

December 2024

# Box River News

Boxford • Edwardstone • Groton • Little Waldingfield • Newton Green



Delivered free to every home in Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton, Little Waldingfield, Newton Green, Bower House Tye, Milden & White Street Green and available to residents in Acton, Assington, Brent Eleigh, Great Waldingfield, Hadleigh, Kersey, Lavenham, Leavenheath, Nayland, Polstead, Shelley, Semer, Stoke-by-Nayland, Sudbury and parents of children at Boxford School.

# GB Wall & Floor Tiling

Free Professional Quotation

Contact Gary Now: 07596 390 495

GARYBOOTHFLOORING1@OUTLOOK.COM

GB Wall & Floor Tiling is a high specification tiling company specialising in all aspects of ceramic, porcelain and natural stone tiling. Specialist designs, herringbone, victorian designs, mosaics. Full bathroom and ensuite refits available.

This is a family trade, spanning five generations of tilers and all works are carried out with personal and family pride. I am also an ex-military veteran, with attention to detail and customer service being paramount.

Covering all of Essex and Suffolk

• OAP discounts • NHS discounts • Military discounts

Trade discount offered to purchase tiles.



# BOXFORD CALENDAR 2025

The 2025 Boxford Calendar is now available for purchase at Boxford Post Office. Priced at £8.50 each or 2 for £16, these calendars make perfect gifts for yourself and your loved ones.

All proceeds from the sale of the calendars go towards the substantial costs required to maintain and preserve our beautiful St. Mary's Church. By purchasing a calendar, you are not only getting a wonderful keepsake but also contributing to the upkeep of our cherished community landmark. Thank you for your support.

*Box River Benefice Office*



ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOXFORD 2025 CALENDAR

## BOXFORD BOUNTY WINNERS!

The Boxford Bounty would like to thank customers of the Fleece Hotel, Boxford for drawing the following numbers on the evening of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November:

| September - October 2024 Winners |      |                              |
|----------------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>                  | £250 | Mr D. Williams, Homefield    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                  | £125 | Mrs W. Howells. Ash Street   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                  | £75  | Mrs M. Hill, Cox Hill        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>                  | £50  | Mrs C. Richardson, Homefield |

Congratulations to all the winners!

We are currently inviting members and those wishing to join the Boxford Bounty to renew their subscriptions for 2025. The Bounty costs £20 per year for a ticket that is entered into 6 draws during the year.

If you would like a ticket for next year's draws please contact [boxfordbounty@gmail.com](mailto:boxfordbounty@gmail.com) or complete the online form at [www.boxford.me.uk/boxford-bounty](http://www.boxford.me.uk/boxford-bounty)

Scan the barcode for more details.

If you are an existing member we will be contacting you shortly to invite you to renew your ticket.

*Boxford Community Council*

*Registered with Babergh District Council under Schedule 11 to the Gambling Act 2005.*

*Registered Charity No 304862*



# THE FOX & HOUNDS GROTON

## To Our Friends and Local Patrons,

As we welcome the holiday season, we're filled with excitement and gratitude for the Fox and Hounds and the wonderful community it serves. This cherished 13<sup>th</sup> century pub, at the heart of Groton, has been a place where friendships are forged, stories are shared, and our local traditions live on. With the upcoming transition, as our current tenant of 15 years steps down, we want to express our deep thanks for his dedication and service.

This season, we're reminded of the importance of gathering together, sharing warmth, and celebrating our traditions. It's our privilege to be part of the Fox & Hounds' history, and we look forward to keeping it a place of joy and connection for years to come.

## A Joyful Vision for the Fox & Hounds

Our hope is to keep the Fox and Hounds a welcoming place where friends, family, and neighbours gather for cosy meals, festive cheer, and community spirit. With your support, we'll carry forward the pub's warmth and character, adding a few new touches to make it feel even more like 'home' for everyone.



## Join Us in This New Chapter

This holiday season, we're inviting all patrons to enjoy one free drink on us! Simply bring ID with you to be part of the Fox & Hounds' next chapter. Here's how you can help:

*Spread the Word:* We're looking for vibrant individuals to join our team and bring happiness and joy to the pub. If you know someone with a passion for hospitality and a flair for food, please encourage them to reach out.

*Share Your Ideas:* Your thoughts mean a lot to us. What would make the Fox & Hounds even more special for you? We'd love to hear from you.

*Visit and Celebrate with Us:* Join us this season as we come together for good food, great company, and holiday spirit. Your presence is what makes the Fox & Hounds truly special.

If you or someone you know would like to join our team, please get in touch and send CVs.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We look forward to celebrating the season and beyond with each of you.

*With festive wishes,*

*Charles and Katie Partridge*

[foxandhoundsgroton@outlook.com](mailto:foxandhoundsgroton@outlook.com) / 07407 101 802

## Box River News

Trudi Wild, Twin View, 18 Stone Street, Boxford CO10 5NR

Telephone: 01787 210946

email: [editor@boxrivernews.com](mailto:editor@boxrivernews.com)

[www.facebook.com/BoxRiverNews](https://www.facebook.com/BoxRiverNews)

[www.instagram.com/boxrivernews](https://www.instagram.com/boxrivernews)

Deadline date for the January 2024 Issue is:

**December 15<sup>th</sup> at midday**

# NEWTON FIRESIDE CLUB

As the days get shorter and the weather gets colder, the Firesiders hunker down in front of the fire to enjoy a whole range of activities and excellent refreshments. Both sessions in October involved food and were well supported. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, we enjoyed a 50s and 60s afternoon. Music of the time was played and we enjoyed classic snacks and drinks of the era including vol-au-vents, cheese and pineapple and advocaat snowballs – with cherries, of course. Some of our members even dressed for the period and looked amazing!



No dressing up was involved on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, just a hearty appetite and a pair of scissors. The afternoon started with a bowl of spicy pumpkin soup and a roll. We then had a go at making paper lanterns and decorating them. I have to say, they looked very effective. We were then treated to an array of excellent cakes – nobody went home hungry!!

Unfortunately, we have been let down by the speaker from GCB chocolate factory. Instead, we will be showing a film.

Lastly, we are off to the Shoulder of Mutton for our Christmas dinner, which will be a lovely finale to this term's events.

## AUTUMN 2024 PROGRAMME

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Beetle Drive

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec Film Show

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Dinner at The Shoulder of Mutton

All meetings are held in the village hall and start at 2pm unless otherwise stated and anyone is welcome. Subs for members are £25 this term and must be paid in advance. This includes refreshments, activities and subsidised events. Non-members are welcome to come along to any session. The fee will be between £5 and £10 depending on the activity. New members are always welcome. Usually the first session is free.

Please contact Moira on **01787 374652** or Sue on **07881 383 998** if you would like more details.

*Sue Presland*

# THE WILLIAM ALSTON CHARITY

I thought I would remind people about the William Alston Charity, also known as the Alston and Plampin Charity or the Newton Charity. It was established on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1564 when William Alston bequeathed a yearly sum of ten shillings to the poor of Newton.

In 1822, Robert and John Plampin gave a yearly sum of sixteen shillings and six pence, also to the poor of Newton.

These funds are held in a COIF fund which are funds established under the Charities Act 1993 (now Charities Act 2011) to manage charities' investments. These funds generate small dividends each year that are used, along with the occasional donation, for the day to day running of the charity. The capital has been added to over

the years, usually through a bequest from the will of somebody who lived in the village.

The distribution of funds has changed a lot over the years. Although there is little real poverty in the village, the tradition is perpetuated by giving small cash gifts to the more needy in the village, mainly at Christmas. In addition, the charity contributes to the Christmas parcel fund set up by the parish council and the trust. The trustees met at the beginning of December to discuss the cash gifts and it was agreed to increase the amount for some to help with the increase in the cost of living. If you know of someone who you think deserves a gift or would benefit from a small cash donation, please do contact Sue or any of the trustees.

Occasionally the charity can help those who have severe health or financial difficulties. The funds are also used to provide a card, flowers or plant to villagers who are very sick or have suffered a bereavement to show that the village is thinking about them. These small gifts are much appreciated by the recipients and is a wonderful tradition to maintain.

It is sometimes difficult to know who would best benefit from the charity's small income. Once again, the trustees would be very grateful if you would let us know of anybody who you feel would benefit from this.

The trustees are: Sue Presland (Chair) 01787 379204 / 07881 383 998. Janet Taylor, Maureen Williams & Rev Robert Parker-McGee (ex-officio)

*Sue Presland, Chair*

# NEWTON VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

The current Trustees are:

**Alan Vince** *Chair, Treasurer & Bookings*

**Janet Weavers** *Secretary*

**Fiona Garman** *PCC Rep*

**Rita Schwenk** *NPC Rep*

**Sue Presland** *Newton Charities*

**Teresa Parry** *Fireside Club*

**Graham Ferguson** *Elected*

**Joan Linney** *Elected*

**We are currently looking for new trustees to help us to manage our beautiful village hall. We hold four meetings each year with the April meeting also being the AGM.**

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance of the hall and the administration of its finances. Please do contact one of the trustees if you would like to learn more about the role – no obligation.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October saw the return of the ever-popular quiz hosted by Ged, Paul and Sue. As always, the hall was packed, the competition was fierce and the atmosphere was lively! Thanks to everyone's generosity, over £650 was raised to be shared between the village hall and All Saints Church. Look out for another quiz in the spring.

As reported last month, we are still in the process of having full fibre broadband installed in the hall. Unfortunately, the installation is proving very problematic and is taking more time than expected. However, we are sure this will be a valuable addition to the hall's resources.

We are also pleased to report that funding has been secured to replace the windows in the original part of the hall. Work on this should commence in the near future.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported this year's coffee mornings and a special big thank you to Carole and Joan for their sterling efforts in looking after refreshments. The dates for next year's coffee mornings will be published in the new year.

# EDWARDSTONE CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year's fair was another huge success. The weather was kind, shoppers came out in force and they weren't disappointed! We had some great new stalls with a really festive atmosphere and it was lovely to see so many people enjoying our beautiful church.



As well as the loyal support of the local community and beyond, we are incredibly grateful for the generous sponsorship from RG Abrey Farms, Howard Watts Group and Motts Body Repair Ltd as well as additional advertising coverage courtesy of Town and Village Properties.



One of our best money earners is, without doubt, the fantastic Turkey Raffle, made possible entirely by the generosity of Alan Leeder. Two lucky winners will be enjoying a delicious Christmas dinner thanks to him!

With County Broadband's invaluable help last year, the WiFi coverage is such that all these small businesses can operate easily from the church. Anything that brings more visitors

and allows the building to be used more widely in the community will be good for its future.

We're anticipating a final total in excess of £4,000 and we're looking forward to being able to make a significant donation to our chosen local charity, 3PR.

For more coverage of the fair - and news of upcoming parish events - follow us on Facebook or Instagram @edwardstoneparishevents

Once again, many thanks from us all and have a very Happy Christmas!

## UPDATE ON EDWARDSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### Referendum Result

The referendum on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan was held on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Of the 81 people who voted, 74 voted 'Yes' (91.36%) and 7 'No' (8.64%).

This means that the plan will be now be adopted by Babergh District Council and form part of the planning process in the parish.

Many thanks to all of you that voted.

Mike Gibson, Edwardstone Parish Council.



... THE ...

# WHITE HORSE INN

... EDWARDSTONE ...

**Opening Hours**  
**Wednesday - Sunday from 12pm**  
**Festive Hours & Jan Holidays - Check our website & social pages**

*Wide selection of drinks from independent UK producers*  
*Craft beers, real ales, ciders, wines & spirits.*  
*On-site microbrewery - Little Earth Project*  
*Takeaway draught & bottle list*

**Acoustic Jam Night - Every 2nd Wednesday of the month**  
 Wednesday, December 11th from 7pm  
 Join in or sit back & enjoy with a pint

**Open Mic Night - Every 4th Wednesday of the month**  
 Wednesday, November 28th from 7pm

**Festive Events**

**Festive Drinks Menu** - from Nov 22 through December  
**Santa's Village Run** - Santa's coming on his sleigh with his elves!  
**Christmas Carols** - Acoustic festive tunes on piano & guitar from Elliot Porter & Phoebe Austin. Saturday Dec 21 from 7pm!

**Sourdough Pizzas & Boards & Bites Menu**  
 Boards: Wed-Sat 12-8, Sun 12-4  
 Pizzas: Sit in/Takeaway - Thurs 5-8pm, Fri & Sat 12-8, Sun 12-4

**Street Food**

**Follow us on Facebook/Instagram for weekly updates!**  
**Wagyu Burgers** - Friday Nights (except Saturday Dec 28)  
**Taqueria La Gringa** - Saturday, Nov 30 & Dec 21  
**My Thai Chef Melford** - Saturday Nov 23 & Dec 31 (NYE)  
**Noodle & Dumpling Bar** - Saturday Dec 14

@edwardstonewh [www.edwardstonewhitehorse.co.uk](http://www.edwardstonewhitehorse.co.uk)

## BOXFORD CHRISTMAS CARDS

Boxford Christmas cards are available now! Available in 3 designs featuring different scenes from the village, all proceeds from the sale of each pack are donated to local nonprofit organisations.

This year the charities that will benefit from the cards are *Boxford Village Hall*, *Boxford Friendship Group* and *Friends of Boxford School (FoBS)*.

Each pack contains ten cards and is priced at a very reasonable £4.50. Head over to Boxford Post Office to buy yours, celebrate the village and support its groups! Everyone wins, Merry Christmas!

*Queen Bee Designs*



## BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

### Keeping Our Community Hub Thriving

Boxford Village Hall has been a gathering place for community events, celebrations, and local groups for almost a century, and the committee is working to keep it in great shape as it nears its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026! In October, committee members, local volunteers, and friends from the drama group joined forces for a morning of maintenance and deep cleaning to spruce up the hall. This marks the first of many regular volunteer mornings, a new initiative to ensure our beloved hall stays well-maintained for everyone to enjoy.

We'd love for you to join us at our next volunteer morning on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am. Whether you can lend a hand for just 10 minutes or stay for a couple of hours, every bit of help makes a difference. For more details, please reach out to Nick Moore, Chairman ([nick@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:nick@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk)) – we'd love to see you there!

### Bringing Back Community Favourites in 2025

Looking ahead, the committee is excited to bring back some much-loved community events for 2025! Plans are underway for bingo evenings, barn dances, and more. Make sure you follow our Facebook page to stay in the loop, and if you have ideas for other events you'd love to see, let us know! We're always open to new ideas and want to make our events as enjoyable and inclusive as possible for the whole community.

### Get Involved!

We're looking for more people to join our friendly committee and help keep the hall thriving. If you're interested in contributing, we'd love to hear from you! The committee meets once a month on a Wednesday evening, with additional tasks depending on the role. If you'd like to learn more, please reach out.

Let's keep Boxford Village Hall a vibrant, welcoming place for all—your involvement and support are what keeps our community strong!

*Nick Moore, Chairman*  
[nick@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:nick@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk)

## THANK YOU YVONNE!

The Box River News would like to thank one of its distributors, Yvonne Woodfield, for all of the immense effort she has put in over the years in delivering the BRN. As she winds down to enjoy some well-earned rest and retirement, it's worth remembering just how much she has contributed over the years alongside all of her many other community involvements.

