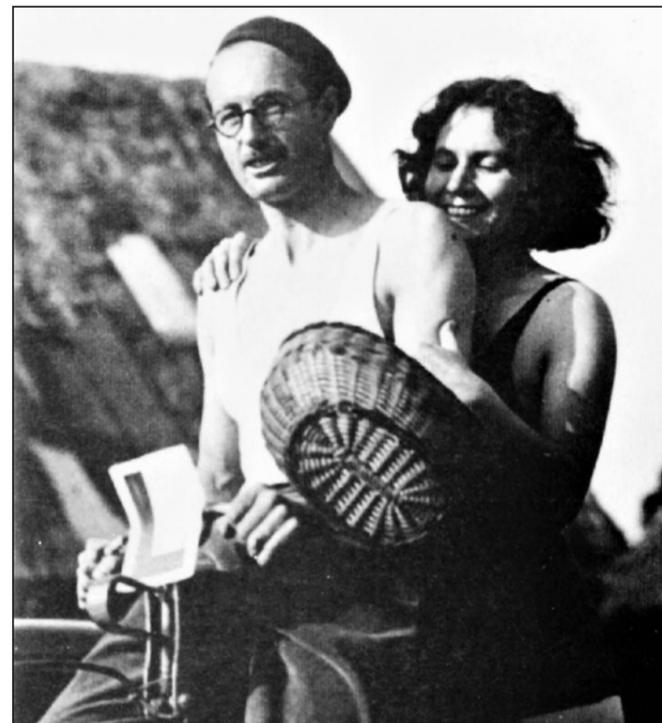
The Essex County Telegraph reports Tornado as saying, "I must have had a wild streak for I could not bring myself to stick to the carpentering to which I had been apprenticed. Then the village coalman got all modern and bought the first motor-lorry in Boxford. I did not like coal, but drive that lorry I must. I did and when I was 17 I got my first job away from home. Motors and motorcycles soon became my line, my life in fact. I quickly saved at my lorry driving

job and bought myself my first sports motor bike. It was a belt-drive Triumph." The dare devil Tornado was emerging.

Other jobs followed and he became an AA patrol-man and then a taxi driver in Felixstowe. Whilst a taxi driver he dropped off a customer at Southend-on-Sea and there came across the first Wall of Death in Britain which opened at the Kursaal Amusement Park on July 23 1929. It featured motorcycles on a 20 ft wooden wall. It had been imported from America. Some reports suggest Tornado brought the Wall of Death from America to Britain. If the story of his discovery of the first Wall of Death as a taxi driver is true, then the story of him bringing it from America is "publicity". There is plenty of evidence to show the Wall was here before he embarked on making a name for himself as one of the most daring of riders. He himself wrote in The Essex County Telegraph that he did not introduce the Wall of Death to this country. However, it is clear that he thought he might well have done had he had different early life experiences!

Having become obsessed with the idea of being a stunt rider, George began applying for jobs across the country to train and ride. He was unsuccessful for a while. Eventually a new Wall of Death, in Whitley Bay, near Newcastle gave him a job as a mechanic and 'starter' for the riders. (He rode his motor cycle there and back in a day for the interview!) At the time the riders were all Americans riding American Scout Vee-Twins. He was now in a position where he might learn by observing, and practice in his spare moments. Recorded accidents occurred but he persisted and by September 1930, aged 22, he became good enough as a rider to be taken on by the touring company Silodromes Ltd. "Tornado" Smith was born and made his debut in Malmo, Sweden.

Upon his return to Britain, possibly via performances in Berlin and then Brighton, he finally found his place at the Kursaal in Southend. During the winter closure of 1931/2 he worked for Bertram Mills Circus at London's Olympia for 6 weeks. While at Olympia Tornado met Doris Craven, a pretty, 19 year old cosmetics saleswoman. She fell for the raffish, handsome, courteous, showman in the red beret. Doris was to become his wife and partner. After impressing him with her keenness to ride on his handlebars on the Wall, it seems that her swooning with dizziness and then wanting to do it again won him



Marjorie Dare and Tornado both aboard the Penny Farthing.

over too. By Easter 1932 she had undergone intensive training and was ready to perform. Her debut was at Barry Island in South Wales as 'Dynamite Doris', but she renamed herself the following year as 'Marjorie Dare'. Barry Island historians report that Tornado was the first rider on their new wall and was accompanied by a lion cub on the handle bars, so Doris/Marjorie's debut would have been after



Marjorie and Briton while still a cub.

the winter of 1933 if this cub was 'Briton', Tornado's lioness. However, riding with a lion on a Wall of Death was not uncommon so this might have been a different, experienced, borrowed lion at Barry Island. Perhaps the one that gave him the idea to get his own cub. Doris also encouraged her younger sister and they rode together at Olympia as Marjorie Dare and Daredevil Kitty on their Indian Scouts. Their mum was apparently none too pleased.

By 1933 Tornado was looking for more eye catching ideas and in the winter in Boxford began training a lioness cub from Chapman's Circus. It took him a month to gain her friendship. She later grew to be a twelve stone lioness called Briton who sat on the motor bike handlebars and later in a sidecar. Marjorie had a pet lamb named Sparky and pictures and articles suggest they all lived in harmony with the pet white mice! Tornado wrote in 1936, "As you will notice, Briton has become a bosom pal to Sparky, the lamb. At the 'light luncheon' party Briton was not eating mutton. A strange fact is, that lately, since making the acquaintance of Sparky, Briton refuses to eat mutton! Whether or not she is sensitive that way I do not know, but this peculiarity has made me dubious as to furthering my previous intention to introduce her to a cow, also a horse. I mean, should her sentiment be extended I might be having a fasting lioness on my hands!"



Afternoon tea with Briton and Sparky the black lamb, from a Pathé news film. 17th July 1936.



He continued, "Sparky eats anything, from a watermelon to shag tobacco. The latter he ate (as if it were grass), the larger part of an ounce, when old Bill, the Kursaal carpenter, offered him his tobacco pouch the other day. He spends most of his time cadging from the trippers, and if their lunch baskets are get-attable he does not stop at cadging; he helps himself. He always returns to the Wall when he's fed-up. His varied diet certainly suits him, for he is as fat as butter and perfectly fit. The latter he displays by frequently doing that 'Spring-time highland fling' as all your lambs do in the early Spring."

I wonder if Tornado and Marjorie deliberately mirrored the religious notion of 'Peace and Brotherhood', the traditional meaning of a lion laying down with a lamb, or had this never crossed their minds? Many of Tornado's relatives were very religious and his uncle Marshall Smith was well known for his eccentric non-conformist preaching, even sometimes from the top a house roof locally as he was thatching! In Briton's early days Tornado and Marjorie lived in Feltham, London. Later they moved to Southend for the holiday season and to Boxford during the winter shut down.

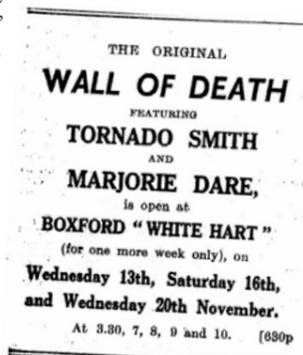
Newspaper reports and Pathé news film illustrate the style of this couple and their menagerie. A lioness walking around on a lead and a lamb swimming at a public beach were the stars. Boxford people



Teeth check and clean in Briton's later years. 3rd December 1936.

remembered Briton being taken for walks and to the butchers in a trailer to collect her lunch. Although Briton was fierce as a cub, she seemed more sedate as she grew. Tornado, it is said, took no chances however, and carried a loaded pistol. He was alert to the fact that she might turn on him during a performance or at some other time.

While in Boxford in 1935 they set up the Wall of Death in the yard of his parents' pub 'The White Hart' and performed for the locals' amusement. Some dispute the erection of the Wall of Death and that biking round really happened on the yard. However, we have an image of a poster that advertises Tornado and Marjorie in Boxford on 'the original Wall of Death (for one more week only) 13th, 16th and 20th November.' So it may not have happened every year, but it most certainly did happen in the winter of 1935 along with an event in Sudbury which raised a substantial sum for The British Legion. During the winters there were often other bookings for them in London, Germany or Italy.



Tornado had great flair for the dramatic and regularly came up with new ideas. He was the first to drive a car (an Austin 7) around a Wall of Death and often rode with a coffin with skeleton instead of a sidecar. He certainly impressed Captain Malcolm Campbell who held world land and water speed records. When two Boxford youngsters (Basil Smith, Tornado's youngest brother and Graham Peachey) saw Tornado pulling Marjorie around the Wall on roller skates, they thought they would creep in one evening and try it. Sadly they could not get up enough momentum with their skates alone.