Yvonne has been delivering the BRN to houses in Boxford's Running Waters estate with co-distributor-in-crime Wendy Hills for over 24 years, even back when the magazine (as it is now) was the church newsletter published by Doug Impett in the days before the late Eddie Kench took over at the helm in 2000. Yvonne must have walked hundreds of miles in all that time ensuring everyone gets their copy every month.

Her energy and dedication to her community is simply awe-inspiring, and it's for this that we feel so grateful for all her help.

Thanks Yvonne! Enjoy putting your feet up!



## RECLAIM THE RAIN

Hello Boxford Residents!

It's been a busy and productive year for the Reclaim the Rain project, and in this edition, we're excited to share an overview of this work. In Boxford's upper catchment area, we are collaborating with landowners to carry out pond refurbishment which will include desilting and improving the health of two existing ponds. Once completed, these efforts, in conjunction with natural flood management measures along the northern flow path such as leaky dams, will help to slow flow of surface water, while promoting the re-establishment of key indicator species.

In addition to this, we have been working with the Spinney Committee to develop a scheme which offers flood risk benefit, as well as an environmental and social benefit for the youth groups utilising this site. To support this work and the above, topographic and channel surveys have been completed to inform design and delivery.

In November we delivered SuDS Pods at Boxford CEVCP School, in partnership with Anglian Water and GreenBlue Urban. A message from Boxford's Eco Team: *"At our school, we have had new SuDS Pods installed for the Reclaim the Rain project. They collect the rainwater and then help plants to grow. There is even a seating area attached to one of them for a nice peaceful place to sit. We are excited for the other eco improvements reclaim the rain will be doing this year."*

Reclaim the Rain have continued to work in partnership with J.S. Wright & Sons Cricket Bat Company and landowners across the catchment to identify suitable locations for planting. One site will commence planting this winter, with another following in the future. The latter will be supported by the creation of hydraulic features to not only support tree growth but reduce flood peaks too in storm events.

As covered in previous editions, Boxford Village Hall's rain garden is now complete, and we are very happy to see the plants and grass establishing well. This feature manages rainwater runoff while providing a habitat for wildlife. To maximise this and the ongoing work at the school, we are also working with Our Rainwater and the Parochial Church Council to explore an effective and appropriate water reuse scheme at Boxford St Mary's Church.

Thank you for your continued support as we progress through delivery in bringing these projects to life. If you haven't seen our quarterly Reclaim the Rain newsletter and want to stay up to date, head over to our website where you can read previous editions and even sign up to receive alerts when a new edition goes live.

*Best Wishes and Happy Christmas,*  
*Ruby and Sian*  
[www.reclaimtherain.org](http://www.reclaimtherain.org)

## ON THE BUSES

Very positive discussions have continued involving village representatives, Suffolk County Council and Chambers and its parent company Go East Anglia. The slow decline in bus services through Boxford has been arrested and we are hopeful of some further enhancements in the next few weeks. This is a very different situation than complete cessation that faced the village in mid-summer.

Watch out for announcements regarding the 90 bus service and please use the buses whenever you can.

*The Boxford Bus/Transport Team*



# GROTON HISTORY SOCIETY

## January Event: Russia

We are planning a fascinating talk to be given by Jennifer Antill, a local historical fiction author, who specialises in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Russia. Jenny has published two books, set during this interesting period in Russian history. Her first novel *'Small Acts of Kindness'* has just been followed by a second novel *'Fortune's Price'*. Jenny studied Russian Language, Literature and Politics at UCL SSEES. The books are highly recommended.

We have asked Jenny to take us through "What does history teach us about Russia today?". This is highly relevant as we struggle to understand modern day Russia and what threads, weaving through its history, help to explain 'why?' to so many questions we might have. A fascinating topic!

The date will be **17<sup>th</sup> January**, 19:30. Venue will be Groton Village Hall. Entry £5 which includes a glass of wine!

## 80 years ago with the 1<sup>st</sup> Suffolks:

It's all about the drums. Back in May 1940, as the battalion was retreating towards Dunkirk, they had evacuated their defensive positions around Wattlelos, in the face of superior rapidly advancing German forces. Everything that was not essential was dumped behind a chemical factory, including the battalion drums. Some locals took the drums and hid them safely in the factory. These had to be moved later to more secure hiding places in nearby houses, when the Germans arrived. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December Captain Breach was tasked with trying to find them. Leaving Meerlo, Captain Breach and two Lance Corporals travelled back into France to Wattlelos. Upon entering the town hall, they were greeted by an ex-Suffolk regiment member acting as town major, who exclaimed "Ah, I know what you've come for! Look behind you." There in the rafters were two of the drums! The Mayor then followed up a bit later, with an old woman, who carried a third drum, hidden in a hatbox! They were not able to find any of the other drums, though getting three back was a success. The only surviving drummer from 1940, Lance Corporal 'Nobby' Clarke was ecstatic. He could now use his sticks on the real drum rather than any tin helmet or ration tin! Much to the battalion's relief.

Apart from this adventure, December was cold, rainy and then snowy. Patrols continued but the drums were the only excitement, thankfully.

## Other key December events in history:

Following on the theme for the January event there is an interesting beginning and end for you:-

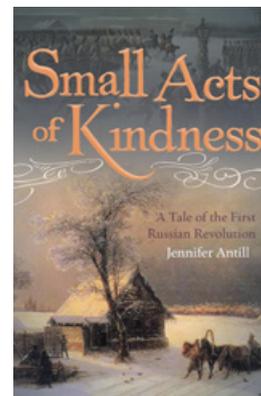
- 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 1922: USSR created by Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 1989: USSR ceases to exist as Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine signed the agreement creating a new Commonwealth of Independent States. (And herein lies an issue today!)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 1955: Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger. This kick starts the Civil Rights movement.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1979: People in Iran vote overwhelmingly to grant absolute power to Ayatollah Khomeini. Be careful what you vote for?!
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 1791: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart dies at age 35 in Vienna. He composed over 600 pieces of music yet died a pauper.



- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 1941: Pearl Harbour is attacked by imperial Japan, without warning. Over 3,000 US died. It was their one shot to win- missed!
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 1918: Women vote and can stand for the first time in a UK election, won again by Lloyd George and Bonar Law.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 1773: Boston Tea Party spoils 342 containers of tea in Boston Harbour. A step on the road to revolution.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 1066: William the Bastard is crowned King of England. Not the last.

## Recommended Readings, Listening and viewing:

- *'Small Acts of Kindness'* by Jennifer Antill. A tale of the first Russian Revolution (Decembrists) in 1825. <https://amzn.to/48Qzq4B>
- *'Bourneville'* by Jonathon Coe. Follows the Bourneville family from VE Day to the Covid crisis, spanning the 1966 World Cup and Charles and Di! <https://amzn.to/3AOH16Z>
- *'When America stopped being Great'*. By Nick Bryant. A rarity, according to Washington Post, a Brit who understands America.
- *'The Russian Revolution'* podcast series by Empire, with Anita Arand and William Dalrymple.
- *'Lee Miller: Exposing the Horrors of World War 2'* from The Rest is History Podcast. See the film, listen to the story.
- *'A House through Time Season 5'* on iPlayer. Tales of life in London and Berlin apartment blocks, before and during WW2
- *'Wolf Hall: The Mirror and the Light'* on BBC 1 / iPlayer. The final years of Thomas Cromwell according to the late Hilary Mantell.



## What If? :

What If.... Julius Caesar had not crossed the River Rubicon? Would the republic have stayed strong or would someone else have felt the need to cross the Rubicon? Republic survives or autocracy rules? I suspect that if not him then someone else. The seeds of powerful men with loyal legions had been sown and Caesar was the first one to take advantage. The Army recruitment reforms meant that anyone could join the legions, not just land owners. This opened the door to loyal legions who followed a successful, rich general. Sound familiar?

I should have added this one last month but always good to remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November! What If.... Guido Fawkes had blown up the King, Parliament and the governing elite of England? What would have followed? Was there really a plan for what happens next? If you are going to assassinate the King, you had better have a good plan as to what to do next. Often a repeating lesson in regicide and other assassinations of leaders. The act itself is planned with detail but not the aftermath. Ask von Stauffenberg and his plotters in 1944. Ask Parliament in 1649.

Please let me have your thoughts on these articles, your recommendations or any topics you would like me to cover going forward...

Nigel Chapman  
[nigeljchap@gmail.com](mailto:nigeljchap@gmail.com)

## Remember!

The Box River News can be seen in full colour each month by downloading from the website.  
[www.boxrivernews.com](http://www.boxrivernews.com)

# THE BUTCHER'S WIFE

In the UK as soon as Halloween and Bonfire Night are finished, it's all systems go for Christmas. Growing up in America, we had the fun of Thanksgiving in between. Now I know that it's meant to be a day to spend with your loved ones and acknowledge all the things you are thankful for but as a kid, it just meant that we got a day off school to eat loads of food. Although Americans go big on pumpkin pie and that is disgusting so I didn't enjoy that part of it.



I haven't celebrated Thanksgiving since I've lived in the UK, mainly because no one will give me the day off, but I do like the idea of acknowledging things I'm thankful for so I thought I would share my list. It goes without saying that The Butcher and the mini Leeders are top of the list, along with my puppy boy, but this list is more about the little things in life that bring me joy.

1. We recently bought new sofas. They recline. Enough said.
2. Earlier this year I got a new car. It has lots of cool features the old car didn't but my favourite by far is that it automatically puts my full beam headlights on and then dips them when another car is coming. Blew my mind.
3. The clothes horse I bought online that holds 7 full loads of washing. It has simply changed my life.
4. When someone at work brings cake into the office. Instantly improves my day.
5. The Yeti travel mug I got for my birthday. My coffee stays hot for hours! Although sometimes it's too hot so I have to make a cup of coffee to drink while it cools down. Actually it's probably not a good thing, I'm drinking twice as much coffee and I'm wired...
6. Getting into bed when I've just put clean sheets on. If I won the lottery, I would pay someone to change my bed sheets every day.
7. Diet Coke. I don't care if it's eroding my insides, it's my favourite drink.
8. The Internet. I don't how we used to cope before the internet was invented. Along the same lines, smart phones and messaging apps, remember having to actually phone someone if you wanted to ask them a question? And paying for cool or funny ringtones? Now my phone is on silent and I look on in horror if it rings.
9. Wearing elasticated trousers/joggers/skirts. When I was in my twenties I used to look at 'old people' and wonder and what age you start dressing more for comfort over style. I realise it's now, I am that age. Dresses with pockets also bring me great joy.
10. And finally, the thing that brings me the most joy is the tiniest Leeder. He's honestly the happiest little baby I've ever known. Recently he had his first sleepover at Grandma and Grandad's house all by himself! All was going really well, he went to bed and slept through the night (The Butcher and I were shocked, none of the mini Leeders did this until they were about 5!). At about 5am I heard him stirring. He was sleeping in a travel cot in our bedroom and the room was pitch black. I sat up to go and get him at the exact same time The Butcher sat up. We ended up head butting each other so hard that I saw stars! It's dangerous work this grandparent lark!

This month's recipe is a hearty winter-warmer that's a real family-pleaser and even better, is very quick and simple to make - perfect for a midweek meal! You can even make a variation of this with Feta cheese instead of the Halloumi for a crumbly, rich texture. Simply add the Feta cubes a couple of minutes before the end.

## Halloumi & Chorizo Pasta

### Ingredients (Serves 4)

- 250g pasta
- 1/2 tbsp dried oregano
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tsp smoked paprika
- 250g chorizo, sliced
- 200ml tomato passata
- 1 red onion, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 red pepper, sliced
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 large garlic cloves, crushed
- 225g halloumi cheese, cut into 1 inch cubes

### Method

- Cook pasta as per packet instructions.
- Meanwhile, heat olive oil in a large pan and cook the chorizo for 2-3 minutes over a medium heat.
- Add the onion and red pepper and cook for a further 2-3 minutes.
- Stir in the garlic, halloumi, oregano and smoked paprika and cook for a minute.
- Add tomato sauce and then simmer the sauce for 5 minutes.
- Add the cooked pasta, stir to combine and serve with fresh parsley.

## K WILLIS BUILDERS

All types of building work undertaken

- extensions • alterations
- fencing • landscaping
- decoration • driveways
- roofing repair jobs

Telephone: 07771 638 398 / 01787 586 031

[kwillisbuild@hotmail.com](mailto:kwillisbuild@hotmail.com)



- Computer & Printer Setup
- Email Setup
- Friendly & Helpful Advice
- Wireless Networks
- Virus Removal
- Upgrades & Repair
- TV's & Smartphones
- Support & Tuition

Based in Hadleigh, Suffolk, ITworx provide Home support for PC's, Macs, tablets & smart phones.

✉ [ian@itworxnow.co.uk](mailto:ian@itworxnow.co.uk)

☎ 07866 015953




Beautiful jewellery made from silver, gold and platinum.  
Bespoke service.

01787 210251  
info@willbishop.co.uk | www.willbishop.co.uk




T: 01206 262391 M: 07850 571879  
www.mamorrison.co.uk hats@mamorrison.co.uk

**GARDEN DESIGN**  
**BORDER DESIGN**  
**PLANT SOURCING**  
**GARDEN OVERHAUL**  
**GARDEN GIFT VOUCHERS**

**Give your garden the makeover it deserves!**

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

WWW.ZINNIADDESIGN.CO.UK



Call Angela for a consultation:  
**01787 212264**  
**07974 375254**



**SUFFOLK TREE SERVICES LTD**

**For All Aspects of Tree Works Including:**

- Planting • Reducing • Pollarding • Felling •
- Stump Grinding • Hedging Works •

**We offer a complete and professional service**  
Established over 30 years

We are a local, friendly and experienced company

- Free Estimates • 24 Hour Storm Damage Cover •
- Fully Insured • Tree Reports and Consultancy



Woodchip and Firewood for Sale  
**Tel: 01787 319200**

info@suffolktreeservices.co.uk  
www.suffolktreeservices.co.uk



**A. LEEDER**  
**Family Butcher**

**Free local delivery\***

- Local British Beef, Pork, Lamb & Chicken
- Fresh bread (from Sparling Faiers, Lavenham)
- Local free range eggs
- Fresh vegetables
- Variety of cheeses
- Homemade sausage rolls, pasties & scotch eggs
- Locally sourced honey
- Condiments, flour, oils and much more!

\*within 7 mile radius of Boxford on orders over £25  
£3 delivery charge for orders under £25 or over 7 miles




**Open Tues-Fri: 7am - 5pm, Sat: 7am-1pm**  
**33 Swan Street, Boxford**  
**Tel: 01787 210267**  
**www.aleederbutchers.co.uk**




## RAMBLINGS FROM THE RECTORY

I write this letter at the end of a really tough week. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, rightly resigned as a result of the Makin Review into how the Church of England dealt with allegations of abuse made against a conservative evangelical lay person, John Smyth. The report concluded that the Archbishop could have been more proactive in following up with other parties after having become aware of the allegations. It also criticised him for not meeting with the survivors of abuse soon enough afterwards. All of this understandably presented itself to the outside world as a lack of care and empathy for the people at the centre, namely the survivors. Understandably, this has sent shockwaves through the Church of England and the whole country.