Tornado invented several other technical routines such as 'The Woman on the Flying Trapeze'. Easter 1935 was not a good one for Marjorie as she tumbled from his shoulders in this act. She was perched on his shoulders holding a pair of reins. She fell 20ft while the bike was moving at 50 mph. Concussed and bruised she got up and continued the show and became a national celebrity as a result. 1935 turned out to be a year of numerous crashes for Tornado too. The calming influence of a sleepy Boxford winter was probably what they needed.

While they were in Boxford in 1935 they used their caravan, Gypsy Moth, built by Tornado, as an operations room for the displays. At last some of his carpentry and wheelwright skills learnt from Frank Self in his first job had been put to good use. He and his wife would later, in 1938, begin building or rebuilding a 12-ton Bermudan cutter (called "Home Made,") to take them round the world. They were using a barn attached to Hall Farm, Benfleet, Essex. In 1939 the Hall and some outbuildings were destroyed by fire, including the barn they were using and their boat. This may have killed their enthusiasm for that great adventure.

Before the Second World War Tornado lived in Rutland Avenue, Southend, where he flew the Jolly Roger flag above his house. The war closed down amusement parks like the Kursaal and Tornado turned his mind to doing his bit for the war effort. He tried to enlist in the RAF to become a fighter pilot, but his eyesight prevented this. He had a spell with the Merchant Navy in 1941 and 1942 as a ship's carpenter. He volunteered for National Fire Service dispatch riding overseas, and was sent to a dispatch riding school to learn how to ride a motor-cycle! He didn't find a lot of excitement waiting to be called to fires. At this time he started building 'The Loop of Death' for when the Wall returned, using ash hewn around Boxford, but there is no known record of the Loop ever being ridden successfully.



Tornado on his Penny Farthing April 1936 passing Peachey's Bakery and Newsagents. Ida and Alf Peachey, and Kenny. Two unknown children behind the Penny Wheel.



The White Hart, home of the Smiths, with Briton's memorial stone behind the fence in front of the second window from the left.

Marjorie Dare and Tornado broke up during the war. He then found a number of female performance partners including, at one point, his daughter Sylvia Stone by his second wife, whom he had married in 1945. Eventually this marriage broke down too.

Before and after the war Tornado had used his rare Penny Farthing (one of only 10 specials built in 1871) to advertise himself and there are many pictures of him in different towns peddling away. He mockingly fitted it with a 'speedo' and used it to attend a court case for speeding in his car in Southend. Tornado said in defence that since Easter he had been riding on the Wall of Death at 60 miles an hour and had lost his sense of speed on the road. He had been clocked at 40-45mph on the sea front. After some cheeky repartee he was fined £5. In Chelmsford for a similar offence he was fined £3 which he paid in half-pennies and farthings and tricked the receivers

into finding it a farthing short. Of course that farthing was still in his pocket. More counting and then with great irritation he was dismissed and gleefully rode home with the farthing in his pocket. Always one for good publicity, he also rode his Penny Farthing to view the 1935 Coronation decorations in London and for a political protest about rates. In April 1945, Tornado rode with the Penny-Farthing Club from Big Ben to Blackheath and Pathé Gazette made a film of the club's jaunt. More than 25 regional, national and international newspapers and magazines carried articles about this celebrity during his lifetime.

His return to the Kursaal in 1945 was without Marjorie and Briton had died just before the war. He never gave details of the cause of Briton's death, so many rumours abound. She is however buried in front of the White Hart, her memorial having long since perished. Tornado would spend nearly another 20 years creating new teams, new ideas and dare devil riding. The BSA motorcycle company equipped his team with 500cc twin machines. At this time he is sometimes seen without the signature red beret with skull and cross bones and wearing a crash helmet instead. He retired from the Kursaal in 1965 and others riders and owners took over.

Tornado Smith retired first to Spain, but in 1966 he arrived in South Africa with debts of £3,000 and was declared bankrupt. He died in 1971 aged 63. After his death £200,000 was found in cash, stocks and shares. His creditors and Inland Revenue scrambled to get their money. Little is known how it finally panned out and whether there was anything left for his intended beneficiaries. One of Tornado's protégés, Yvonne Stagg, said, "I was amazed to hear he had left all that money. It's absolutely impossible to save that amount on what his job pays. He did dabble in stocks and shares and I believe he was very clever with them. Of course he was a 100% miser, never spent a penny if he could help it. Every morning he used to walk down to Foulness Island to pick mushrooms for his breakfast."

In newspaper reports he was variously described as a "Gentle Daredevil" and a "Kindly Miser". His early girl friend Ruby Alleston, later Ruby Lanham, reported that soon after he started riding the Wall he invested £2,000 in Marks and Spencer's shares which indicates a canny approach to his finances and some indication of how he might have built up his fortune.

So concludes the story of an enigmatic and colourful character, much written about in his time and well-recorded in Peter Haining's 'Tornado Smith, Wall of Death Pioneer' which he produced in 1998 with the help of many villagers and Doug Impett.

Tina Loose



Tornado with a change of head gear and 15 year old Maureen Swift c1949 at The Kursaal on the new BSA bikes.

HADLEIGH & BOXFORD PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Survey and Appointments

By the time this goes to print the Practice will have completed a large number of 'flu jabs and made a good start on Covid boosters. Sincere thanks to all at the Practice and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure that everything went smoothly both at the Practice and St Mary's.



The Patient Survey has also been scrutinised and the results analysed. Further details are available on the Practice website (see link below) or patients can obtain a hard copy from Reception.

Where possible patients' concerns are being addressed with the addition of more personnel; both medical and administrative. However, with the best will in the world, not all patients' expectations can be met. Since the easing of Covid restriction in the Health Centre more patients are now receiving face to face appointments. Patients will be offered a telephone consultation or a face to face consultation.

The Survey results also revealed some areas where patients themselves can assist. The principle one being better use of the online booking system. There will always be patients that are unable to do this but there are also a considerable number that could but do not. Better use of the simple on-line booking arrangements would free up the number of slots and reduce the queuing time for telephone callers. To make use of the online appointment system please request a log-in code at Reception.

Retired GP, Dr Cullen, was not only a doctor but also an ace photographer. Evidence of the latter is now on display in the old pharmacy area inside the Practice. Photos are for sale with some of the proceeds going to the Practice's Charitable Trust.

Covid is still lurking around so be aware of the symptoms and how to react if you have them

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- you've lost your sense of smell or taste or it's changed

Do not leave the house. If you have online access visit the NHS website for further information.

If you have problems or cannot use the online service, call 119. Lines are open 7am to 11pm.

Coronavirus Test Info: www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Patient Survey:

www.hadleighhealth.co.uk/news/patient-survey-results

Patient On-Line Booking:

www.hadleighhealth.co.uk/how-to-register-for-systmonline

PPG Chair Jan Devey: deveys@btinternet.com 01473 827 091

Hadleigh and Boxford Patient Participation Group (PPG)

SAVE TIME – BOOK ONLINE

Help yourself and the Practice.
No more calling.

Make your own future appointments at home.

Simply personally collect your account ID and log in instruction from Reception.



LOCKDOWN LEGACY

The legacy of the lockdown lives on. This time it is in the form of hand knitted blankets.

Guided by Hilary Crisp, several residents of Sydney Brown Court beavered away for months to create an enormous stock of colourful, different sized blankets. Hilary had seen an earlier article in the HCN about the delivery of blankets to the charity Project Linus. One call later and her magnificent collection joined the work of other busy knitters in Hadleigh. Their combined efforts amounted to over 60 blankets so Jan Devey decided it was time to visit the local Project Linus representative, Victoria Cox. Victoria was delighted with her latest acquisitions especially as they were so colourful and carefully crafted. It seems there is a never-ending demand for these warm wraps so the Hadleigh knitters will keep up their good work even though lockdown is over. Many find it a relaxing, therapeutic pastime which combines well with watching T.V. and is often more exciting. New home knitters are always welcome.

Contact :- Jan Devey **01473 827091** deveys@btinternet.com
Project Linus UK:- www.projectlinusuk.org.uk



EBONY'S DIARY

Remember we had a Fun Dog Show back in September? I've just caught up with the winners of the 'Craft Competition' that was part of the day's fun. Here's a picture of the two winners, Mia and Lily, receiving their rosettes from Squidgy last month. Congratulations you two!

Since then the fundraising team has organised another Shelley Walk. The Quiz Night had to be cancelled as I guess you humans are still being cautious about indoor gatherings. Quite right, we shall just have to keep to outdoor fun, won't we? The wonderful supporters who do come to events keep us horses going - we couldn't work without you.

The wet weather has spoilt some rides but I've been working flat-out. Rain means riders come indoors and limber up on me before being put through their paces with the volunteers learning about horse care, stable management and tack. It's like learning a new language, all the peculiarities of horse-speak without the grammar ha ha.

Currently all our rides are full - we have a waiting list but are short of instructors so if any Pony Club parents are reading this, might you be able to spare a half day each term-time week to help out teaching how to ride? The exciting prospect of using the skills you already have, being welcomed into the RDA family and eventually being certified as an RDA COACH must surely whet your appetite? We'd love to hear from you.

Until December then, my friends, enjoy the fireworks and keep warm!

The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding, Shelley, IP7 5QY
Reg. Charity No. 1113636
Tel: **01473 824172** www.shelleyrda.com



IGNITE YOUR IMMUNITY

Fire Cider is a popular, traditional remedy that appears every Autumn and has been passed down numerous generations. It's not actually cider but a spicy, warming vinegar that is great fun to make.

Think of it as a winter essential to ward off those colds and chills, stimulate digestion and warm you up on a chilly day!

Essentially, it's a mixture of spices and warming vegetables that are soaked in apple cider vinegar to obtain their beneficial extracts and at the same time it makes a lively tonic that blows your socks off!

Here's what you need and how to make it:

Ingredient suggestions, ideally organic if possible:

- A clean one litre jar with a metal or plastic lid.
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 10 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 2 chilli peppers, chopped
- Zest and juice from 1 organic lemon
- 1/2 cup fresh grated organic ginger root or powder
- 1/2 cup fresh grated organic horseradish root or powder
- 1 Tbsp. turmeric powder
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne powder
- 2 Tbsp. of dried or fresh rosemary leaves
- 750 ml - 1 litre organic apple cider vinegar
- 1tsp - 1/4 cup of raw, local honey, to taste

Directions:

Put the prepared ingredients into your clean jar.

Pour over the apple cider vinegar. Of course I recommend Pippettes Farm Organic Raw Apple Cider Vinegar with the Mother - we'll be selling this at the next Boxford Farmers Market.

Ensure all the ingredients are fully covered and the vinegar reaches the top of the jar.

Use a piece of parchment paper under the lid to keep the vinegar from touching the metal, or use a plastic lid if you have one. Shake well.

Store in a dark, cool place for a month and remember to shake daily.

After one month, strain out the pulp, pouring the vinegar into a clean jar.

Be sure to squeeze as much of the liquid goodness as you can from the pulp while straining.

Once you have the pure liquid, add honey to taste and stir until mixed thoroughly.

How to use:

Any way you like!

Drink a shot (teaspoon) daily as a warming, decongesting, antiviral, antibacterial and digestive tonic.

Try adding to salad dressings as the vinegar component.

Alternatively top up with a little hot water and some extra lemon, honey, ginger and cinnamon to make a delicious hot toddy.

There are countless recipe variations ways to use this and it never tastes the same twice. Just use up what you have in your cupboard and fridge and experiment!

(Information in this newsletter is not intended for health advice and is purely educational. Always consult a health practitioner for therapeutic advice).

Elaine Everitt Osteopath Acupuncturist Medical Herbalist
(07587 743850) Pippettes farm, Stone St.
<https://pippettes.co.uk>



BLANC AT BOXFORD FARMS

As the days draw in and the temperature cools, British farmers are busy harvesting their autumn-ready crops – it's no wonder that the mellow month of October is traditionally when we celebrate the Harvest Festival.

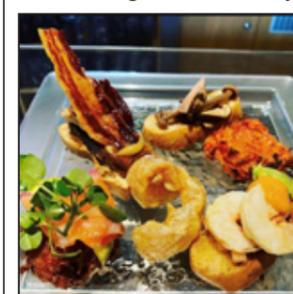


Alan Paton, Raymond Blanc and Matthew Dryden

On Tuesday 5th October the team at the family-owned Stoke by Nayland Resort and sister company, Boxford (Suffolk) Farms, enjoyed marking the official start to the apple and pear season, hosting celebrity chef – and President of the Sustainable Restaurant Association – Raymond Blanc for a very special event.

Industry body British Apples and Pears held the event, hosted at the Resort, to share the release of the Royal Agricultural University's sustainability report, which reveals that our delicious British apples are a green choice for consumers. And, where better to promote this than at a business that produces more green energy than they use?

The day started with guests donning their wellie boots and taking a tour of the Boxford (Suffolk) Farms orchards, accompanied by the team at the farm who demonstrated the stringent process of picking and testing of the quality apples. Within the 300 acres of these well-established orchards, founded by the Peake Family in 1938, the guests were able to pick and sample some of the delicious varieties grown in the stunning Dedham Vale's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Apples and pears themed menu

After working up an appetite, everyone headed to the idyllically located Stoke by Nayland Golf, Spa & Lodges Resort, for a bespoke apple-and-pear-themed menu created by Executive Chef, Alan Paton. Although the pressure must have been high for Alan and his team to cook for such a talented and renowned chef as Raymond Blanc, they took it in their stride

and served up a delicious array of beautiful dishes including Gala apple braised pork belly open sandwich with maple glazed pancetta crackling and Braeburn apple and baron bigod "bread and butter pudding".

"It was an absolute privilege to have the opportunity to create and cook a menu for Raymond Blanc at the British Apples and Pears event. He is a chef that I have admired for many years and, when talking to him, his passion for food and British produce shines through" said Alan. "I have achieved a lot to be proud of in my career, but for myself and my team to receive such high praise from Ramond is certainly up there with my proudest moments."



Robert Rendall, Susanna Rendall, Raymond Blanc & Carmella Mayer

If all this talk of food has made you hungry, you can sample Alan and the team's culinary skills at The Lakes Restaurant at Stoke by Nayland Resort.

MASTER OF THE WALL

Ken Fox has been coming to Boxford to perform his wall of death show for over 20 years. In that time he has become something of an institution in the local area and, in his own words, has been performing here long enough to see children who watched his shows here at the start grow into adults with their own children!



It's clear that when the Wall of Death starts being constructed in the White Hart car park, a palpable tremor of excitement runs throughout the village and beyond.

Between shows in his recent visit to Boxford he took time out from tinkering with the bikes to have a chat with the BRN about his life in showbusiness and what it means to him to be performing here.

Ken started in showbusiness from an early age. Born in 1967 in Skegness he grew up around the family's shooting arcade opposite Walter "Roy" Cripsey's Wall of Death. Naturally attracted to the show, Ken was quickly co-opted into the



Cripsey's 'Hell Riders' Wall of Death show Skegness Pleasure Beach 1979. Photo courtesy of the University of Sheffield Library

Cripsey family and Ken still refers to Roy Cripsey as his grandfather to this day. He was shown how to ride the wall from the age of 15, quickly graduating from being the ticket collector to a permanent rider in the shows. He learnt the art of showmanship during this time from his mentors - a skill that elevates an impressive stunt act into the lofty heights of a true must-see spectacle. After Cripsey's death in 1981 Ken toured the world honing his craft before finally returning to the UK years later to start up his Wall of Death under his own name.



In 1997 he married his girlfriend of 10 years, Julie, who met him at a show when she was working as a dental receptionist. It wasn't long before she fell in love with the glamour of the show-business life, packed

in her job and toured with Ken, trading dental records for driving 40-tonne articulated lorries around the country. The couple have two sons, Luke and Alex. Ken taught them how to ride the Wall at the tender age of 11 once their legs were long enough to touch the floor whilst sitting on the bike! To this day they both still work in the family business, Alex and his wife Abigail (also a Wall of Death rider) touring with Ken and Julie whilst Luke and his wife Kerri (again, also a Wall of Death rider!) tour with Tornado Smith's original wall that Tornado built himself and which was purchased by Ken when it became available to buy.

As can be expected from a truly dangerous show, Ken is no stranger to the odd injury and has had a number of accidents over the years - one of the worst was in 2014 at the Royal Cornwall Show. At top speed on the wall, he was standing with hands behind his back off to the side of the bike when the footplate cracked and fell off, causing him



to fall 20 feet from the top of the Wall onto his head on the floor below. He was emergency airlifted from the show by helicopter to the local hospital where surgeons treated him for nasty friction burns to his arms and face, injuries to his ribs and body, and reattached an ear that had been sliced off as a result of the crash. Whilst Ken was lucky to have escaped more serious injury, he made a quick recovery and dismisses the incident as just 'one of those things' in the life of a professional stuntman.