The Church has made huge inroads into its safeguarding practice in recent years ensuring it is now on a par with any comparative institution, though there is no place for complacency. We only have to look at the safeguarding training that volunteers and members of church committees are asked to undertake and the policies that they follow to see some of that improvement. The fact that the Archbishop was forced to resign largely as a result of pressure from within the Church is testimony to some of that change in culture. Nonetheless, the Church must keep striving to do better when it is alerted to historic cases. That starts with a reminder that our calling is one of compassion, empathy and justice for those on the ground who deserve our care and protection, especially survivors of abuse. After all, this would surely be where the Jesus we see in the Bible would be focussed and it is him who we are called to emulate.

Jesus is always concerned with those who are in need: the marginalised, abused, oppressed, sick, homeless, refugee, prisoner... the vulnerable. Throughout the Bible, Jesus shows a particular concern for the welfare and protection of children. *'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these'* [Matthew 19:14] he says, and elsewhere, *'if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a large millstone were hung around his neck and he be drowned in the depths of the sea'* [Matthew 18:6]. So our duty to children seems pretty clear!

As we approach Christmas, we look into the stable and the idyllic manger scene. We wait for Christmas Day to arrive when Jesus will be born into our world and afresh into our hearts. As we gaze upon that vulnerable little baby in the manger, we are reminded of just how delicate and precious human life is, and marvel at a God who would meet us in such vulnerability so that we could better relate to him. He chooses to be close to us, not in the form of an aloof mighty warrior king, but a simple baby born into poverty under threat for his life from an evil and abusive king.

The importance of safeguarding and protection of minors is right there in the opening pages of Matthew's Gospel. We are told that after the Wise Men visited Jesus they went home another way so that the evil King Herod could not track him down and kill him [Matthew 2]. As we celebrate Christmas, we rejoice in the wonder of the greatest gift God could bestow, a little baby called Jesus. In him, we see the face of every child, so wonderfully and preciously made. Just like the Wise Men, we too are called to do all we can to ensure they remain safe.

Christmas is a time of celebration and joy, a time for coming together before God to worship Jesus. We give thanks to him for all that is good in our lives, especially our families, and we recommit to caring for those most in need and protecting the most vulnerable.

Wishing you and yours every divine protection and blessing this Christmas.

*Fr Rob*

*The Makin Review and its subject matter may have been personally painful, triggering memories of abuse you may have experienced yourself. If you or someone you know needs support, please either contact the diocesan safeguarding team: Karen Galloway (Diocesan*

*Safeguarding Officer) and Shelly Thomas (Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Officer) email: [safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org), or, if you want to talk to someone independently, please email Safe Spaces for England and Wales at [safespaces@firstlight.org.uk](mailto:safespaces@firstlight.org.uk), or call 0300 303 1056.*



**Join us for  
A Quiet Christmas  
at  
St Mary's Church  
Boxford**

**SUNDAY, 1ST DECEMBER  
11.00 AM**

**A service for those who are missing loved ones,  
grieving or lonely at this time of year.  
Celebrating lives & cherishing memories together.**



**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT  
SUNDAY, 22ND DECEMBER  
AT 6.00 PM  
ST MARY'S CHURCH,  
BOXFORD**

**CHRISTMAS IS NOT CHRISTMAS WITHOUT A TRADITIONAL  
CAROL SERVICE - EVERYONE WELCOME**

A few words to say...



We know how much you've loved our Christmas offers in the past so again this year, to mark the festive season, we wanted to give a little something from us, to you...

**Spend £30 on Beauty treatments in December and receive a £10 voucher to spend in January. PLUS...**



**Buy one, get one half-price on all retail this month.**

And don't forget vouchers are available online ([www.suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk](http://www.suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk)) to make the most perfect gift for those hard-to-buy-for people in your life.



**This month, spend £30 on Beauty and receive a £10 voucher to spend in January. PLUS...  
Buy one, get one half-price on all retail\***

*\* Voucher cannot be used with any other offer. In retail offer, cheapest item is free.  
Offers are valid once per person 'til 31/01/2025.*

Suffolk Medical Clinic, 6 Broad Street  
Boxford 01787 211 000





# SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2024



|   |   |  |                                 |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b><br><i>Advent 1</i>          | 09:30   | <i>Holy Eucharist &amp; Baptism</i>  | St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield  |
|   | 11:00   | <i>A Quiet Christmas – A service for those who are missing loved ones, grieving or lonely at this time of year</i> | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>                          | 10:00   | <i>Communion &amp; Coffee</i>  | Mary's House, Boxford           |
| <b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><i>Advent 2</i>          | 09:30   | <i>Sunday Eucharist</i>  | St Bartholomew's, Groton        |
|   | 11:00   | <i>Sunday Eucharist</i>  | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>                         | 10:00   | <i>Communion &amp; Coffee</i>  | Mary's House, Boxford           |
| <b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><i>Advent 3</i>         | 09:30   | <i>Sunday Eucharist</i>  | St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone |
|   | 16:00   | <i>Christingle &amp; Crib Service (following Christmas Tree Festival)</i>  | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>                         | 10:00   | <i>Communion &amp; Coffee</i>  | Mary's House, Boxford           |
| <b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>                            | 17:00   | <i>Christmas Carol Service</i>   | St Bartholomew's, Groton        |
|   | 19:00   | <i>Christmas Carol Service</i>   | St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield  |
| <b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b><br><i>Advent 4</i>         | 11:00   | <i>Sunday Eucharist with Advent Carols</i>   | All Saints', Newton Green       |
|   | 11:00   | <i>Family Service</i>  | St Mary's, Boxford              |
|   | 18:00   | <i>Carols by Candlelight</i>   | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><i>Christmas Eve</i>   | 11:00   | <i>Christmas Carols &amp; Mass</i>   | All Saints', Newton Green       |
|   | 18:00   | <i>Christmas Carol Service</i>   | St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone |
|   | 21:00   | <i>Midnight Mass Bethlehem Time</i>  | St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield  |
|   | 23:00   | <i>Midnight Mass</i>   | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><i>Christmas Day</i> | 09:30   | <i>Christmas Day Communion</i>   | St Bartholomew's, Groton        |
|   | 10:00   | <i>Christmas Day Communion</i>   | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December</b><br><i>Christmas 1</i>      | 11:00   | <i>Benefice Joint Service</i>  | St Mary's, Boxford              |
| <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>                           | <i>There is no Communion &amp; Coffee, it will resume on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January</i> |  |                                 |

Morning Prayer - join Father Rob at St Mary's, Boxford or online at 8am – every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

All our churches across the Benefice are OPEN EVERY DAY for Private Prayer.

If you need support, please contact Father Rob or the Benefice Office.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Benefice Office

Mary's House, 5 Swan Street, Boxford CO10 5NZ  
01787 828046 email: [boxriverbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:boxriverbenefice@gmail.com)

Fr Rob Parker-McGee SR  
01787 210434 email: [boxriverrector@gmail.com](mailto:boxriverrector@gmail.com)



# The Box River Benefice

Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton,  
Little Waldingfield and Newton

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - DECEMBER

- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm** *Joint Benefice Council Meeting, Mary's House*
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm** *Festive Drinks & Nibbles, St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield*
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 10am** *Festive Coffee Morning with Stalls, All Saints', Newton Green*
- Tue 10<sup>th</sup> 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup> 10am** *Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's, Boxford*
- Tue 17<sup>th</sup> 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> 10am** *Big Clean & Flowers for Christmas, St Mary's, Boxford*

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE BENEFICE OFFICE

As Christmas approaches, we warmly invite you to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, with us in the Box River Benefice. Christmas is a time of joy, love, and togetherness, and there is no better place to experience these blessings than within our church community.

Whether you are a long-time member or visiting for the first time, you will find a gracious and loving atmosphere. We look forward to welcoming you and your loved ones to our church this Christmas.

Our Christmas events are also a wonderful opportunity to come together, enjoy some delicious treats and share in the festive joy with our communities. We do hope you will be able to come along we look forward to seeing you.

May the blessings of Christmas be with you and your loved ones, bringing you hope, happiness, and a renewed spirit. .

## REMEMBRANCE DAY IN THE BENEFICE

It was truly heartwarming to see so many of you at our Remembrance Day services. Your presence not only honoured the memory of those who have served and sacrificed but also strengthened our sense of community and shared purpose. The turnout was a powerful reminder of the respect and gratitude we hold for our veterans and their families. Thank you for coming together to commemorate this important day with such reverence and unity.



*Pictured: The poppy cascade, made by some of the ladies from the Boxford WI on display in St. Mary's Church for Remembrance Day.*

## A QUIET CHRISTMAS SERVICE

A service for those who are missing loved ones, grieving or feeling lonely at this time of year, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 11am at St Mary's, Boxford.

We warmly invite you to join us for this 'Quiet Christmas'

service. If you find Christmas difficult, you are missing someone who has died, grieving or feeling especially lonely because of the time of year, then please do come along.

During the service, we will share readings, prayers, and gentle uplifting music, whilst offering comfort and support to one another. You will be able to leave a prayer on the Christmas prayer tree and light a candle in memory of your loved one. It is a lovely way to remember someone you are missing this Christmas.

We hope you will join us for this poignant and heartfelt occasion. Your presence will be a source of strength and comfort to all.

## COFFEE IN THE BENEFICE - DECEMBER

Just to let you know that there are no monthly coffee mornings during December, they will resume in the new year. We look forward to welcoming you back then.

Drop in for Coffee at Mary's House will still be held on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December and will then resume on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## BRING AND SHARE FOODBANK AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOXFORD

As we embrace the festive season, it is important to remember those in our community who may be struggling. The Christmas period can be a particularly challenging time for many people and families, and your support can make a significant difference. Our local food bank plays a crucial role in providing essential supplies to those in need. By donating, you can help people within our communities. We are currently in need of canned meals such as stews, curries, pasta, meat, fish, as these make a significant nutritional difference.

Every contribution, no matter how small, can make a big impact. Together, we can spread the spirit of giving and help those who need it.

Thank you for your generosity and support..

### ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOXFORD

## CHRISTINGLE & CRIB SERVICE

SUNDAY, 15TH DECEMBER  
AT  
4.00 PM

**FOLLOWING THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

*A WONDERFUL WAY TO BEGIN THE BUILD UP TO CHRISTMAS*

**BOXFORD SCHOOL CHOIR WILL BE SINGING**

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN DURING THE SERVICE**

OUR CHRISTINGLE & CRIB SERVICE OFFERS A RICH AND MEANINGFUL WAY TO CELEBRATE THE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON, BRING TOGETHER THE SYMBOLISM OF CHRISTINGLE WITH THE STORY TELLING OF THE NATIVITY BRINGING FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES TOGETHER TO SHARE & SPREAD A MESSAGE OF HOPE



FESTIVE

DRINKS & NIBBLES

Friday, 6th December

7.00 - 9.00 PM

St Lawrence's Church  
Little Waldingfield

£15 per ticket

Available from

Tricia Eddington 247932

or

Nancy Roser 882897

nancyroser2004@yahoo.co.uk



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

NEWTON

CHRISTMAS  
COFFEE MORNING  
WITH FESTIVE STALLS

Saturday, 7th December

10.00 - 11.30 am



Borley  
Illuminations

& Carol Concert

Featuring the marvellous, melodious, music of

Madrigalia

7pm Saturday, 21st December  
Borley Church

Free Admission  
Seasonal Refreshments

Retiring collection for the  
benefit of Borley Church  
running costs

## BOXFORD PANTO!

Jack and The Beanstalk. **Wed 4 December** (no meal) £8, **Thurs 5 December to Sat 7 December** £18 with traditional Christmas dinner served to your table in the interval. Tickets from Boxford Post Office.

Come and see what's at the top of the Beanstalk!

Jack Potts is a poor farmboy who lives with his mum on a small-holding in Suffolk. Mr Grubbypaws, the evil landlord, is demanding the rent which they don't have. Mr Grubbypaws' two henchmen, Ron and Sid, threaten Jack and his mum if they don't pay up. Although Mrs Potts sells milk from their cow and vegetables from the land, it's never enough to pay the rent. What is she to do?

They hatch a plan which leads to Jack getting his hands on some magic beans from an Old Man he meets up with on the way to market. Although his mum is dubious, Jack is convinced he can solve their financial worries if his mum just believes in the beans. What can possibly go wrong?

Come and watch Jack and his mum, his friends and of course their cow, Daisy as they romp through this improbable tale.

## TWO DAY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Eager shoppers looking for something different and a little bit special for Christmas gifts this year should head over to the "Far From The Madding Crowd" Christmas Fair being held in St. Mary's Church, Hadleigh over **Weds 27<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> November**.

With over 40 stallholders signed up the fair promises to be busy! Open from 10am-8pm (until 4pm on 28<sup>th</sup>) admission is £5 and proceeds are being donated to the *Stand Up For Suffolk Fund*.

[www.farfromthemaddingcrowd.co.uk/christmas-fair-2024](http://www.farfromthemaddingcrowd.co.uk/christmas-fair-2024)



**CHRISTMAS  
TREE  
FESTIVAL**

ST MARY'S CHURCH  
BOXFORD

SUNDAY, 15TH DECEMBER

10.00 AM - 3.30 PM

*FOLLOWED BY OUR  
CHRISTINGLE  
& CRIB SERVICE  
AT 4.00 PM*

**£2 per Adult  
Children Free**

Entry includes Children's Trail, programme & voting slip

- *Homemade cakes*
- *Homemade crafts*
- *Christmas gifts*
- *Refreshments*
- *Tea & Coffee*
- *Mulled Wine*
- *Raffle*
- *& Much More .....*



**Fleece Jazz** at  
Stoke-by-Nayland Hotel presents

**John Law's Re-Creations: "Many Moons"**  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 8pm - Tickets: £20



The quartet's repertoire includes jazz classics by Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis and George Gershwin, as well as jazz arrangements of tunes from bands such as The Beatles, Pink Floyd and Radiohead.

*John Law – Piano  
Sam Crockatt – Sax  
Henrik Jensen – Bass  
Alex Goodyear – Drums*

**The Alan Barnes Quintet**  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 8pm - Tickets: £23



The quintet delivers straight-ahead hard bop, with a repertoire from the classic years and an emphasis on accessibility and a conviction that jazz should swing.

*Alan Barnes – Saxophones  
Bruce Adams – Trumpet  
David Newton – Piano  
Andrew Cleyndert – Bass  
Clark Tracey – Drums*

**Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Keepers Lane, Leavenheath CO6 4PZ**  
Ample parking; fully accessible. Directions: [www.fleecejazz.org.uk](http://www.fleecejazz.org.uk)  
Tickets: 01787 210796 or via **WeGotTickets** (booking fee applies); or on the door (cash or cheque only; sorry no debit/credit cards)  
**\*Friends of Fleece Jazz discount**

**SPECIAL OFFER: A double room with breakfast and two tickets from £119 (subject to availability) Phone: 01206 262836**



**Boxford Drama Group  
presents:  
at Boxford Village Hall**

**Jack  
& The  
Beanstalk**

**WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY/FRIDAY/SATURDAY**  
**4th to 7th December**  
Christmas Dinner Thursday to Saturday  
Bar and raffle every night  
Tickets from **BOXFORD POST OFFICE**



**Boxford  
Christmas  
Market**

December 15th  
10am - 3pm

Boxford Village Hall  
CO10 5NP

25+ Stalls  
Food, Drink and Crafts

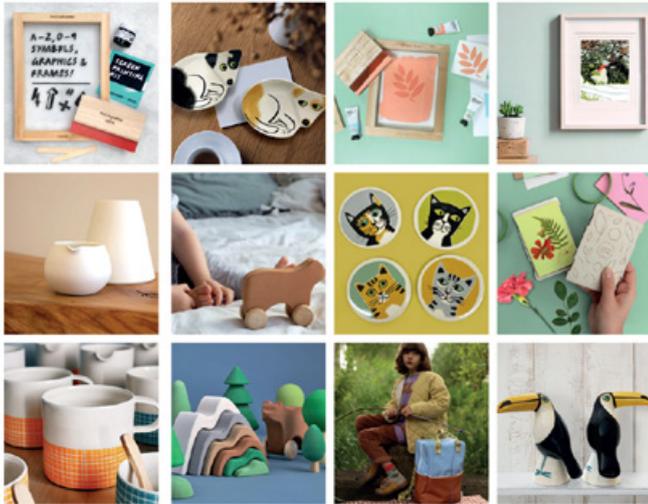
**Free  
Entry!**

**The Boxford  
Market**  
[www.boxford-market.square.site](http://www.boxford-market.square.site)

# Christmas at Mill Tye!

Discover a wide range of glass, ceramics, sculptures, books, Christmas cards, and home accessories - there's something for everyone at Mill Tye Gallery!

We've got Christmas all wrapped up, so come and enjoy the festive spirit with us.



## Mill Tye Gallery and Arts Centre

3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye, Great Cornard  
Sudbury CO10 0GW (look for 'Bakers Mill' signs)

**Opening Times:** Thursday to Sunday:  
10:30am to 4:00pm. **Free Entry!**

**Christmas Opening:** Monday 16th December  
to Tuesday 24th December, open everyday  
from 10:30am to 4:00pm.

[www.milltyegallery.co.uk](http://www.milltyegallery.co.uk)



**MILL TYE GALLERY  
& ARTS CENTRE**

BOXFORD

# CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

7PM MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER  
OUTSIDE THE WHITE HART

Mulled Wine  
& Good Cheer!

BOXFORD  
COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL

SUPPORTED BY  
BOXFORD, EDWARDSTONE  
AND GADTON

# GIVE THE GIFT OF THEATRE THIS CHRISTMAS!



Ancient Greece. A time of gods, mortals... and **Hercules**, who isn't quite either. But if he's not a god, how can he possibly save the world from Hades? It's one thing flexing those pecs but going from zero to hero requires a different kind of strength.

Get ready for a wise-cracking, column-shaking, underworld-rocking ride of adventure, self-discovery, and love. In tunics.

Disney's Hercules delivers a thrilling night out that leaves you ready to conquer Mount Olympus.

Dive into the underworld with Disney's new West End musical, **Hercules**.

**DATE:** 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

**TIME:** Depart Boxford at 9am

Pick up and drop offs also available from Hadleigh

**PRICE:** £90.00 per person  
(50% deposit in the first instance)

**INCLUDES:** Return Coach Travel & Theatre Ticket



Experience **MJ THE MUSICAL** – the electrifying, Tony Award-winning new musical that's thrilled the critics and has audiences on their feet every single night at London's Prince Edward Theatre.

MJ THE MUSICAL takes you behind the scenes during the creation of Michael Jackson's spectacular 1992 Dangerous World Tour, and lets you relive the astonishing music, jaw-dropping moves, and extraordinary genius of one of the greatest entertainers of all time.

The hype is real. Book your **MJ THE MUSICAL** theatre tickets today!

**DATE:** 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**TIME:** Depart Boxford at 9am

Pick up and drop offs also available from Hadleigh

**PRICE:** £90.00 per person  
(50% deposit in the first instance)

**INCLUDES:** Return Coach Travel & Theatre Ticket

**Email:** [tracey@boxrivertravelboutique.co.uk](mailto:tracey@boxrivertravelboutique.co.uk) or **call:** 07747 608509 for tickets



THE ARTS  
SOCIETY  
STOUR  
VALLEY



## ENJOY CULTURE, COFFEE & FRIENDS

on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11am  
at Long Melford Village Hall CO10 9QJ  
(opposite The Bull Hotel)

For details contact: [info@TASstourvalley.org.uk](mailto:info@TASstourvalley.org.uk) quoting BRN  
or simply click the QR code which will take you direct to our  
website [www.TASstourvalley.org.uk](http://www.TASstourvalley.org.uk)

### WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

#### THE CHRISTMAS STORY FROM LONDON'S NATIONAL GALLERY

The National Gallery houses the most beautiful paintings depicting the Christmas story with the earliest dating from before the Reformation. By choosing images from the 13<sup>th</sup> century up to the mid 1600s, one can see how Western Art developed in Italy and the Netherlands. Among others, some of the most tender & moving interpretations of the Christmas theme were painted by Rembrandt.

## Sudbury, Suffolk Christian Spiritualist Church

All beliefs and denominations are welcome!

We meet at:

**The Stevenson Centre, Great Cornard,  
Stevenson Approach, CO10 0WD**

Meetings:

**Every Sunday**  
(except December)

at

**2:45 for 3pm to 4:30pm**

There is **NO ENTRY FEE**

We only respectfully suggest that donations  
are made during the service

For more information,

**Call Maureen on 07931 366 610**

**THE FLEECE HOTEL**

# Charity QUIZ NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**Free to enter, please donate on the night  
to the local charity of the month!**

**8pm start, up to 6 people per team**

to book your team contact  
The Fleece on 01787 211818 / [suffolkchefs@gmail.com](mailto:suffolkchefs@gmail.com)  
or  
Jenny O'Neill on 07968 792178 / [jenny@suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk](mailto:jenny@suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk)

## WHIST DRIVE

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** Whist Drive at Monks Eleigh Village Hall, 7pm start. We play 18 hands of progressive whist with a break for refreshments. We hold a 'bring a prize, win a prize' raffle. Cost is £3.

## POLSTEAD FILMS

**Family Matinee: ARTHUR CHRISTMAS**  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Doors open 2:30pm**  
**POLSTEAD VILLAGE HALL**



*Voiced by James McAvoy as Arthur, Bill Nighy, Hugh Laurie, Jim Broadbent, Imelda Staunton.* A joyful and very funny Christmas film with great music, superb animation, charming characters, and a terrific script from *Aardman Animations*, the makers of *Wallace & Gromit* and *Chicken Run*.

Tickets Adults £3, under 12s £1.50 To reserve, or if you have any questions, please email: [polsteadfilms@gmail.com](mailto:polsteadfilms@gmail.com).

Light refreshments, tea, coffee, soft drinks, biscuits, sweets, cakes will be available to purchase before the film or during the interval. The film starts at 3pm and will finish around 5pm. Certificate U.

*All proceeds in aid of Polstead Village Hall Charity No. 304933*

## SUCCESS AFTER CRAFT FAIR

A craft fair held in October at Whatfield Village Hall raised £2,800 for *Success After Stroke*.

Sincere thanks to all my family, friends and the *SAS* community for helping before, during and after the event.

A big thank you to all the people who donated fantastic raffle prizes and to the many visitors on the day.

*SAS* offers a range of therapies and activities for those who have suffered from a stroke. The group meets twice a week at the Stevenson Centre in Cornard, Sudbury, further details on 07434 931 962.

The date for our next Craft Fair is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

*Mandy Squirrel*

## PUB TO PUB WALK

### The Crown, Bildeston to The Lindsey Rose

Nedging Hall Estate is a family-owned country estate in Suffolk. The Estate comprises of pubs, country houses and a brewery. The Bildeston Crown and The Lindsey Rose form part of the Nedging Hall Estate collection. They're approximately three miles apart with beautiful Suffolk countryside between them. It makes for a wonderful walk.

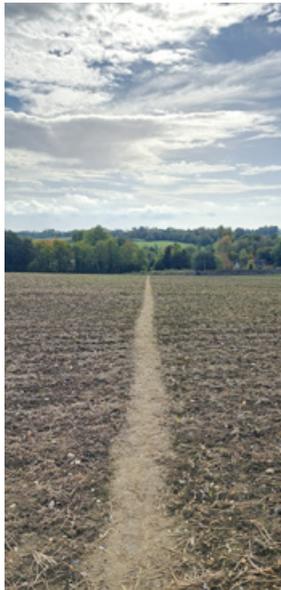
*Duration:* 1 hour 50 minutes

*Distance:* 3 miles (5km)

*Terrain:* Some sections of trail can be muddy & uneven – 1 mile of the walk

### Directions:

- Stepping out of The Crown take a right turn onto the High Street
- Upon reaching The Bildeston Clock Tower in the central Market Place, take a left turn just before onto Chapel Street
- Follow the road and at its end take a left turn onto Church Road
- Continue to follow the road until St Mary Magdelene Church is reached
- After just passing the church a farmer's field with a wide grass path should be visible to the left – follow along the field's grassy path (there's a hidden footpath sign tucked behind the hedge)
- Continue in a southerly direction passing through a small cluster of trees into another farmer's field (with a footpath sign) which leads downhill to Chelsworth
- Upon reaching Chelsworth take a right turn to reach the village – marked by The Peacock Inn. You'll walk along a small section of road with no pavement - take care.
- Take a left passing over the small beautiful bridge opposite The Peacock Inn
- Follow the road up the hill and past the farm
- After passing through the trees, reaching a junction, stay on the road veering to the right
- Follow the road around to the left and up the hill
- At the cross-junction pass straight over - you're nearly there!
- Continue to follow the road indicated by The Lindsey Rose sign
- Continue through Lindsey, and The Lindsey Rose will be to the left. You deserve a beer!



## MAULDONS AT CHRISTMAS

Mauldons Brewery have got a great range of Christmas beer boxes to suit any beer lover. Explore our Bottle Shop to buy branded polo shirts and jumpers.

### Our Christmas 12 Beer Boxes

Light, dark, strong and mixed gift boxes of ales; our beers really pack a punch. Our Beer Boxes will be bundled in their festive packaging from 25<sup>th</sup> November.



### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Mauldons Brewery Tour

We're offering a festive brewery tour at 5:30pm on 10<sup>th</sup> December. This will include a tour of Mauldons Brewery and a tasting session. £10 each. Please call on 01787 311055 to book.

## CHRISTMAS COCKTAILS

Nedging Hall is opening its doors for an evening of festive delights on **5<sup>th</sup> December 7 - 9pm**. The Christmas tree will be in the corner of the drawing room with Christmas music all around. There'll be cocktail tasting and lots of merriment. With mulled wine on arrival, hot nibbles, mince pies and 6 festive cocktail tasters, you'll love getting into the festive spirit!



Tickets are priced at £45 per person.

Please email [reservations@nedginghallestate.co.uk](mailto:reservations@nedginghallestate.co.uk) to book.

## BOXFORD WI UPDATE

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone, who attended the quiz night at The Fleece in October, for your generosity in donating to the Lighthouse Women's Aid. This has enabled us to provide them with 3 home starter packs.

At our November meeting we held a craft afternoon where members worked really hard and had a lot of fun making dozens of Christmas tree decorations. The WI Christmas tree will be on display at the Christmas Tree Festival on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Why not come along and vote for us ☺.

New members are always welcome, so if you are interested in finding out what the WI are up to, come along to the village hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm where you will receive a warm welcome. Our first meeting next year will be on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Once you are a member you will be able to enjoy the following interest groups which we hold on a regular basis:

- Dining Divas (lunch group)
- Chatterbox (afternoon with tea and cake)
- Knit and Natter
- Book club
- Women who wander (walking group May - September)

For more information please contact our Secretary, Lyn Beer on **07961 357 526** or email [lyn@the-brook.net](mailto:lyn@the-brook.net)



## READERS' LETTERS

*Dear Editor*

Wishing all my neighbours and friends a very happy Christmas and new year. I won't be sending cards this year but have made a donation to 3PR instead.

Best wishes,  
*Di Butler*

*Dear Editor,*

We would like to wish all our friends a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2025.

No cards this year, we will send a donation to charity instead.

From,  
*Malcolm & Shirley Grimwood*



THE CROWN  
BILDESTON

## SET LUNCH MENU

Monday - Friday, 12pm - 2pm  
Two course £25 | Three courses £30

## GIFT VOUCHERS

*Buy online via the website*

Dinner, Dine & Stay, Fish & Fizz

## CHRISTMAS DINING

Book your festive get together

## NEW YEARS EVE

Live music & delicious food

*Book a table now*

[www.thebildestoncrown.com/](http://www.thebildestoncrown.com/)

SINCE 1795  
MAULDONS  
BREWERY



Brewing fine Suffolk Beers since 1795  
*Six traditional award-winning ales,  
Mauldons lager & seasonal brews*

### XMAS GIFTS

Our Beer Boxes are  
the ultimate gift  
*From £15*



Sudbury, CO10 2YA | 01787 311055  
[www.mauldons.co.uk](http://www.mauldons.co.uk)



An independent setting  
within Boxford Primary School

We offer term wrap-around care and early education  
for children aged **20 months - 12 years of age**

### Avoid school pickup and drop-off stress!

Sunflowers Childcare runs breakfast and after-school clubs for  
Boxford School children from Reception up to Year 6.

We deliver to Boxford School from breakfast club and  
collect from the school for our fun after-school club.

### Pre-school children

New funding now available for all children  
from 20+ months including 2, 3 and 4 year-olds

Pre-school children only from 8:45am - 3:30pm  
Morning, lunch and afternoon sessions available.



**AFTER  
SCHOOL CLUB  
FROM £6.70**

Various finish times  
between  
4:15pm & 6pm

**BREAKFAST  
CLUB**

**£4.50**  
from 7:45am  
(7:30am early link  
if needed)

### For more information please contact us

The Cabin, Stone Street Road, Boxford, Suffolk. CO10 5NP

CALL US: **01787 211363**

Email: [info@sunflowers-childcare.co.uk](mailto:info@sunflowers-childcare.co.uk)  
Web: [www.sunflowers-childcare.co.uk](http://www.sunflowers-childcare.co.uk)

Ofsted  
Good  
Provider

You're fumbling your finances  
 And your accounts are due  
 It's all such a worry  
 What are you to do ?

It's time to call **Quove**  
 They'll reduce your stress  
**Chartered Accountants**  
 Who'll sort out your mess

Helpful and constructive  
 Regardless of size  
 Affordable fees  
 For advice that is wise

So pick up your phone  
 And no longer be sad  
 They'll fly to your rescue  
 Even if their poetry's bad

Brickfields Business Park  
 Woolpit

01284 845120

 **QUOVE**  
 ACCOUNTING  
[www.quove.co.uk](http://www.quove.co.uk)



We are looking  
 for 3 more  
 character  
 cottages  
 to add to our  
 Agency.