Spectators to the Boxford show will have observed that little safety equipment in the form of helmets or pads is worn during the stunts. "Helmets actually make riding the Wall practically impossible," says Ken. "The speeds we perform at cause a centripetal force of 2.5 times the force of gravity to act on our bodies. Wearing a helmet would cause neck injuries in a very short space of time. Also, at that speed we actually steer the bike with minute adjustments of our head to shift our body weight. Wearing a helmet would make this impossible."

Despite this Ken remains entirely zen about the danger posed whilst riding. "Wearing safety equipment would put you in the mindset of someone preparing to have a crash. In order to avoid producing adrenaline, which hinders skilled control at high speeds, you have to control your heartbeat and not get excited by the danger. Safety equipment dispels the mental control needed to maintain this state and ends up being counter-productive."

So outside of the Wall, what does Ken Fox do to relax? "If I'm not riding the Wall of Death," he grins, "I'm tinkering and fixing the bikes." He's referring to the 1921 vintage Indian Scout V-Twin motorbikes that are 100 years old this year. "I'm lucky that I don't really have a job," he explains, "I have a hobby that also happens to pay the bills. When the season finishes in November, we head straight to the garage to do repair and maintenance work on all the bikes, the wall and the lorries we



Wall of Death speed record holder Guy Martin

use to transport everything. We'll work in the garage until Spring when the season and touring starts up again."

It's not all oily rags, spanners and touring though. In recent years Ken and his team have been called upon to do numerous high-profile media projects. They were hired as special consultants for Guy Martin's Wall of Death high-speed world record in which he reached 71.85mph (experiencing a 5G force at the same time - enough to cause loss of consciousness within a few seconds) on a specially-constructed wall. Similarly, when the Top Gear team wanted their presenters Freddie Flintoff and Paddy McGuinness to tackle the wall in insurance write-offs, they called in the Ken Fox troupe to train them in how to do so without killing themselves in the process.

"There's one TV appearance I'm particularly excited about that was on TV just a couple of weeks ago," Ken tells me. "Antiques Road Trip! We got to film the Wall and talk about how the bikes being 100 years old mean they're now legitimate antiques!"

Between filming projects it's a wonder that the team have any time for regular touring. "When the season starts it's pretty much full touring until the end," Ken explains. "We do lots of fairs and country shows, but there are only 2 villages we stop at - Kirmington near Grimbsy, which is Guy Martin's home village - and Boxford. We alternate between the two each year, but obviously I'm biased towards Boxford, because of the history of Tornado Smith here, the absolutely HUGE welcome we get when we turn up, and of course you can't beat performing whilst knowing there's a lion that used to do exactly the thing same buried right beneath your feet!"

The next season of shows for Ken Fox's Wall of Death starts in Easter 2022 and fans can head to their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kenfoxwallofdeath for up to date news and updates.

The episode of Antiques Road Trip Ken Fox was featured in recently can be found on BBC iPlayer, series 23 episode 17.

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Re-Cycle Bikes to Africa presents

SANTAS 12 DAY PRIZE DRAW GIVEAWAY

WIN

Every day, for 12 days during December in the run up to Christmas we will be hosting a live prize draw on Facebook where we will be giving away twelve fabulous prizes for you to win.

 Enter between 1st - 30th November 2021.

 Please visit re-cycle.org for more information.

Must be 18 years or over to enter. All funds raised from the Prize Draw will enable the charity to send even more used bikes to children and adults living in rural communities in Africa during 2022.



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Re-Cycle, Unit 8, The Grove Estate, Colchester Road, Wormingford, Colchester, Essex CO6 3AJ
Registered charity no 1063570

CITIZENS ADVICE

My energy supplier recently went under and the new tariff I've been put on is far more than I used to pay. I've heard energy prices are set to rise further and I'm just not sure I can afford it. What help can I get, or small changes can I make around my home to help save some money this winter?

citizens
advice

The cost of energy is very high at the moment and it's causing many people to worry. Normally we would suggest switching to a better deal, but the situation is very difficult at the moment and there aren't a lot of good deals out there. However, there are still other small ways you can keep your bills down.

Little everyday things can help, such as making sure televisions and other electronic devices are switched off and not left on standby; washing clothes on a lower temperature; and only filling the kettle with the water you need.

Turning down your main thermostat by 1 degree can save you around £60 on your energy bill. Spending one minute less in the shower each day could save a family of four £75 a year on energy and water bills. The Government's Simple Energy website has more tips like this.

You're right in another way about bills going through the roof and the walls. One way of cutting costs in the long run is to invest in good insulation if you can afford to. If you're renting, ask your landlord to do this.

You may be able to get financial support to help insulate your home under the Energy Company Obligation scheme <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/energy-company-obligation-eco> Contact your energy supplier for more

information. If you're in a household that's not connected to the gas grid you may also be able to receive help under the Home Upgrade Grant Scheme through your local authority.

There's some financial support available for paying your energy bills, depending on your situation. For example, if you're a pensioner with a low income or receive Universal Credit or other means-tested benefits, you may be entitled to the Warm Home Discount. This gives you £140 a year towards your bills. Check www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme on the Government website to find out if you can claim it.

The Government recently announced a £500m fund to support households this winter so keep a look out for announcements about how this could help you. In England, it will be distributed by Local Authorities.

Remember you can always call our consumer helpline on **0808 2231133** for free advice about your energy costs and staying warm this winter.

If you need advice or information, contact Sudbury & District Citizens Advice.

We are providing advice by telephone and email, Monday – Thursday, 10am – 1pm. Please phone **01787 321400** and leave a message and someone will call you back when available. We will attempt three times to call you back, so please expect a call from a withheld number. You can also telephone our advice line on Freephone **0808 278 7868** or **0800 144 88 48**.

Alternatively, contact us via email at advice@sudburycab.org.uk or by using the contact facility on our website www.sudburycab.org.uk

FRENCH'S CARE HAVEN

Hello to all our readers! Firstly let's get straight to our **Quiz Night, to put in your diaries for Saturday 20th November at the Ansell centre in Hadleigh**, where you can expect a good evening out. We have a fish & chip/vegan option on the food front and a fun evening is planned with a bar, raffle and homemade cakes on the night, tables of 6-8 people, arrival at 7pm, with start time 7.30pm. If you would like to come but do not have 6-8 people for a table, then don't worry, we will put you on a table with some lovely other quizzers so that you have an enjoyable evening with us. You will need to book your table and food in advance 10 days before the quiz. For booking contact Sharon on: 07999 051401 or email her: Frenchs.100club@gmail.com

I would like to thank everyone who came along to our Open day. We had some really nice comments from the visitors, saying they had enjoyed the day and what super condition the animals all looked in. My commitment, love and passion for animals goes along with giving them quality food and a good daily routine as part of their care and management. This is the recipe for healthy, happy animals. I think the helpers would prefer it if I wasn't so OCD about the cleanliness 7 days a week with their shelters being spotless, water and feed buckets sparkling clean, haynets full and hanging properly, paddocks cleared of poo and that is before we even start on the grooming and TLC!



Frankie looks on

I was told by Charmaine, who did a great job helping at the entrance gate on the Open Day that there were lots of happy smiling faces walking back to their cars. A big thank you to our volunteers, John, Sharon, Colin, Emma, Chloe, Wendy, Lissy, Lewis, Summer, Pamela, Graham and to Emilie, one of our team who was in France, but left us with some plants to sell. You all made the day

go smoothly, lots of hugs to you all.

Thank you to the 2 ladies who made a donation and for the lady who has become a monthly sponsor. We cry out for monthly sponsors, so again big hugs to those who come forward to help keep our charity going.

Lots of thank you's this month, one goes to Stoke By Nayland Golf Club, ladies section. Janet the Ladies Captain raised £245 for us. Every penny that is kindly raised for us does not take long to go back out - when Janet and Pamela came along to present the cheque we had the farrier there trimming the donkeys and some of the horses, his fee was £240 on the day, so for me the ladies donation was gratefully received.

As well as the quiz night, the next thing on our agenda is to find help from someone or a company, who knows how to level ground and make the decking type base we need for our summer house. Do you know anyone? or can you help? I have dreamed of having this summer house for the last 2 years so that our helpers of all ages can rest, have their lunch and socialize while they are at French's. It will make such a difference to so many who come to us, but firstly we need a wooden base, then when the summer house arrives we will need help putting it up, by someone or a company who know what they are doing. Companies that have given their time to help us in the past have been happy with the advertising we have given them in return, which has helped the company gain new clients. Please give me a call if you can help us.