We are a small local agency with 20 years of  
 experience promoting cottages in this area.

We will work on a personal basis with you and  
 your guests to ensure your cottage is a success.

We add you to multiple OTA's like Airbnb and  
 Booking.com.

Have your cottage stand out from the crowd  
 and be showcased amongst only other lovely  
 character cottages.

Call Mark on 01787 211 115 for a chat or visit:  
[mark@grove-cottages.co.uk](mailto:mark@grove-cottages.co.uk) - [www.grove-cottages.co.uk](http://www.grove-cottages.co.uk)



## Woodlands Nursery

Set in the beautiful surroundings of  
 Kersey Mill. We offer outstanding care  
 and education from 11 months to 4 years.

Forest School Sessions within our enchanting  
 garden help forge a love of the outdoors while  
 sing & sign classes further develop your child's  
 communication and independence.

Children will make cherished memories with  
 lasting respect for each other and  
 the environment.



**Toddler Group &  
 Weekly Baby Classes**  
 also running term time



[WWW.WOODLANDSNURSERYKERSEYMILL.CO.UK](http://WWW.WOODLANDSNURSERYKERSEYMILL.CO.UK)

# MICROPLANT

08703 210256 / 07850 210256

E-mail: [charles@microplant.net](mailto:charles@microplant.net)  
 Website: [www.microplant.net](http://www.microplant.net)

Hire, Sales, Servicing & Repairs of  
 Compact Tractors, Mini Loaders  
 Fencing, Landscaping &  
 Paddock Maintenance Machinery

Mini Tractors  
 Loaders  
 Rough terrain forklift  
 Skidsters  
 Mini Diggers  
 Post Hole Borers  
 Hyd' Post Drivers  
 Trenchers  
 Rotavators  
 Stoneburiers  
 Power Rakes  
 Harrows  
 Mowers  
 Associated equipment



Hydraulic post driver—either centre  
 mounted or offset behind tractor. Also  
 available mounted on Weidemann loader



# BRIAN TORA'S SOAP BOX

Having lived next door to the village pub for the best part of 40 years, it is just as well that I am someone who enjoys the ambiance of local hostelrys. Still, it is remarkable how the pub scene has changed over the past four decades. In Little Waldingfield we had two pubs until a little under half a century ago. When the White Horse closed, Greene King took over the other village pub, the Swan, and it became a much frequented local for us and our friends.

But in 1990, Greene King closed the pub and applied to have the building redesignated as residential. I am proud to have been part of a vigorous campaign to thwart their plans. Amongst our efforts to keep the pub open was the creation of a newsletter – *The Grapevine* – which kept villagers abreast of developments, while providing a somewhat anarchic view of village life. It was great fun to produce and, in my view, to read.

We only lost our local watering hole for a year before Greene King threw in the towel and sold the establishment as licensed premises without a tie. So, the Swan free house emerged with a collection of landlords and landladies over the years that delivered mixed results but were often entertaining, not always for the right reasons. Until just seven years ago, that is, when it closed, the bank having seized the building from the then landlords and put it up for sale.

Despite the background of village pubs closing on an almost weekly basis, as drink/driving and smoking restrictions decimated footfall, a local buyer with connections to the Long Melford Nethergate brewery emerged. Problems with the local planning authorities and the advent of Covid delayed the building work being completed, but eventually a much-restored village establishment was created. While it took a while for a suitable tenant to be found, in May this year after being closed for seven years, it reopened and has firmly reestablished itself in village life.

So far, so good. But our recent positive experience prompted me to conduct a modest, prolonged (for alcohol consumption purposes)

pub crawl to revisit local establishments that I had frequented in the past. I can't say the experience persuaded me that the decline in the pub trade is about to reverse its downward trend. The results at best painted a mixed picture of the state of the rural hospitality industry.

Take Boxford. There were three pubs in the village when first we arrived in this area. The Swan disappeared years ago. The White Hart has been closed on a number of occasions, though does at least seem to have a sympathetic and local owner now, even if it felt very quiet when we visited. The Fleece also has an up and down record. It was in years gone by our preferred stop in Boxford. Indeed, we held our wedding reception there back in the 1980s.

But it has had more people running it over the years than I could count, even if the ownership of the building has remained the same. And it has lost some unique attributes that used to help it stand out from its competitors, such as the Jazz Club, which it inherited from the Chelsworth Peacock and which grew enormously during its period in the village. It is sad that there are not similar drivers of entertainment to be found in the village.

We moved on to the Groton Fox & Hounds, which seemed depressingly quiet. Indeed, we learned that the person who has run this establishment was leaving and may by now no longer be there. It seems that the future of this hostelry was in doubt. In contrast, our visit to The Cock at Brent Eleigh revealed a robust pub, with the bar packed out with locals. No gimmicks here – just a down-to-earth village boozier with a good, old-fashioned atmosphere.

A few years ago, Peter Thorogood, who used to be landlord of the George and Dragon in Long Melford, published a book entitled '*A Pub Crawl Through Time*'. It provided the background to the many pubs, clubs and inns that existed in Sudbury and Ballingdon over the years. It was remarkable how many were no longer with us. I even remembered quite a number that had ceased to serve glasses of cheer to its customers. I feel great gratitude that our local has been revived. Long may it prosper.

Brian Tora



The poster features a central logo of a white hart's head in a circle. Below it, the text reads 'WHITE HART INN BROAD STREET, BOXFORD OPEN EVERY DAY - 8am until 10:30pm'. To the right is a yellow sticky note with 'FESTIVE OPENING HOURS' and handwritten times for Xmas Eve, Xmas Day & Boxing Day, and NYE Party. Below the main text are two boxes for 'BRITON'S BAR OLD STYLE PUB' and 'FRED'S COFFEE LOUNGE FRENCH PATISSERIE & SAVOURIES COFFEE & CAKE SPECIALS'. A central graphic shows a Christmas tree with a yellow star and a string of colorful lights. At the bottom, it says 'JOIN US FOR CAROLS 'ROUND THE TREE BOXFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON DECEMBER 16TH from 7pm HOT CHOCOLATE & MULLED WINE BEING SERVED'. The footer contains contact information: 'Enquiries: 07856 912 107', 'FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: The White Hart Inn - Boxford', and 'COME DOWN AND HAVE A WARM UP!'.

**WHITE HART INN**  
BROAD STREET, BOXFORD  
OPEN EVERY DAY - 8am until 10:30pm

**BRITON'S BAR**  
OLD STYLE PUB  
Open EVERY DAY- 12noon - 10:30pm

**FRED'S COFFEE LOUNGE**  
FRENCH PATISSERIE & SAVOURIES  
COFFEE & CAKE SPECIALS  
Open EVERY DAY 8am - 4pm

**JOIN US FOR CAROLS 'ROUND THE TREE**  
BOXFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON  
DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> from 7pm  
HOT CHOCOLATE & MULLED WINE BEING SERVED

**Enquiries: 07856 912 107**  
**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: The White Hart Inn - Boxford**  
**COME DOWN AND HAVE A WARM UP!**

# PHOTOS AND STORIES FROM BOXFORD SOCIETY VILLAGE ARCHIVE

## The Life and Times of Kenneth Parker King, Part Four:

*We end Kenny King's story with his life after demob at the end of World War II. Words in italics have been added to clarify the story. On 8 May 1945 - VE day, the war ended in Europe and the war with Japan ended 2 September 1945 - VJ day; the final day of World War II. It had claimed the lives of an estimated 60-80 million people worldwide. Decommissioned soldiers received a grant of £83 and a 'Demob suit'. Life was going to be hard for many. Kenny continues his story in peace time in his own words:*

Peace at Last.

Then down to York for demob in 1946. I was given a new suit, Trilby hat, overcoat, shirt and shoes. I got a message to Ann that I would be in Derby at so and so time. I came home in uniform because I think she had never seen me in civvies. After seven years I began to wonder what I would look like. On the train going down we stopped at Chesterfield. I thought, "next stop Derby" and as the train came into Derby station I saw the sight I had been waiting for. Along the platform stood darling Ann and her mum. I wanted to cry but said to myself "Ken, this is not time to cry". I got out of the train, she ran to me, and we hugged and kissed each other for ages. I knew then how much she loved me and I loved her. We were so happy.



*Portrait of Ann Tunnicliffe engaged to Kenneth King.*

I had 4 month's leave to come for overseas service and years served, so it was time to come home to Boxford and find a job. When Ann left home at 6 o'clock in the morning her mum could not find the time to say goodbye to her but her brother Jim came with us. I now know what my poor darling was feeling. But I thought "I will look after you now my darling". On the train she could not get inside the army coat as so often she had done before. I hadn't got one!

Back in Boxford we soon got a prefab, but not before we had a lovely baby girl Jacqueline Ann, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 1947, time 11:25 am. My darling had such a bad time having Jackie she thought she was going to die. I told her she was never going through that again. I loved her too much. Jackie was born at her grandmother King's house on Cox Hill where Kenny and Ann first lived.

When I first came home to Boxford I met two of my old school mates and we shared war time stories down the village pub, The White Hart. But we had been away seven years. Each time we met there was something different to say. I know now how wrong it was of me to leave Ann alone. For the first time I had hurt her. I am sorry now for being so selfish. I had taken her for granted. In my way I knew she would be there for my needs, any meals. I forgot here was my Ann, in a small village, not knowing anyone. She had left a big town of Derby, she missed her brothers and sister so much she nearly left me. She was so lonely with me always down the pub. If I had only thought I would not have done it.

After the war here things were not easy. I trained as a bricklayer working 40 hours a week. One shilling and ten pence an hour. It was not 4 pounds a week. Our rent was 10 shillings. Fridays Ann had to wait for me to bring home the wages then go down the village to get something for our tea. Sometimes in the week I would come home and she would say she had had her tea. Now I know she hadn't. She had given it to us, Jackie and me, and had gone without. Now I know what she had done for us in the past and how much I had hurt her. I am so sorry for being so thick. She had been so lovely and missed her family and as time and years go by I still tell her I am so sorry for hurting her as I did, I hope she will forgive me.

After a time I and a friend found some extra work. So I was still not able to be with her as we worked till 10 o'clock each night. But at the end of each month we received 28 pounds for our labour. Then that ended. We had to wait for the spring to come round in the late forties. The spring and summer time were always so warm. May and June the local farmer grew peas, so at 3.30 in the morning I used to cross the road at Homefield and pick 4 sacks of peas at four shillings. Each sack weighed 40lbs. Come home at 7am and have two rounds of toast and dripping. Butter was for Ann, she did not like dripping. After Jackie went to school Ann went and done a day picking peas and times began to get better for us. We would go up to Ann's home for a holiday. Then at seven our little girl was struck down by polio which kept her off school for long spells. (Jackie was one of just two cases of poliomyelitis in Boxford. The swift action and identification by the new young Dr Debenham Snr ensured her swift hospitalisation and freedom from life long damage. Paralytic poliomyelitis was a very serious national epidemic in the early 1950s.)



*Kenny and Ann's daughter Jackie aged 4 or 5 taken at Felixstowe or Walton-on-the-Naze. It was a Rules coach trip.*

Years on Ann told me of her young working life, she had been through worse times than myself. Having to walk miles to work with cardboard in her shoes to cover up holes in snowy winter, all day in wet soggy shoes. All the money she earned she gave to her mum. She had to as she lost her Dad in 1940 and her mum was left at 37 with five kids. She was not the best of mums, there was never much for them to eat. She was always out in the war years. Poor Ann had to bring up her brothers and sister. After we met at 15½ she was their mum. When she started to come to Boxford at 16 she came with her case. One day she opened it and this lovely girl had nothing in it. What she was wearing was all she had, so it was wash and iron them whenever and put them back on. My mum used to give her odds and ends. She painted her legs to look like stockings, She were so cold if it were winter, but to me she was just beautiful, our love for each other kept us warm.

On coming home with my sight being affected I received 9 shillings a week pension. I could not have a car when things got better, they would not grant me a licence as my eyes were too bad from D-Day burns, so we always had to walk but it kept us fit.

After a few years we went back to Derby and stayed until 1972. I worked in Chesterfield, Sheffield, Manchester all over building blocks of this and that. Still only earned £12 a week. Ann found a job on a Market Garden Farm. But as time went on Jackie grew up and married. She had the boys Richard and Chris whom Ann and me love so much.

We have now been back in Boxford 40 years and we are back home to where we had hard times but so much love and times together. During the war years Boxford was a quiet little village only 400 people. Ann has told me in the past years she hated leaving here when my leave ended. I did too.

I often cried when I was in North Africa. Each day if I could I scribbled a few lines in the lulls I would have. My mates would say "King you must be in love" how right they were. On moonlit nights I would look at the moon and hope she was looking at the same moon and say I love you darling. When near the sea we would all paddle. I wanted my feet to send her the warmth of me and my love.



*This is the picture Kenny always carried in his left breast pocket of his uniform jacket throughout the war to remind him of Ann. He was buried with the picture in his shirt pocket. It was taken at Clacton in the early years of their relationship.*

I always carried her picture in my left top pocket of my bush jacket with a letter telling her how much I loved her. I kissed her picture when on my own and as I looked at it her lips seemed to move and say, "Go on, you will be alright I am with you". But always it had to be in my left hand pocket, because if I didn't make it, I was hoping someone would tell her she was always in my heart.



*Ann and Kenny in Derby with their dog Bob in the 1960s*

But I was lucky, war is a terrible thing, I still cry at times on Remembrance Day. I think about four of the lads I went away with who didn't come back.

We have had our Ruby Wedding, Golden Wedding and Diamond Wedding days. We have been lucky to still be together 67 years and still as we sit together we talk about the past. We still tell each other "I love you so much". And we are able to walk together on our past walks. My Ann will stop and say, "Do you remember when you told me you loved me?" I give her a kiss and say, "I still do only more". Ours is a wonderful love story. We have come through so much together. In our hearts she is still 16 and I am 17 that's the way it will always be, our love keeps us going. All our family up north tell us, "You never get older, you're always the same", and we love to hear it.

I often go for a walk on my own and sit and watch youngsters playing football on the touch line. I have often said, "Hello" to some of them watching and they don't answer me and it hurts. Just a silly old man passing by, who wants to know, I shouldn't be here. If only they would know what the likes of me had done at their age. They wouldn't



*Above: Kenny & Ann at a celebration.  
Right: Kenny's 80th birthday with wife Ann, their daughter Jackie and grandsons Richard and Chris.*



be here. So many times, older people have told me "Ken you are a special breed from them days. They could not do it today". In 1939 until 1944 the days never ended, just one long day until the end. Everyone of us was scared and rest and sleep we had to give up. Spitfire lads and Hurricane boys went up time and time again. None of us

gave up. No one, even when we stood alone. As my officer said to me on the boat, "King, lets hope this 21 miles of water never dries up because the sea saved our lovely England. The sea frightened them."

Most important of all are my lovely Boxford and the girl in the long white mac.

As all those bad years passed she watched over me and I loved her and I still do, only more. I cannot end my story, but while I can I want the whole world to read this part of the love story that will, I hope, never end, 'My life with the girl in the long white mac'.

One day as I was walking round the playing field, listening to children at play, I sat on a seat thinking about her and I wanted to get back home to be with her, but I thought of some words to put together for her on our 67<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

Kenny actually ends his story with a very personal, touching poem of tribute to his 'Girl in the long white mac' which he leaves for her to read.

In 2004, 60 years after D-Day Kenny was the only veteran still alive of 16 underage men of Boxford who joined up in August 1939. He could always be seen at St Mary's Church on Remembrance Sunday as he recalled villagers and fellow soldiers who had died.

**In memory of Kenneth Parker King 27/6/1922 to 29/9/2019  
&  
Ann King 4/10/1924 to 30/1/2020.**

Tina Loose

# NEWTON GREEN TRUST AND NEWTON'S VILLAGE GREEN

## A Brief History

Newton Green Trust exists as a Charitable Trust to own and manage the village green in Newton as well as providing recreational facilities and financial support to our village community.



Historically, the village green was 'owned' (without documentary evidence) by the Lord of the Manor who granted grazing rights to various properties in the village. In about 1986, Roland Oliver, who was Lord of the Manor at the time, wrote a history of the village green and Newton Green Trust in which he described remembering "cattle, sheep, horses, goats and geese grazing on the green, and there was a time in more recent years when football and cricket matches were played on the green. This was something golfers had to accept, although in the last twenty to thirty years many of these old rights have not been exercised. Today, the ownership of the green and all the grazing rights belong to the Trust but the village still retains its rights over the green. Residents in the village have the right to play golf free of charge". A right that exists to this day.

The historical status-quo in Newton changed with the enactment of the Commons Registration Act 1965 when the green was registered by West Suffolk County Council as a Village Green. This caused a significant amount of controversy in the village when, as part of the registration process, Roland Oliver's claim to ownership of the village green as Lord of the Manor received several objections. After years of negotiations and legal wrangling, a compromise position was eventually reached when it was agreed that Mr Oliver as Lord of the Manor would be confirmed as owner of the village green without objection in consideration for him agreeing to transfer his interest in the land to a Trust that would be set up for the benefit of the village.

As a result of the compromise that was reached, Newton Green Trust was created on 5 March 1976 with the principal purpose of using the 'rents and profits' from the use of the land known as Newton Village Green to provide recreational land with the object of improving the conditions of life of the public at large and the community of Newton in particular. The inaugural meeting of the Trust was held on 9 April 1976.

The original Declaration of Trust gave the trustees 'uncontrolled discretion' to determine which parts of the land owned by the trust could be used for any particular recreational purpose. In addition, they were empowered to 'apply all or any part of such rents and profits and proceeds or other monies' for the benefit 'of the said community of Newton' at their discretion to include 'the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty and sickness'.

Whilst the trust deed provided for the trustees to have 'uncontrolled discretion' to carry out works on the village green to provide recreational amenities in keeping with the objectives of the trust, they were specifically forbidden to erect houses or other buildings not used for recreational purposes. The types of buildings mentioned in the deed that would be acceptable include 'refreshment rooms, pavilion summer houses or other buildings of a similar nature adapted to promote or improve the convenient use of the said land

for the aforesaid recreational purposes'.

The Declaration of Trust also made provision for the number of Trustees being 'neither less nor more than six in number so that:-

- a) Two of the trustees shall be members of the parish council
- b) Another of the trustees shall be the representative of the parish assembly
- c) Another of the trustees shall be the Lord of the Manor for the time being of the Manor of Newton, (hereinafter called 'the Lord of the Manor for the time being') or his nominee.
- d) Another of the trustees shall be a resident of the village of Newton in the county of Suffolk appointed by the Lord of the Manor for the time being.
- e) The other trustee shall be the representative of the Newton Green Golf Club."

In addition, the 'Chairman' of the trust had to be a member of the parish council who would have a second or casting vote.

## Newton Green Golf Club and Newton Green Trust

The principal source of regular income to the trust since 1980 has been from a licence fee paid to it by Newton Green Golf Club for their shared use of the village green with the general public. Prior to that, the club's use of the green from 1907 when it was formed was less formal. According to Mr Oliver's history of the trust, to compensate the village for allowing golf to be played on the village green, the Club would "distribute at Christmas time 2 cwt of coal to every householder in the village, which was known as 'Golf Coal'. This finished in about 1966, and then the Club paid the Parish Council £60 to be distributed in the form of a 7/6d voucher (to every householder) until the Trust was formed".

Whilst the golf club and village had coexisted with little more than a 'gentleman's agreement' for about seventy years, by the end of the 1970s, the club had become well established and needed a clubhouse with better accommodation and changing facilities. However, the club was reluctant to make the investment to purchase land they had identified for a clubhouse without some form of security of tenure in order to continue playing golf on the green. Therefore, on 31 March 1980, the club entered into a 28-year licence agreement with the trust which provided the club with the security of tenure they wanted in return for a licence. In addition, the club agreed to cut the grass on the village playing field in addition to the golf course itself and continue to allow villagers to play golf on the course for free whether or not they were members of the golf club.

Moving forward to 2024, the club currently benefits from a licence agreement entered into in 2017 for a 25-year period on terms that were agreeable to both parties. The main difference between the 2017 agreement and previous ones is that, in addition to villagers being able to play the nine holes on the village green part of the course for free, the 2017 agreement allows them to play the full 18 hole course for a fee equivalent to 50% of the full membership fee. This new villager membership was given the title of 'Villager Plus' and has become quite popular with those villagers who simply want to play the full 18 hole course but don't want the added advantages associated with being a full member of the golf club.

*Lee Parker, Trustee, Newton Green Trust*



# WHATSAPP SCAMS

Always thought you won't get caught by scammers? We're always being told not to give codes or bank details to scammers, but do scammers are becoming increasingly clever at obtaining information and access to accounts. One of the newest scams is spoofing one of your friends' accounts and then pretending to be them and asking you to send them a code they've 'accidentally' sent to you in a separate message. That code actually grants access to your own WhatsApp account that then enables the scammer to take possession, wreak havoc and potentially steal money from you.

## How the Scam Works

- 1. The Trigger:** Scammers initiate the attack by entering *your* phone number into WhatsApp, generating an authentic verification code that will be sent to your device by text message.
- 2. The Fake Friend:** Shortly after you receive the code, a scammer will contact you, posing as a trusted friend or family member. They'll use a believable story - like accidentally entering your number by mistake, to convince you to share the verification code with them.
- 3. Account Takeover:** Once you share the code, the scammer gains full access to your WhatsApp account. They can lock you out and proceed with the next stage of their plan.



## My story

A friend's WhatsApp account was compromised (same way as mine was subsequently compromised). I received a 🙄 emoji from her and thought it was strange as she wouldn't normally send such things. I then received a message: "Hi Sorry, I accidentally sent you a 6-digit code via What's App notification, can you forward it to me? It's urgent". When the code arrived, I forwarded that to her, not realising that her account was compromised and she no longer had access. I also did not know that the scammers generated this code using my mobile number on WhatsApp (major flaw in the technology), and that the intention was to scam me and not her.

A few seconds later I became suspicious and tried to phone her on WhatsApp. Despite seeing 'her' being online, there was no answer. This gave the scammers sufficient time to move my WhatsApp account to their device and my account disappeared from my phone entirely. It is possible to counteract such an attack and get your account back if you are quick and know exactly what to do.

Once they have access to your account on their device, they continue generating more verification codes using your mobile number but then on purpose 3 times input incorrect codes resulting in your account being blocked for 12 hours (a system feature designed to 'protect' you) - which then prevents you from generating another verification code to regain possession of your account.

After 12 hours, I was able to generate a verification code but could not use it on my phone, as it stated the code could only be used on their device. I tried various options to use these new codes but again after 3 tries I was locked out for another 12 hours.

During this time the scammers contacted many of my contacts,

pretending to be me, with exactly the same approach, asking them to urgently forward the verification code (that was generated using the contact's own mobile phone number).

WhatsApp does not have a helpdesk. They say it's because they have billions of customers and that they provide the service for free (it's not free as they have access to a very lucrative commodity - our data, which they monetise by selling to marketers). You can only contact them by using the WhatsApp app/website or by emailing [support@whatsapp.com](mailto:support@whatsapp.com).

During this time, I sent WhatsApp two emails and completed 6 notifications online - I never received an email back and only after 24 hours (2 x 12 hour lockouts), when I tried to generate another verification code, did I receive the following notice: "This account can no longer use WhatsApp, chats are still on this device" (this was the first good news as it seems the hackers no longer had access to my account), and that I had to 'Request a Review'.

So again, I told WhatsApp that my account was hacked and could they please restore it, then received this notification: "The review will take 12 hours". 36 hours later when I accessed it I found the following message: "your data is on this device". After inputting the 6-digit code I got my account back. All chats with individuals were missing, the group chats that I administer were missing, other group chats existed in name only - so I was unable to check what personal/confidential information they scraped from our messages. In some cases this might contain passwords and access information to other services such as email or online banking.

**Lesson learned: Never forward any code or part of a code to anyone, even if you think it is to a friend.**

You can find more information on this particular scam here: <https://bit.ly/whatsapp-scams>

*The author of this article is a Box River Benefice resident, but withheld their name on request.*

# MATTOCK MOTORS LTD

CALAIS STREET FARM, CALAIS STREET, BOXFORD



- TYRES
- BRAKES
- EXHAUSTS
- SERVICING
- MOT TESTS
- ONE STOP CAR REPAIRS

**Has your Car lost it's Spark of Life?**

Full Diagnostic Equipment, Laser Liner, Fault Code Reading Equipment.  
(A.B.S., Airbag, Engine Management Lights etc)

- AIR CONDITIONING • REGASSING
- REPAIRS • ULTRA VIOLET LEAK DETECTION

OPENING TIMES MON-FRI 8:00am - 5:00pm

**ONE CALL AWAY**  
TELEPHONE

## 01787 211394

## CITIZENS ADVICE

*My children love Christmas and they're already picking extra treats off the shelf when we go shopping, and telling me what presents they want. I really want to make it a special time for them, but times are tough and I can't help worrying about overspending and getting into debt.*

*What can I do to manage my finances during the holiday season, and where can I turn if I find myself struggling?*

The festive season can be a financially challenging time, and often borrowing money or using a credit card to fund Christmas can seem like your only option. But there are steps you can take to keep your spending under control and avoid falling into debt.

The first thing to do is make a budget and stick to it. Consider who you're buying gifts for, what other seasonal expenses you have, and how much you can realistically afford to spend.

Always keep receipts, or ask for gift receipts, in case you overspend and need to return something. And remember that household bills may be higher during this period due to colder weather and spending more time indoors.

If you've built up debt, please don't ignore bills or letters. Speak to the organisation you owe money to, as they may let you pay smaller amounts. Pay 'priority debts' first, like rent, mortgage arrears, council tax, and energy bills. For other types of debt like credit cards or loans, gather all the information on what you owe, create a budget, and contact your creditors to set up an affordable repayment plan.

This might seem scary, but it's an important first step. If your budget just doesn't add up and you need help to afford essentials like bills and food, see what cost of living support is available on

**citizens  
advice**



the Citizens Advice website. It's especially important to check if you're eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment, which will now only be paid to those who receive Pension Credit or other means-tested benefits.

If you make a claim for Pension Credit by 21 December, you might still receive the Winter Fuel Payment.

If you do find yourself struggling financially during or after the holidays, don't panic. Support is out there, and Citizens Advice can help you understand what's available. We're here to help you find a way forward.

For more information visit the Citizens Advice website at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) or call Sudbury and South Suffolk Citizens Advice on **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. Alternatively, contact us via email at [advice@sudburycab.org.uk](mailto:advice@sudburycab.org.uk) or by using the contact facility on our website, [www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact](http://www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact)

We are providing advice by telephone and email Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm.



**GARDEN MACHINERY**

**A local independent business  
run by knowledgable,  
approachable people.**

- Servicing garden machinery large and small
- Sell a large range of cordless and fueled garden machinery
- Stock wheelbarrows, garden tools, fuel, oils, and we can order most parts
- Sharpen chainsaws, shears, secateurs and lawn mower blades
- Repair all kinds of garden hand tools
- Collection and return can be arranged for all machines

**Opening times: Monday to Friday - 8am till 5pm, Saturday - 8am till 1pm**

**01787 375 194**

[www.rnrgardenmachinery.co.uk](http://www.rnrgardenmachinery.co.uk)

[info@rnrgardenmachinery.co.uk](mailto:info@rnrgardenmachinery.co.uk)

**Bell Tack Works, Middleton Road, Sudbury, CO10 7LJ**

# FRENCH'S CARE HAVEN

Another year quickly goes by and for us as a charity in need of financial help, I am keeping everything crossed for 2025 to be a more secure year for our rescue and I am hoping that it will bring new sponsors in to support us.

Hasn't it been crazy with the dark richness of the ever growing grass we have had this year that we are still mowing our lawns in the middle of November, crazy! It looks lovely but for the horses and ponies who suffer from laminitis it is tough, as they still have to be limited with their time on the grass because of the sugar intake. As we see diabetes going up in people, it is also going up in the equine world at an alarming rate. One of our photos is Annie, a beautiful girl who suffers with laminitis. She is lucky to have a large ménage that she can go in which is next to her double shelter that she shares with her friend Coco. The other photo is of me, with Otis, a rescue puppy that Sharon a main team member owns and Lucy who is our Therapy dog. Beautiful Lucy has been working with vulnerable people for the last 9 + years.



We are hoping that in the future Otis will become part of our therapy team, who work with people that need help with their mental health. Lucy is giving Otis training and showing him the ropes on how to be a perfect companion up at the farm.

Thank you to Boxford Friendship Group for selling some items and making a small donation, I hope to speak to one of their members Alison again soon. Thank you also to Jane - a lady who donated some bales of hay to us. Thanks goes to Brian as well who collected the bales with the help of Chloe and Sharon.

I would like to thank Essex Spiritual Centre for coming to Boxford, every one that attended the Fleece for the event enjoyed themselves, plus the lady who runs it and spoke on the night, gave us a nice donation.

I would also like to give a big thank you to kind John in Sudbury, who called me and sent a donation that paid for a month of bowl feeds for the animals. For all our readers please consider making a personal donation to us if you can, your help will keep us going and would be very much appreciated by our team and of course our dear rescued animals, my contact details are at the bottom of this page.

If you would like any information about becoming part of our small team and helping care for our lovely horses and donkeys. All donations are welcome with open arms and much gratitude.

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 755 556** or email: [jann.turner@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jann.turner@hotmail.co.uk)

Website: [www.frenchscarehaven.org.uk](http://www.frenchscarehaven.org.uk)



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

## HYPNOTHERAPY

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

I have over 30 years of experience as a hypnotherapist, helping people to overcome a wide range of emotional, mental & physical problems.

Call me for an informal chat to see how Hypnotherapy can help you.