I look forward to seeing you all on our quiz night.

French's is a charity on your doorstep, can you help, either with time, donations, or sponsorship. You are welcome to come along and meet our animals. Call me for an appointment. Jann on: 07747 755556 or email: jann.turner@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.frenchscarehaven.org.uk



Chef for the day, Dr Flather

PRESENTS FROM THE PAST

Your monthly Antiques and Art column from Art Expert, Iain Brunt.



I am regularly asked "What is an antique?". This is actually not as daft a question as it may at first appear, and it's actually a favourite subject of mine. Yes of course, common definitions of 'antiques' are anything fabricated over 100 years ago, with many items achieving antique status despite just being between 50-80 years old. For me however this simplistic chronological view misses the point somewhat. Our connection to items from the past goes further than whether something is simply old or not. Instead, I prefer to define antiques by their value to us in the present from the stories they have collected over the years. It isn't solely how well a sideboard's joints are dovetailed, or how expert the filigree is on an ornamental box - those are all qualities that should be respected as much in new items as in old items. Instead I believe the true value of an item is intrinsically linked to the history that has happened around it during its survival through the years. It is the history of its ownership, of its travels, of its utility and aesthetic value to the everyday lives of people around it and of its unfortunate knocks and dents as each successive generation make their mark on its existence.

There's one category of antiques that invariably comes with more stories than any others though, and that is fairground antiques.

Few adults remember the art galleries they stood in as children and which artworks they saw, if indeed they ever did.

Instead, nearly everyone remembers going to the circus or a travelling show as a child. Such memories are usually highly evocative: the bright lights, the loud noises and crowds, the smells of smoke and food stalls, collective crowd oohs and aahs - all these form strong memories in most people's minds. It is this hugely strong sense of nostalgia that drives collectors to distraction when buying fairground antiques. We're not just buying the item itself for its own sake, we're unlocking amazing memories of fun and happy times.



It's hard not to love fairground antiques. They are always hugely decorative pieces, invariably brightly coloured, garish and attractive at the same time. That's the basic point about them - they're mostly designed for fairgrounds / travelling shows and circuses and they need to attract the eye to bring in the crowds. They often represent overriding cultural beliefs of the time of their manufacture - they need at the same time to allow the observer to feel part of the crowd whilst inciting thrill enough to part the punter with the money in his/her pocket. As part of mobile displays then, they're interacted with by far more people through time than most other antiques that are stuck on walls in dingy galleries or private residences. These are items designed to be seen by the masses, and with the masses come the stories!

With the Wall of Death travelling to Boxford in these last few weeks I am reminded of the strength of these childhood memories, and it is no wonder that so many collectors go to such lengths to obtain classic examples of memorabilia. It's amazing the items that come up from time to time at the specialist auctions, for example a genuine 1920 Indian Scout motorbike sold at Bonhams in 2015



for £18,400 whilst Roy Cripsey's Wall of Death (complete with transport lorry and motorbikes) went under the hammer in 2004 with a guide price of £35,000!

With traditional antiques there are quite often hard rules that you should adhere to when buying to maximise the value of your purchase. With fairground antiques the only real advice is buy with your heart but if the item is being sold with specific historical value - always check the provenance! Check if that antique travelling patina is the genuine article and not someone's quick attempt at repro distressing with a chain and hammer.

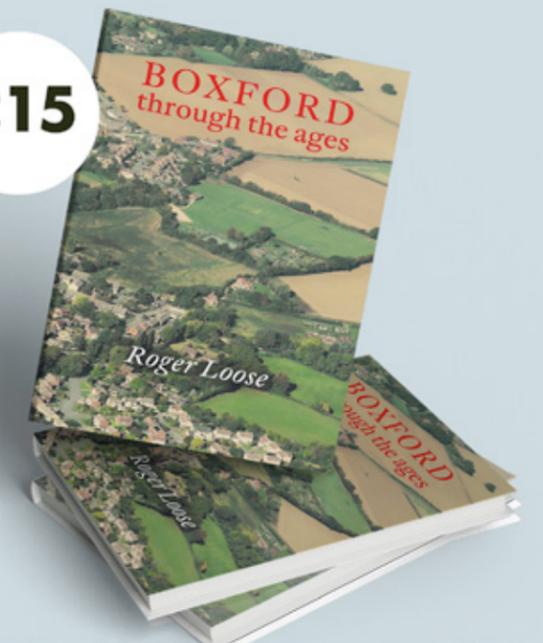
Unusually for antiques, the skill of the maker is not often important. There are many examples of fabulous travelling circus advertising panels that are terrible examples of skill with a brush and yet are simply stunning works of nostalgia, perfect for hanging on a wall or in a garden.

A collection of related items is surprisingly easy to start and build up over time. Find a style or item you like, be it sideshow machines, hoopla graphics, enamel advertising panels or lighting fixtures, and stick with it - very soon you'll have a collection that could be worth a surprising amount of money to other collectors. The rule here is to have fun!

Iain Brunt, Antiques.co.uk Ltd.

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or online at www.boxfordsuffolk.com/boxford-book

KENNY'S NEWS FROM SESAW



At last, people! Lots of them - painting, weeding, chatting and laughing. It was good to welcome a big work party from Axa Insurance last month. They tackled many jobs that have fallen by the wayside since Covid 19. We send them a big thank you and hope they were as glad to see us as we were to see them. Thanks are also due to Elaine and Sheila who raised £252 by taking part in the Hadleigh Yard Sale.

It was a particularly cold day when the humans came in for steaming hot cuppas and biscuits. My canine pals and I studied every crumb being quietly consumed until someone broke the silence with "Why don't dogs blink?" HA! We do blink, but the long soulful stare guilt-trips most into sharing a tasty treat. Our meaningful looks stem from the way our ancestors the wolves communicated with each other.

SESAW volunteers are attending two festive events in Nov. Jeanette is back with her Terrific Tombola, 10-4pm on Saturday 13th at Bridge Farm Barns, Monks Eleigh, IP7 7AY. Sheila will have another classy array of gifts at the Long Melford Christmas Market, 10-1pm on Thurs 25th at the Old School, CO10 9DX. Both ladies take great care with presentation and value for money so please do call in.



Sheila on her SESAW stall

Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Reg. Charity No.1124029, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP. Tel: **01787 210888**
www.sesaw.co.uk

BRIAN TORA'S SOAP BOX

It really was quite exciting to have an international sporting event take place in our village. OK, it wasn't exactly exclusive to Little Waldingfield, but the fact that the Ladies Cycling Tour passed directly in front of my house made it somewhat special. The village rose to the occasion, with residents lining The Street, applauding as the cyclists shot through. True, blink and you might have missed the main event, but with police motor cycle escorts in advance and support vehicles taking up the rear, the whole cavalcade took a little while to pass through.

The atmosphere in the village was very upbeat. One neighbour even organised a barbecue at the side of the road. It reminded me how good small communities like ours can be at celebrating a wide variety of special occasions. We've had street parties, gatherings in our church and Parish Room and have even had mugs designed and printed with village symbols, along with tea towels on one occasion. I have two sets of mugs with different designs - one for the new millennium, the other for one of the Queen's jubilees, though I can't recall which one.

Getting together to celebrate an important event, or just to have a good time, is an important aspect of village life so far as I am concerned. The pages of this august journal bear witness to the wide range of activities that are available throughout our communities. The interruption brought about by the pandemic was most unwelcome and it is heartening to see the social lives of our villages returning to something approaching normality. I feel sure that, like me, you fervently hope that we never again have to suffer disruption on the scale recently experienced.

Of course, not all activities continue in the same fashion. All too often something that is put on regularly to entertain the village or to

WELL WORTH WAITING FOR

It was something author Frank Payne had often thought of doing but could never find the time. At the age of 87 and with time on his hands it was now or never so he set out to write his first book. He finished writing two with the third well on its way.

The first "Here Today Goon Tomorrow", was published in July. The second, "Well Worth Waiting For" is due out in October.

Together they chronicle the story of Frank's

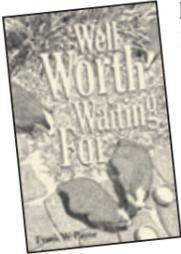
life. The third, "It All Kicks Off On Sunday" tells of his forty years spent as a boys football team manager and coach and qualified referee. It recounts his continuous 40 year battles with adult and junior players, their managers, supporters and parents, hence the title.