Now available at KERSEY MILL & BOXFORD

**Phone: 01787 210 601**

**Mobile: 07929 744 072**



**S B Electrical**



**For all your electrical work  
large or small**

Free Estimates ✓ No Call Out Charge ✓  
A Member of the BSI ✓ Electrical Certificates Issued ✓  
Part 'P' Registered ✓ Insurance Backed Guarantee ✓

**Tel: 01787 247043**

email: [info@sbelectrical.biz](mailto:info@sbelectrical.biz) or visit [www.sbelectrical.biz](http://www.sbelectrical.biz)

Church Road, Little Waldingfield, Sudbury, Suffolk

MEMORIALS

**LUXSTONE**

WE HAND CARVE  
ANYTHING IN STONE

Memorials, standard and bespoke  
Carving - Stone Signs - Nameplates  
Letter Cutting and Carving Courses

Stour Valley Business Centre, Brundon Lane,  
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7GB

Tel 01787 371570

E mail [info@neilluxton.co.uk](mailto:info@neilluxton.co.uk)

[www.neilluxton.co.uk](http://www.neilluxton.co.uk)

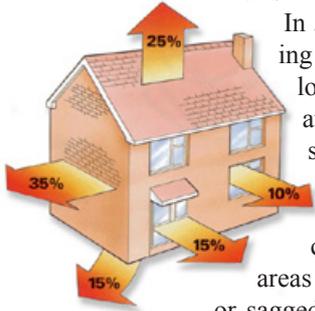


# NATURAL BOXFORD

## Keep the Heat Energy Efficiency Project

Many of us have now made the move to turn the heating on for at least an hour or two per day, or have had a few fires, as the temperatures start to feel that bit chillier. The majority of us are still saddled with oil, gas and electricity fueled systems that not only have environmental costs, but have a major impact on our household budgets as well.

The Natural Boxford Energy group, in conjunction with HEAT (Hadleigh Environmental Action Team), and Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, would like to invite you to participate in a community energy event aimed at increasing energy efficiency, reducing heating costs and keeping you and your family warm this winter.



In January we will have two thermal imaging cameras which show where heat is being lost from a property. This will only be done at homeowners'/tenants' invitation and shows hotspots on the external surfaces of the house – the cameras can't see through to the interior of the house. The hotspots can be due to poor insulation generally; areas where existing insulation has compacted or sagged; extension joins; particularly heat conductive materials; vents; leaks eg. where bricks have cracked and floors fallen away from skirting boards; chimneys; and radiators under windows - to name a few.

The team are trained to interpret the images, and HEAT's Energy Champions will then be able to arrange a visit to spend some time with you looking at options to address any heat loss and share information about grants, loans, subsidies and schemes available. The Energy Champions are also trained to support households experiencing fuel poverty and/or struggling with energy bills. There are some simple fixes such as chimney balloons for unused chimneys, and insulating the back of loft hatches, and others that might be a bigger project such as cavity wall insulation or replacing perished loft insulation. Free advice and guidance will be available for all of this.

We are aware that in Boxford we have a lot of period listed dwellings for which historically it has been difficult to get permission to improve. The Suffolk Preservation Society have recently held a *Retro-fit for the Future* event looking at upgrading building performance in traditional buildings: we hope to be able to bring some of this information into the project and encourage those who are custodians of our older buildings to take part.

To bring everything and everybody together there is an exhibition and event on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January**, 10-1 in Boxford Village Hall with information, stalls and experts on hand covering insulation, heat pumps and alternatives, solar power and batteries, electric vehicles and charging, listed and conservation area buildings, funding; and, to further interpret the thermal images if necessary (it can require a bit of detective work in some cases to ascertain what is taking place). Please see further details in the adjacent ad. - the event is free and open to all.

There are currently government schemes for encouraging solar and heat pump systems and we certainly need to be taking seriously the need to address our energy consumption and shift to less damaging ways of heating and powering our homes as well as reducing the amount of power we use. There are huge leaps taking place in wind technology, and as an island, wave technology is also on the agenda.

Many communities across the UK are getting themselves set



up with localised power generation: start up and setup funding is available for this and projects result in towns, and clusters of villages potentially becoming energy self-sufficient. Solar farms may be contentious yet evidence is showing they can become wild-life havens and off-shore windfarms are providing shelter and protection for fish nurseries.

If you would like to book a thermal camera visit to your home in January, please email [heatenergy@gmx.co.uk](mailto:heatenergy@gmx.co.uk) including your address and postcode, which will then be referred to the Natural Boxford team to arrange an evening appointment of around 20-30 minutes to take the initial thermal images.

We are looking forward to meeting you.

*Much love, Louise, on behalf of the Natural Boxford group.*

## Bates Wells & Braithwaite

### Expert legal help for business and for individuals...

- Accident claims - Commercial and company law
- Commercial property - Commercial German legal services
- Employment - Environmental Law -
- Estates, trusts and wills - Family and children
- Farming and rural business affairs
- Health and safety - Licensing - Litigation/mediation
- Residential property - Rural business affairs

### Bates Wells & Braithwaite Solicitors

27 Friars Street Sudbury CO10 2AD  
T: 01787 880440 E: [solicitors@bwblegal.com](mailto:solicitors@bwblegal.com)

**Moving?**  
Call us on **01787 377489**

**Todds Removals**  
a reliable local service you can trust

- Removals
- Storage
- Home or Business
- Packing materials
- Packing service
- UK, Europe and beyond

www.todds-removals.co.uk

## Gary Jarvis

*Paper Hanger and Interior Decorator*

01787 211471 or 07733 325669

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

**Keep The Heat**  
Helping You Stay Warm & Save on Energy

**Ask the Experts**  
**Free Drop-In Session**  
25th January  
Boxford Village Hall  
10am - 1pm

Get expert advice on how to:

- ✓ **REDUCE** your energy use
- ✓ **MANAGE** your bills
- ✓ **STAY WARM**
- ✓ Access available **SUPPORT**

**FREE ENERGY ADVICE**

**Exclusive opportunity:**  
**Thermal Camera Assessments**

See where you're losing heat! For four weeks in January, we're offering **FREE** thermal imaging of your home.

Available evenings from 6pm to 8:30pm (20 minute appointments)  
See real-time heat loss to target areas where you can improve insulation and save on energy costs.

**Book Your Thermal Camera Assessment Today:**  
Interested households and tenants, email [heatenergy@gmx.co.uk](mailto:heatenergy@gmx.co.uk) with your address to schedule a visit.

**Ipswich Veterinary Centre**  
For a professional caring service

- 24-hour hospitalisation and emergency care provided on-site
- Advanced diagnostic imaging including CT scanning service
- Veterinary referral services
- Physiotherapy and hydrotherapy
- Pet behaviour counselling, dog agility and training classes
- Pet shop and grooming lounge.

**An Independent Veterinary Practice with a personal approach**

A member of **FIVP** Federation of Independent Veterinary Practices

**Tel: 01473 555 000**  
[enquiries@ipswichvetcentre.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ipswichvetcentre.co.uk)  
[www.ipswichvetcentre.co.uk](http://www.ipswichvetcentre.co.uk)  
1 Donald Mackintosh Way, Scrivener Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3SU

**JARVIS**  
BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD

T: 01787 211839  
M: 07823 776005

E: [info@jarvisbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk](mailto:info@jarvisbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk)

FOR ALL TYPES OF BUILDING AND LANDSCAPING NEEDS

- ◆ NEW BUILDS
- ◆ EXTENSIONS
- ◆ RENOVATIONS
- ◆ FLINT & STONE WORK
- ◆ KITCHEN & BATHROOM INSTALLATION
- ◆ DESIGN & PLANNING
- ◆ ALL INSURANCE PROJECTS
- ◆ ELECTRICS & PLUMBING
- ◆ LANDSCAPING
- ◆ DECORATING SERVICE ECT...

[jarvisbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk](http://jarvisbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk)

**JARVIS**  
HUTMAKERS LTD

T: 01787 211839  
M: 07823 776005

E: [info@jarvishutmakersltd.co.uk](mailto:info@jarvishutmakersltd.co.uk)

At Jarvis Hutmakers, we prioritise quality craftsmanship and affordability, ensuring that our huts and shepherd huts are not only beautifully designed but also quick to install. With our design service, you can create the perfect outdoor retreat without the need for planning permission.

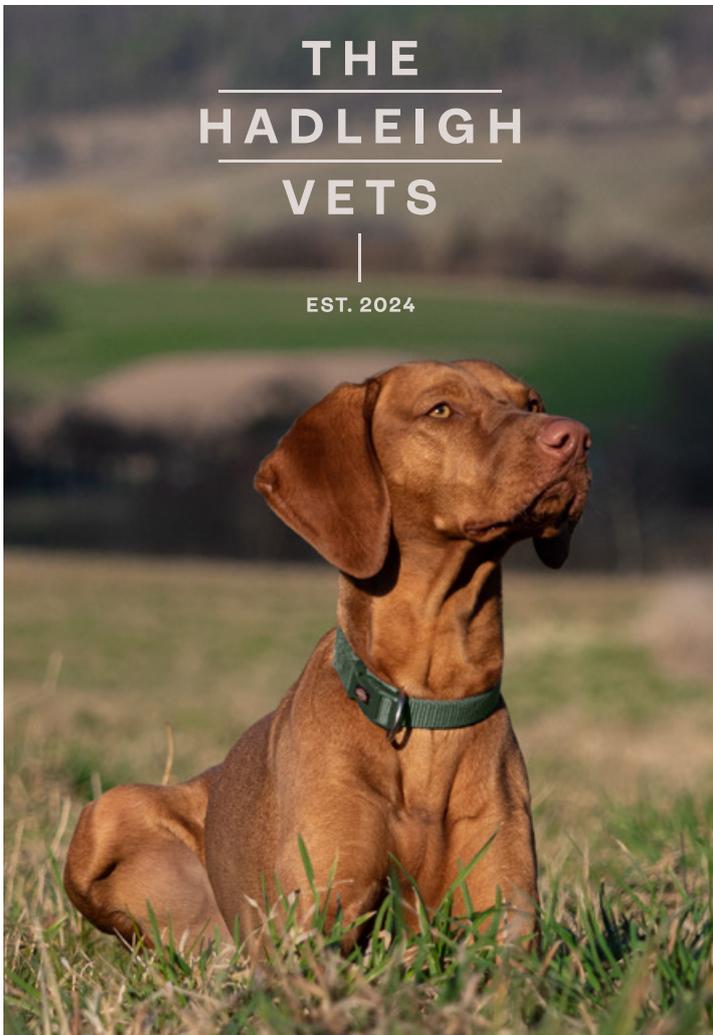
Whether you're looking to add a shepherd hut to your garden or create a cosy garden room, Jarvis Hutmakers has the expertise to bring your vision to life. Our huts and shepherd huts are built to last, using only the finest materials and craftsmanship.

[jarvishutmakersltd.co.uk](http://jarvishutmakersltd.co.uk)



# THE HADLEIGH VETS

EST. 2024



## Now Open

We're a founder-led team who are passionate about combining our experience and knowledge to provide a higher standard of pet healthcare for Hadleigh and surrounding areas.

As a new veterinary practice, our ambition is to earn our reputation one customer at a time. We pride ourselves on building genuine relationships with our customers – because taking our time to get to know people is the key to delivering a personalised level of care.

Registration is now open. To ensure a high quality service we are limiting the number of places available, so register now to avoid missing out



To find out more and Register, visit [www.thehadleighvets.com](http://www.thehadleighvets.com)

# BOXFORD FIREWORKS 2024

Once again there was a fantastic turn out for the Boxford Fireworks event. Dynamic Fireworks produced a superb display, expertly choreographed and the Essex Caledonian Pipe Band led the impressive Lantern Parade brilliantly. The lantern parade, in its 10<sup>th</sup> year was bigger and brighter than ever, with so many amazing and fun lanterns created by the children and families of the surrounding villages. It's always a treat to see the parade lighting up Swan Street on its way up to the playing fields, and many visitors come from far and wide exclusively to see it. We had dolphins, geese, lions, penguins, bees, ghosts - even Spongebob Squarepants! Well done everyone for your brilliant imaginations!

Our thanks go to all the many volunteers who gave up their time to make this event possible - far too many to mention individually!

Whether you visited our beer tent, A. Leeder's Butchers BBQ, the candy floss stall, attended a workshop to make a lantern or just bought a ticket to enjoy the lightshow, you have contributed to the fund which supports all our village organisations through grants, for which we are all very grateful.

Next year's fireworks will be on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November, so put it in your diaries now!

*Thanks to Peter Norris for the photos.*

# HADLEIGH & BOXFORD PPG

**Out of Hours Doctor:** Need a doctor when the Health Centre is closed, including weekend? Call 111 for advice and details of your nearest 'out of hours' duty doctor or go online [www.111.nhs.uk](http://www.111.nhs.uk)

**Covid & 'Flu Vaccines:** A staggering total of 3300 covid and 3600 flu vaccines were given at our recent clinics. Sincere thanks to staff and volunteers who gave up their precious free time to ensure that all went smoothly so that such an impressive number of patients have some protection against Covid and 'flu before the winter sets in.

**RSV Vaccine:** Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is an infectious disease of the airways and lungs. A single vaccine is now available for 75 to 79-year-olds and pregnant women to boost your natural protection against this disease. The take up has been good with patients continuing to receive the vaccine during surgery hours in December.

**Call Back Option:** Many patients are still not aware of this very helpful, efficient return call option believing that they will lose their turn in the queue. Rest assured you do not as your call will be returned once it reaches your turn. Choose the 'call back' option and then hang up.

**Non-Urgent Appointments:** Avoid the early morning scramble by using Econsult. Available 24/7 and your requests will be dealt within 48 hours. This will also free up the line for more pressing appointment needs.

**The NHS App:** Did you know you can order your repeat prescription via the NHS app, view your medical records and much more via the NHS app? Do you have access to this very useful app? You will be surprised how much useful information can be found there. If you ever have reason to use a doctor outside Hadleigh they can immediately access your medical records; saving valuable time and a lot of stress. [www.nhs.uk/nhs-app](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app)

Not sure how to use it? If you have a long-standing aversion to IT why not overcome your misgivings and give it a try in the peaceful surroundings of Hadleigh Library. On the first Thursday of every month a representative from Babergh District Council is there to help the IT wary get online and develop their digital skills. Why wait? You are never too old to get to grips with an iPad, mobile or a computer. Next beginners' session takes place in the Library on 5<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 1pm.

**Medicine Wastage:** The statistics for medicine wastage are staggering. Across the UK unused medicine costs the NHS around £300 million every single year, with an estimated £110 million worth of

medicine returned to pharmacies and a further £90 million worth of unused prescription medicines being stored in homes. We can all help to reduce these shocking figures e.g. check your stock of prescription drugs before re-ordering more, keep your repeat prescription up to date and stop ordering medicine you no longer take, before you leave the pharmacy check the contents of the bag and return unwanted items for re-use. If you wait until after you have left the premises their cost becomes part of the £110 million.