Frank was born in South East London in 1934. Frank survived the Blitz, narrowly missing serious injury and death when a stray German bomb destroyed the house he, his sister and mother had minutes earlier left to go to the outdoor shelter.

Frank is donating every pound each of his books earn through sales to SESAW. They, like all small charities, have suffered severe financial losses due to the Pandemic, but they battle on.

Frank says "Their needs are far greater than mine. My wife, daughter and grandchildren all physically help with SESAWs animal welfare. At 87, my time is running out. I've fought battles with prostate cancer, bladder cancer and now the last vestige of skin cancer. I pray each of my books do well - that I'm given time to finish *It All Kicks Off On Sunday* for SESAW and those they help - those unable to help themselves."

"Here Today, Goon Tomorrow" and "Well Worth Waiting For" are available to order on **07881 785535** at a cost of £5 including a donation to SESAW.





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raise money for a worthy cause comes to an end because the people driving the initiative move away or simply become too old or infirm to maintain their commitment. We had a most successful amateur dramatic group in our village. When I say successful, I really mean entertaining as our productions were always well supported and brought smiles to peoples' faces. Professional we were not.

But those responsible for keeping it going moved away or just became too old to carry on without additional help. On this particular occasion it was probably just as well the group disbanded as it had built a character quite of its own which it would have been difficult to maintain with so many of the original movers and shakers unavailable to continue their roles.

Other groups and village institutions have successfully embraced changes in who is involved and how they operate. This is important. Once a village activity closes because of losing those who had been responsible for keeping it going, it can be notoriously difficult to revive it at a later stage. Naturally, support is crucial. Our amateur dramatic efforts would have faded early on if villagers had not been prepared to buy the tickets and come to see us make fools of our selves on a regular basis. Use it or lose it applies just as much here as elsewhere.

Next year we have the Queen's platinum jubilee. I have not yet heard of any plans to celebrate this remarkable achievement in any of our villages, but no doubt there will be groups of people even now gathering around kitchen tables to try to work out how best to mark the occasion. I certainly hope so. This is what village life should be all about. We need excuses to get together and have a good time, especially after the last couple of years. And what better excuse could there be than our monarch celebrating 70 years on the throne.

Brian Tora



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GET OUT AND ABOUT

Following the recent traffic survey undertaken by Boxford Parish Council it has become clear that there are many residents in and around Boxford who, because they don't drive and don't have easy access to reliable public transport, have to rely on relatives, carers or expensive taxis to undertake activities outside the home. Many are concerned about the increasing volume of traffic and the danger that poses when trying to get around on foot. This prompted a chat with Mr John Phillips, a trustee of *GoStart Community Transport*, which is based in Sudbury. He kindly offered to come to the September Parish Council meeting to explain what they do and how they operate.

As a result, the Parish Council has decided to get some feedback with a view to seeing how this service can be extended to residents of Boxford and other surrounding villages. The more interest there is, the more opportunities there will be for people to get out and about, or into the centre of the village to access the surgery, shops and social events. If you think this service would be useful for you or someone you know, please let me know by email to theresa_munson@hotmail.com or by phone on 07786 448361.

About GoStart Community Transport

GoStart is an independent voluntary organisation whose objective is to provide transport to those who for reasons including age, poor health or living in isolation are finding they are restricted from leading a normal life.

They provide services for pensioners, people with disabilities, school children, other voluntary bodies, charities, and registered not-for-profit organisations.

They currently own and operate a fleet of 5 vehicles including two 16-seater mini buses, an 8-seater mini bus, and two 5-seater accessible MPVs. All vehicles are fitted with access ramps or platforms for passengers with accessibility needs.



They stress that while much of the work they undertake involves older people it's not a "Bus Only For Elderly People". They aim to provide low-cost, vital transport services where a need is identified that is not met by existing services, including provision of educational and activity transport for schools, as well as social and activity transport for number of voluntary organisations based in the Sudbury area.

How to register or arrange to book transport from GoStart

Please call 01787 242116 9am-4pm Mon-Fri and speak to Debbie or Julie who will do their very best to get you registered (free) and arrange the transport you need.

Services available

Dial-A-Ride (DAR) door-to-door for shopping, GPs

appointments and social activities during weekday work hours. MPV door-to-door for longer distances such as hospital appointments in Suffolk or Essex - available at any agreed time inc weekends.

Group transport for up to 16 GoStart members for social or educational activities

Costs and charges

DAR - £4.50 return within Sudbury area. £6.00 return up to 10 mile radius beyond Sudbury. Trips to West Suffolk or other hospitals - 50p/mile. Not for profit or group bookings subject to distance and duration



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PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

NEWTON GREEN

Summary of Council Meeting 13th October 2021

21/170 Proposed development of land

Stuart Davis outlined the proposals his client is considering for land along the A134 between the playing field and 4 Assington Road. The current thoughts, for which he was seeking residents and councillors' views, was a development of 9 dwellings on a mixed scheme of affordable / social and market housing. The aim of his presentation was for an open discussion about the land use that would benefit both residents and the landowner, who is looking to realise a return on the land.

Residents raised a number of questions on the proposals; access and the possibility of a roundabout, speed of traffic, position of development in field, further development plans for the remainder of field, ownership of playing field, grading of agricultural land, the number of houses Newton currently requires, is the social housing for Newton residents, proportion of social housing and how it will be located within site and timescale for proposal to be developed.

The Chairman explained that Newton's Neighbourhood Plan (NNP), which has been created based on feedback from residents on how they wanted to see Newton develop between now and 2036, will shortly be going to referendum. He thanked Stuart for his time in explaining the proposals and hoped that the dialogue would continue should his client wish to take the proposals further.

21/178 Christmas Tree and Lights

The Trust will be asked for permission to plant a seven-to-eight-foot Christmas Tree that can be grown on the Green. Lights will also be sourced out of the overall budget of £300.

21/180 Box River News

The councillors agreed that it will be up to residents and groups to forward content to the editor of the Box River News (Trudi Wild - editor@boxrivernews.com) for inclusion in the magazine.

21/181 Permissive path at Jarvis Farm

The councillors reviewed the criteria under which the landowner is prepared to grant his permission for the permissive footpath to continue at Jarvis Farm. The councillors resolved that the conditions of an annual renewal, maintaining the grass surface of the footpath and covering the public liability of footpath users are acceptable.

21/183 Questions to the Chair

The councillors plan to host a coffee morning in relation to the NNP referendum once the date for the election is published.

21/184 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.30pm.

Full minutes can be found at www.newton.onesuffolk.net

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

There are no minutes to publish this month as no meeting was held in October, but we are happy to announce that we now have a new Parish Council clerk, Christine Hargan, who will be assisting the council members with the day to day affairs of the Parish.

She can be contacted on: Tel: 01449 674 727 or email: clerk.littlewoldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk

The next meeting will be on Tuesday November 2nd at 7:30pm in the Parish Room..

BOXFORD

Summary of Council Meeting 28th September 2021

Vacancies

Please note we have 3 Councillor Vacancies on the Parish Council. The current Parish Council includes Julian Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), Lisa Wortley (Vice Chairman), David Warren, Mathew Wooderson, Pamela Edwards and Theresa Munson. Applications are welcomed. Debbie Hattrell continues as Clerk to Council.

Meetings

Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 4th Tuesday each month except in Aug and Dec. We now hold meetings in the Village Hall with limited numbers to minimise Covid risks. Others can join via a Zoom link.

Go-Start Community Transport

John Phillips from Go-Start Community Transport in Sudbury gave an interesting insight into their services and consideration is being given as to how they can support Boxford. Cllr Munson agreed to take this forward.

Public Forum

A resident took the opportunity to thank the Playing Field Committee for installing a concrete walkway to the Playground and the Parish Council for installing hand rails to the Cemetery. He stated that the bus shelter and telephone kiosk were in need of attention and also wondered whether plans were in hand to mark the Jubilee. He was concerned about the lack of thoroughness of sweeping in the centre of the Village and asked County Cllr James Finch for any progress regarding a speed reduction.

Neighbourhood Planning

The Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group were reviewing the consultation responses ahead of the next stage.

On-going items

Cllr Warren sought views from the Parish Council in relation to re-introducing an over 60's Club. The next step will be for them to assess demand. The Parish Council were supportive of the idea. The Parish Council also confirmed their continued support to the Footpath Leaflet project.

Finance

In addition to the usual business, the Parish Council agreed to reimburse the Village Hall for plumbing costs due to the Cemetery tap. Both the Internal and External Audit Reports were considered with all matters approved and some recommendations were made which were being followed up.

Planning

The Chairman updated the meeting regarding the Sand Hill development application. He confirmed the traffic survey summary was sent to Babergh District Council. It is expected that this will be reviewed by the Highways Consultants and a further consultation will result. The application is unlikely to reach the Planning Committee again until at least November.

A large number of other individual planning applications were discussed. Details of these can be found in the full minutes available online at :

<https://boxfordsuffolk.com/BoxfordParishCouncil/minutes>

OTHER BENEFICE PARISH COUNCILS

Groton and Edwardstone parish councils were unable to provide summaries of meeting minutes in time for publication in this issue. Full minutes can be viewed at:

<http://groton.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/documents/>

<http://edwardstonepc.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/minutes/>

FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH Your County Councillor for the Stour Valley

COVID 19 infection rates over September increase but with very low deaths.

There is a continuation of an upturn again of infection rates in South Suffolk. In the 7 days up to **11th October there were 3705 new cases of COVID-19 in the wholes of Suffolk**. Locally in the area of my division, there were 38 cases up to the 7-day period ending 30th September in our MSOA area of 18 villages. **BUT** in the Sudbury, Hadleigh and East Bergholt areas which surround the Stour Valley division, they are more than ours. Incidences are being recorded in the younger age groups. **HOWEVER there is some good news that the 7 day rolling average of deaths in hospitals (1) and Care Homes (0) are extremely low.** The Babergh District has the lowest number of incidences in the county. All in all, this demonstrates again that the vaccination programme is working well locally. Booster vaccines have now started for those who were vaccinated before Christmas and early January. In addition the Flu Vaccination programme has also commenced.

However I continue to urge all those of you who are travelling locally and mixing with more people for work and / or pleasure to take a Rapid Flow Test twice per week so that you can take precautions if you are infected unknowingly and that we can keep the good record we have locally.



Independent review of aspects of Suffolk's Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) services carried out by experts from Lincolnshire.

This team from Lincolnshire County Council published a report on 20th September of their findings. This wasn't a review of everything Suffolk County Council (SCC) does concerning SEND services, but focussed on the processes, communication protocols and family-facing elements of them. The review made nine recommendations and SCC have used these to draft an urgent action plan which can be read online at <https://bit.ly/suffolk-local-offer>.

SCC priority now is to implement wide-scale improvements, and to do this with pace, impact and efficiency. They have already started to make improvements to the way they do things and whilst, wide-scale improvement will take time, they are determined to make things better. There have been many positive changes to the way they deliver SEND services in the past 18 months and they are proud of these, but clearly there is some way to go.

One of the recommendations made in the review was to work with a third-party organisation to deliver improvements. The council has since secured **IMPOWER** (www.impower.co.uk) as a strategic partner who will bring capacity and extensive experience of working on SEND systems across the country. This partnership work has already begun.

As your local Councillor, on behalf of the SCC, I am sorry for the difficulties that some families have experienced as a result of how SCC has been doing things. I recognise that some children and young people have been let down as certain aspects of our services have simply not been good enough.

SCC have already made significant longer-term improvements within SEND, which they continue to build upon. SCC have agreed a £45.1m capital programme to create an additional 870 specialist education places over a 5-year period to 2024. 210 places opened last year with a further 310 opening this academic year and includes new specialist schools in Bungay, Ipswich and Bury. SCC have also improved the time in which it takes us to issue Education Health and Care Plans from 18% within deadline in 2016 to 95% in 2021.

£1million has also been invested into speech and language therapies by Ipswich & East Suffolk and West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Children's education and welfare is fundamental – I fully recognise this as a parent and grandparent myself. We all want to work together to give your children and young people the very best chance in life. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the report or action plan please contact me or SCC via email at SendReview@suffolk.gov.uk.

Deadline approaching for secondary school places in Suffolk

Before making a school application, parents and carers need to consider how they will get their child to and from school. School Travel eligibility is based on a child attending the nearest suitable school that would have had a place available. This might not be the catchment area school. To find out more about SCC's school travel policy please visit www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel.

Families who apply online will be able to log on to the Online Service on the National Offer Day (Tuesday 1 March 2022) to see their offer of a school place. An email confirmation will also be sent on the day. For those who completed paper applications, offer letters will be sent out by second class post on the National Offer Day.

Applications can be made at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions, where further advice and guidance is also available.

HRH The Duke of Gloucester officially opens The Hold.

His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester has officially opened The Hold, a new archives and heritage centre on Ipswich's Waterfront. The Duke was given a tour of the £20million building, a partnership between SCC and the University of Suffolk, which is home to more than nine centuries of history safely preserved by Suffolk Archives.

His Royal Highness was greeted by Suffolk's Lord Lieutenant, Clare, Countess of Euston, as well as a line-up of civic guests, and was then shown round by Kate Chantry, Strategic Manager of Suffolk Archives. During the visit The Duke met Tim Greenacre, COO at the University of Suffolk, Dr Harvey Osborne, Course Leader for BA (Hons) History and students, and saw the state-of-the-art teaching facilities including a 200-seat auditorium and seminar rooms.

New Suffolk Recycling Centres online booking system

On September 20th it was announced that SCC has developed a new, more user-friendly booking system which enables residents to book slots for recycling.

For bookings from 27 September, people can view all available time slots in real time, to see which booking slots are free at any given moment. The system allows you to book up to seven days in advance. If circumstances change, you can easily cancel your slot up to one hour beforehand or equally, you can click to amend your booking if required.

The system is also able to advise customers on which sites accept specific materials, such as plasterboard to ensure the correct type of booking is made to save customers' time, and it can also be used to share real time messages with customers, for example if any site needs to close due to adverse weather or emergency situations. The new booking system is connected to automated numberplate recognition to allow for a trial of automatic entry gates.

Local Flooding

A number of villages have suffered from flooding this last month especially in the last few weeks. I am giving this a high priority by regularly informing and pressing the Highways team to address these issues especially where this results in internal flooding. The storms at the beginning of October were particularly bad and on the morning of 5th October locally, it was briefly raining at a rate of more than 10 inches per hour. This is extremely intense and challenges the capacity of any highway drainage system. (My thanks to David Lowe, Nayland for this data). On behalf of the Council, please accept my personal apologies to those who have suffered from local flooding. I can assure you that our challenges are high on

their priority list.

Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions for the Stour Valley

The Virtual Fostering and Adoption session have been reviewed and are reported to have been very successful. In the light of this, it is intended to continue with these virtual sessions. Since the incidence of COVID 19 sadly the demand for this service has increased significantly. Therefore, those who would like to join one of the following events please email for the log in codes to these sessions:-

The Foster Carer recruitment Event is held the 1st Wednesday of every month, and the Adoption Event is the 1st Thursday. All 7:00pm in your home.

To book a place please email Claire.Gwatkin@suffolk.gov.uk. She will then send instructions on how to join the virtual meeting. As always, the team will be happy to answer any questions you have about fostering or adoption! They normally will have a foster carer or adoptive parent available to help you too at these events. For more details to find out more refer to the website - www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk

Please continue to spread the word.

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@suffolk.gov.uk

Tel: 01206 263649 Mobile: 07545 423796

FEEDBACK FROM BRYN HURREN Your Babergh District Councillor

As all will have noticed we are fast racing through autumn into a winter that could bring much worry and concern to all. Although we are getting back to some sort of normal due to the success of the vaccine roll out and the brilliant efforts of our dedicated and fantastic NHS and all who work to protect and keep our way of life stable, safe, and supported, we are in fact seeing the highest rise in cases of coronavirus since the pandemic began. While it seems that many are suspicious of the vaccines and possible side effects, I would point out that as far as I know while no vaccinated person has yet grown two heads or suffered long term, I do know many who have been seriously affected by the virus and even passed away, so I think it is best to follow the science, get the jabs offered and encourage those in our care and all others young and old to do the same.

With what is going on nationally regarding shortage of certain commodities and the ability to transport them around to where they will be needed, it will be imperative that we have as many fit people around to man the pumps and help out where needed. Also, we need this virus gone so that our vital services can concentrate on all the other health and wellbeing issues that we will have to contend with in the coming winter months and through to next year. Please follow the advice and wear a facemask in close company of others and if going to the local disco or partying, try to keep some distance and sanitize both before and after. Or just stay away.

We will also have to brace ourselves for much financial change and maybe hardship, with some utility charges rising sharply by up to 50%, food prices also rising steeply and becoming difficult to source, along with rents and rates also due to increase. We are moving into very difficult times, especially for young families and the low waged who sometimes do the most essential work in our society. Coupled with our falling down rapidly amongst the elite of the world stage and seeming distrust from other nations, especially former allies, we have a lot of ground to make up and trust to earn.

At the time of the referendum it was said on the side of a bus that we would be £350 million per week better off if we left the EU and went on our own, and that money would be given to the NHS. The latest analysis carried out by independent financial people, much cleverer than me, state that as a nation we are already in fact £450 million worse off per week, this to my simple calculations means

that we are £800 million worse off per week than we were promised, which would be disastrous for any business however large, and will be crippling for our nation for a generation and affect all of us, apart from the very wealthy. We are all of us going to have to dig very deep to recover from such a catastrophic blunder in the short term and maybe for much longer as well. As is often the case, I am sure much of the financial burden will fall on those most unable to bear it.

Nearer to home and focusing on things that are in my power to have an influence on, we are told that the impending cutting of the free time for parking has been put on hold due to a cabinet reshuffle that this councillor had no say in. It seems that the conservative contingent elected in Babergh are having a scrap amongst themselves again and have influenced the original decision that the increased cost in running our car parks should be shared equally between the car users and from general taxation of us all. Maybe these councillors' time would have been better spent in lobbying Westminster to not inflict the outrageous business rates of £242,000 per annum upon Babergh which is what has caused the problem. Car parks are not a business in Babergh but a valuable stimulant to the local economy and should not be used as a revenue raiser by the current government at all. Shame on them all.

We have already started the budget process at Babergh for 22/23 and once again it will be very difficult to do all that we can for all of our constituents with a very limited income and without any government grant, but we will try and as usual I am sure we will largely succeed.

As the chair of the Audit and Standards function, it will fall to me and my committee to make sure that every penny spent is accountable and used in the correct way and also our assets and financial ventures bring in every bit of income that it is possible to do. In local government we are more regulated than ever before despite what those that regulate us do themselves.

I am as always trying to be as optimistic about our national situation as I can be but I think I owe it to everyone to be completely honest about the situation we have been plunged into, also to let everyone know the stark truth of our difficult future.

We also have to hope and pray that the environmental conference being held in Glasgow brings forth some meaningful change of direction on the climate change situation, otherwise we will all be in even more trouble.

Please keep as safe as you are able and remember your neighbours, wherever they might be.

All Very Best Wishes.

Bryn - bryn.hurren@babergh.gov.uk

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Milden Cricket Club	Andrew Simmons	07951 055643
Newton Art Club	Carol Langley	01787 373548
Newton Line Dancing	Jean Tomkins	01787 377343 JT.Steppers@talktalk.net
Newton War Games Club	Brian Lawson	01787 312160
Newton Fireside Club	Moira Evans	01787 374652
Yoga	Marianne Marshall	01787 210323

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1st Boxford Cub Scouts	Liv Hoy	07801 548854 livkarine@hotmail.com
1st Boxford Scouts	Neil Barkham	01787 211916
1st Boxford Rainbows	Janice Macmillan	07779 303690
1st Boxford Brownies	Janice Macmillan	07779 303690 janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk
1st Boxford Guides	Deborah Tullett	debtullett@hotmail.com

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Boxford Bounty	Mark Miller	01787 211596
Boxford Community Car Scheme	Jen Eastwood	01787 211853 jen.eastwood8@gmail.com
Boxford Community Council	Ward Baker	01787 210129 BoxfordCommunityCouncil@gmail.com www.boxford.me.uk
Boxford Playing Fields	David Burden	01787 210926 d.burden379@btinternet.com
Boxford Society	Jen Eastwood	01787 211853 jen.eastwood8@gmail.com
Boxford Tennis Courts	Yvonne Woodfield	01787 210151 www.boxfordsuffolk.com/boxfordSociety
Ltl Waldingfield Playingfield	Charles Miller	01787 249111

CHILDREN FAMILIES & LEARNING

Boxford Primary School	01787 210332 office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk www.boxford-suffolk.secure-dbprimary.com
Friends of Boxford School (FoBS)	talktofobs@gmail.com
Sunflowers Childcare	Moira Grant 01787 211363 info@sunflowers-childcare.co.uk www.sunflowers-childcare.co.uk
Boxford Baby & Toddler Group	facebook.com/Boxfordbabyandtoddlergroup

CHARITIES

Boxford & Groton United Charities	Guy Godfrey 01787 211378
Edwardsone Millennium Green Trust	Claire Mortimer 01787 210051
Groton Educational Foundation	Stephen Watkins 01787 210977 stephen_watkins49@yahoo.co.uk
Groton Winthrop Mulberry Trust	Robert Bowbridge 01787 211553
Little Waldingfield Charities	Mary Thorogood 01787 247658
Newton Green Trust	Philip Taylor 01787 211265 philiptaylor433@gmail.com

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Boxford Spinney	Mark Miller 01787 211596 mark.miller@talktalk.net www.boxfordspinney.co.uk
Boxford Village Hall	Jane Elliott 07721 880521 BVHbookhall@gmail.com
Edwardstone Parish Hall	Daphne Clark 01787 210698 daphne.clark@btopenworld.com
Edwardstone Millennium Green	Gordon 01787 211605
Groton Village Hall	Joanna Roberts 01787 210619
Little Waldingfield Parish Room	Sue Bowen 01787 249473 sd.bowen@btopenworld.com
Marquee Booking	BoxfordMarqueeBooking@gmail.com
Milden Pavilion	Pearl 01449 741876
Newton Village Hall	Alan Vince 01787 373963

PARISH COUNCIL CLERKS

Boxford Parish Council	Debbie Hattrell 01787 210943 d.hattrellhattrell@btinternet.com
Edwardstone Parish Council	Richard Jones 01473 828246 edwardstoneclerk@outlook.com
Groton Parish Council	Richard Jones 01473 828246 grotonclerk@yahoo.com
Ltl Waldingfield Parish Council	Chris White 07541 133535 clerk.littlewaldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk
Newton Parish Council	Dave Crimmin 01787 375085 newtonpc2@gmail.com

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Places are limited so **BOOK NOW!!**

EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2021

23-28	Fireworks Lantern Making	10:00 - 4:00
SAT-THU	The Spinney, Boxford	
30	Fireworks Display & Lantern Parade	6:30pm
SAT	Boxford	
31	Farmers' Market	10:00-1:00
SUN	Boxford Village Hall	

NOVEMBER 2021

5	Drop in For Coffee (& Cakes)	10.30-12.00
FRI	St Lawrence's, Little Waldingfield	
6	Bonfire Night	6-9pm
SAT	The Lindsey Rose	
9	Fireside Club Whist Drive	2pm
TUE	Newton Village Hall	
11	Armistice Day Service	11am
THU	St Mary The Virgin, Edwardstone	
13	Shelley Christmas Bingo	7pm
SAT	Polstead Village Hall	
14	Remembrance Service	10.40am
SUN	Boxford, Little Waldingfield & Newton	
20	Fireside Club Coffee Morning	10.00-11.30
SAT	Newton Village Hall	
20	French's Quiz Night	7pm
SAT	Ansell Centre, Hadleigh	
23	Fireside Club Team Quiz	2pm
TUE	Newton Village Hall	
25	Christmas Community Market	10am-1pm
THU	The Old School, Long Melford	
28	Farmers' Market	10:00-1:00
SUN	Boxford Village Hall	

DECEMBER 2021

1-4	Panto - The Burghers of Boxford	7.30pm
WED-SAT	Boxford Village Hall	
4	Christmas Fair	10.00-3.00
SAT	Polstead Village Hall	
4	Cheese & Wine Party	7.30pm
SAT	Groton Village Hall	
10	Festive Drinks & Nibbles	7-9pm
FRI	St Lawrence's, Little Waldingfield	
12	Boxford's Festive Fayre	10.00-3.30
SUN	St Mary's, The Village Hall & The School	
11-12	Christmas Tree Festival	10:00 - 4:00
SAT-SUN	St Mary's, Boxford	
19	Nativity Play	2.30pm
SUN	St Bartholomew's, Groton	

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 2022

2	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee	TBC
THU	Beacon Lighting, White Hart Car Park	
3	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee	TBC
FRI	Events to be confirmed.	
4	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee	TBC
SAT	Events to be confirmed.	

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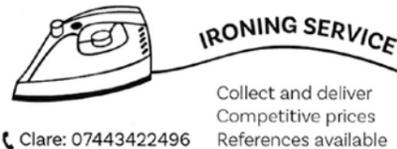


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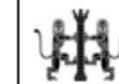
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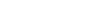
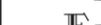
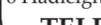
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