**Volunteer Drivers:** Jen Eastwood, coordinates a group of volunteer drivers who are willing to take patients needing transport, to their doctor or hospital appointments. If you are a driver with a few hours to spare please contact Jen [jen.eastwood8@gmail.com](mailto:jen.eastwood8@gmail.com) 01787 211 853 and support this invaluable service. Insurance issues are addressed when you sign up.

**Art in Practice:** The free-standing work has been returned to its creators at the Hadleigh High School. Our thanks to them for brightening the Practice waiting area for several weeks. Happily, patients and visitors can still enjoy the work of Hazel Bradshaw's students.

**Both Practices:** 01473 822 961

**PPG & Art Sales:** [deveys@btinternet.com](mailto:deveys@btinternet.com)

**Chair:** Jan Devey 01473 827 091 or 07881 798999

**Facebook:** <http://bit.ly/Hadleigh-Group-Facebook>

**Website:** [www.hadleighhealth.co.uk](http://www.hadleighhealth.co.uk)

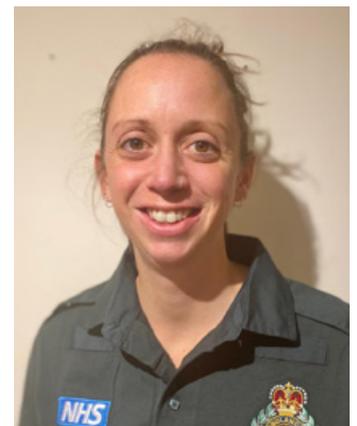
# NEW FIRST RESPONDERS!

Huge congratulations go to not one, but two new recruits to the Three Parishes Response (3PR) team. Clare Mashford (pictured top) from Groton is a Junior Doctor at Ipswich Hospital, specialising in Anaesthesia and Emily White (pictured below) from Boxford is an Occupational Therapist and Music Therapist. Together they are the newest Community First Responders to have completed their East of England Ambulance Trust induction training and are now fully qualified CFRs, ready to respond to medical emergencies in and around the benefice. We're looking forward to seeing them on duty and helping people in need of their skills.

Additionally at 3PR we would like to thank everyone who has donated to us in the last month or so. We receive no other funding than your generous donations to keep us on the road and our equipment up to date and in good working order, so your money is hugely appreciated and will be used to save lives. Thank you, and we hope you have a wonderful Christmas!

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a First Responder then please do get in touch. Full professional ambulance service training will be given, all equipment is provided and road mileage is funded, you just need a car, a full clean driving licence and a couple of spare hours each week. In a rural location such as ours where it can take emergency services a bit longer to get to, First Responders are vital in getting on scene in those first few critical minutes of an emergency occurring.

*Rich Wild, Team Leader, Three Parishes Response*  
01787 210 946 / [office@boxfordresponders.com](mailto:office@boxfordresponders.com)



# AN ARCHBISHOP RESIGNS & ELECTING OUR NEW BISHOP

## A personal reflection

I'm writing this at the end of the week in which the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, announced his resignation in the wake of publication of the Makin report. The report was commissioned by the Church of England in 2019 to review responses to the revelations of the serial abuse of boys and young men committed in Hampshire over 40 years ago by barrister John Smyth QC, who died in South Africa in August 2018 before he could be brought to justice for his crimes.

Archbishop Justin's resignation, taking institutional responsibility for failings identified by Keith Makin, was, perhaps, inevitable in the light of the press headlines and media storm (though, arguably, he has been the scapegoat hounded from office), and it is worth recording that the pre-2013 cover-up of Smyth's abuse, naming those responsible – not including Welby – was set out in detail over three years ago in Andrew Graystone's book *"Bleeding for Jesus"*, published in September 2021. That cover-up, with its consequence that Smyth was able to resume his abuse in Zimbabwe (where he was effectively banished in 1984), is inexcusable, but in the rest of this piece I want to look forward.

With Archbishop Justin's resignation (though the date when it will take effect is yet to be announced), media speculation has turned to consider who might succeed him—and whether that person might be the first female archbishop. Mention has been made of the key role in the process of a body called the *Crown Nominations Commission* (CNC for short) in considering possible candidates and deciding on a name to recommend to the prime minister for him to submit to the King for his approval.

Although the make-up of the commission is slightly different for Canterbury, the CNC process is the same for the appointment of any English diocesan bishop. This is where the personal reflection comes in. As *Box River News* readers may be aware, our diocesan bishop, the Rt Revd Martin Seeley, who became our bishop in May 2015, is to retire at the end of February 2025. Bishop Martin gave notice of his retirement back in February 2024 and this was the trigger for the diocesan *'Vacancy in See Committee'* to meet.

The committee had two main tasks: (i) to produce a 'Statement of Needs' – a document describing the diocese and providing a 'job description' for the new bishop, and (ii) to elect six of its members to join six 'central' members, elected by the General Synod, and the two archbishops as the 14 voting members of the CNC.

I am privileged to be one of the six diocesan members. Unless varied in consequence of Justin Welby's resignation, we will be meeting next year on 4 March, and over two days at the end of April when we will interview candidates. The process is confidential but, if we can agree, hopefully the name of our new bishop may be announced by mid-June.

Meanwhile, you can see the names of the other diocesan CNC members and download the 'Statement of Needs' from the diocesan website at <https://bit.ly/suffolk-cofe-vacancy>.

Our prayer is: *'Heavenly Father, send us a bishop grounded in your love, a shepherd after your own heart, a follower of your Way and a teacher of your Word. Through the wisdom and direction of your Holy Spirit enable us so to recognise them that we appoint; not the one we think we want, but the one you are calling. Through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.'*

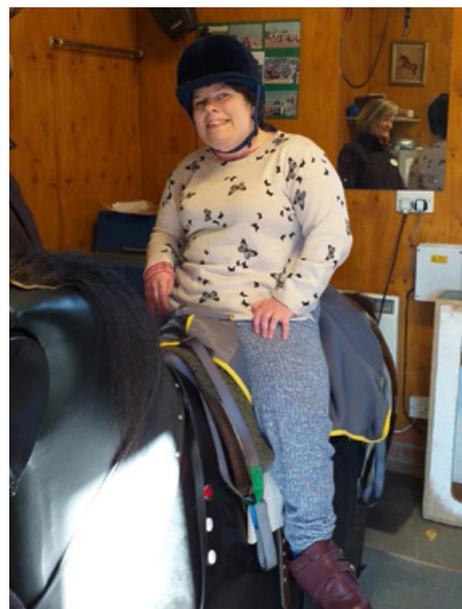
David Lamming

# EBONY'S DIARY

The winter months bring unpredictable weather which makes caring for our ponies challenging, but so far this winter has been kind to us. Bad weather means we can't always use the horses for our therapeutic sessions, but that's not a problem as we have Ebony, the mechanical horse, situated in a warm room out of the weather.

Our horses live outside all year round but have shelters in their fields and wear warm rugs to keep them cosy and dry. The rugs also help to reduce the amount of mud we have to brush off before riding sessions, as they all like to roll in the muddiest patch in their fields!

The therapy we provide has benefitted around 160 people in the last year, amounting to over 2700 rides over the three terms we operate. Our clients vary in age from six upwards and come to us with a range of challenges – both physical and mental, including those recovering from accidents or with long-term degenerative diseases. The physical benefits derived from riding, whether the horses or Ebony, include improved balance, strength, motor co-ordination and general improved health. But riding and interacting with the horses, other clients and volunteers, provides much more – a sense of well being, improved self confidence and emotional control. The difference that riding and being with the horses makes is amazing and often life-changing. We witness little miracles every day as our clients take new steps forward. Our mission is to improve lives, one ride at a time. In the words of Becca (pictured on Ebony), who has been with us for many years, *"I recommend riding to anyone because it gently exercises the whole body, strengthens the cores and improves posture. And being around horses has a calming effect which helps with mental health."*



Across the UK over 25,000 people of all ages and abilities ride or carriage drive with one of the 500 RDA groups, and there are similar groups right across world. At every group, our coaches are trained and qualified to deliver the best possible experience, based on our clients' needs, ambition or therapeutic goals. As well as our amazing riders, coaches and stable manager, the Shelley Centre is blessed with many dedicated and hard-working volunteers. They help with the RDA sessions; look after the ponies during the holidays and weekends; undertake general admin and maintenance tasks around the yard and raise funds to keep the centre going. If you'd like to join this fantastic and friendly team, why not give the centre a call and come up and meet us and see how you can help. And of course, you can always help by supporting our fund raising activities or giving us a donation. Please see our website for details.

Wishing all our friends and supporters a very Happy Christmas!

[www.shelleyrda.com](http://www.shelleyrda.com)

Telephone: 01473 824172



## BOXFORD ROVERS



Boxford Rovers under-15 team who play in the Suffolk Youth League have a new sponsor, Pivotal Transport Management.

Their director Ryan, who is also the under-15 manager, presented the new full kit supplied by Total Football Ipswich.

The team are coached this season by Jason and Nic.



## FANTASTIC DONATION TO PARKINSON'S UK



Veteran golfers at Stoke by Nayland have raised an enormous £10,500 for Parkinson's UK during a year of fund-raising in 2024.

Before the start of the Seniors annual meeting and prizegiving, Michelle Henderson from Parkinson's UK accepted a huge cheque (literally) from Seniors Captain John Parkinson.

The total of £10,500 is a culmination of numerous fund-raising events during John's year as captain and supported by over 100 members of the Seniors section at Stoke by Nayland.

In addition to playing a marathon 67 holes in one day on his 67<sup>th</sup> birthday, John organised various events and competitions during the year, all generously supported by Seniors.

Michelle was over the moon with the size of the donation and thanked John and all Seniors who contributed.

## BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

Finals Day 15<sup>th</sup> September – as promised in the last issue here are some more of our Winners. Congratulations to you all. The trophies below were presented by Malcolm Grimwood.

We wish you a happy Christmas and look forward to sharing more bowls news in the new year.

*Roz Mortlock*



**THE MALCOLM GRIMWOOD TROPHY**  
- ANDY CARR

*In honour of the long service to the club by Malcolm Grimwood, our September Cup was renamed this year as The Malcolm Grimwood Trophy. This competition was played between all members of our club who had entered, with points awarded for nearest to the jack over the agreed number of ends. The winner accumulated an impressive 40.5 points.*



**THE MONICA SNOOK TROPHY**  
Ladies 2 Wood Singles – ROZ MORTLOCK

*In memory of Monica Snook, who was a very successful bowler at our club over the years, playing not only for Boxford but in county and national competitions, this new trophy was awarded for the first time to the winner. We were honoured to have some of Monica's family attend and present this trophy at our Finals Day.*



MIKE BILLINGTON – Club Singles



GARY WHITEMAN – Over 60s Singles



ANDY CARR – Handicap Singles



**MONDAY MORNING LEAGUE** – The team who won this trophy played every week over the season were Peter Norris (Captain), Graham Skillen, Fred Mackness, Lesley Cook, Cynthia Hollingsworth.



MIKE BILLINGTON - Men's 2 Wood Singles



GLEN LOE – Men's 4 Wood Singles

# FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

## County Councillor for the Stour Valley

### Suffolk County Council (SCC) set on major investment to further protect Suffolk from flooding as it calls on Government to 'step up'

- SCC set to agree £1.5 million to deliver first phase of works identified in initial flood investigation reports
- SCC calls on Government to recognise ongoing impact of Storm Babet and fund £20 million of further prevention work urgently needed

- Extensive work already completed since Storm Babet including more than 111,000 drains cleared and significant road repairs

Suffolk County Council has today announced its intention to invest another £1.5 million to carry out important flooding prevention work. The commitment comes as initial flood investigation reports have identified that a further £20 million is needed to complete the work – a figure that the county council can't afford. The council has therefore written to the Flooding Minister, Emma Hardy MP, and demanded the government step up and plug the funding gap.

### Have your say on the Suffolk County Council Budget – 2025-26

Suffolk County Council is seeking feedback from residents, businesses and community organisations as it prepares its budget for the next financial year. The council has launched an online consultation to explain its current financial position and give Suffolk residents an opportunity to share their views on proposed Council Tax changes and spending priorities.

The consultation offers an opportunity to understand how the council manages its finances, the cost-saving measures already in place, and how the council might generate more money to support essential services.

The council can increase its budget in two main ways: by receiving more funding from the government or by increasing Council Tax. The consultation asks residents for feedback on which council services they have used recently, whether they support increasing Council Tax contributions, and which areas they would like to see prioritised in the council's budget-setting process.

Responses to the consultation will be considered alongside feedback from businesses, public sector partners and elected members, as well as advice from council officers, as it prepares next year's budget.

The consultation opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> November and closes on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024. To participate, visit [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2025\\_26\\_budget](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2025_26_budget)

### Suffolk residents encouraged to share views on new Local Transport Plan

Suffolk's communities helped shape a new draft of the Suffolk Local Transport Plan by sharing their views back in February of this year and the county council is now seeking feedback on the final proposed document. The plan which details activity between 2025-2040 sets out a long-term vision for transport in Suffolk and covers themes such as decarbonisation of transport, strengthening the local economy, promoting health, wellbeing and social inclusion, and creating better-connected places that encourage a range of transport choices.

Alongside this county-wide plan, the county council has produced fifteen 'Area Transport Plans' and a 'Suffolk Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan' which are the funded implementation plans for the wider Suffolk Local Transport Plan. These plans outline how the Local Transport Plan's vision and objectives will be delivered in key locations across the county.

After engaging with Suffolk's residents earlier this year about their travel habits, I am delighted to be able present to them an updated Suffolk Local Transport Plan for the next 15 years.

The plan presents the county council's vision for transport in Suffolk, highlighting the challenges and opportunities we have and the measures available to respond to them – this is why it's important

we consider the views of all before we formally adopt our fourth document and its associated plans.

We value the views of the local community and interested parties, so please share your thoughts, even if you only wish to comment on a small part of the plans.

The consultation is available via [www.suffolk.gov.uk/LTP](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/LTP) and the consultation will close on **Monday 25 November 2024**. The Local Transport Plan and its associated plans will then be presented to Suffolk County Council's Cabinet in 2025.

### Government's new housing targets must put infrastructure first

Suffolk County Council (SCC) has raised concerns in its response to the government's proposed reforms for planning policies for England. In particular, it expresses fears about the lack of clarity around infrastructure, such as schools, transport, waste and community facilities when new housing developments are approved. Last month, the government closed its consultation on plans to change the National Planning Policy Framework and other parts of the planning system.

The proposals include a significant increase in the number of new homes to be built across Suffolk – the government's own figures suggest that East Suffolk alone would see an 87% increase in the number new homes, compared those currently planned.

SCC is already very active in securing developer contributions and delivering infrastructure. It secures Section 106 contributions as well as funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy from district councils - but this is to maintain a baseline level of service rather than make a positive overall improvement to infrastructure.

In its response to government, the council said that the simple question of "who pays" for the infrastructure needs to be answered when permissions are being granted. Local planning authorities should not be allowed to assume that other authorities and agencies will make up any difference.

### Council to offer interest-free loans to make homes more energy efficient

Suffolk County Council will offer interest-free loans to help make residents' homes warmer, safer and cheaper to run. Energy efficiency upgrades such as insulation, solar panels, batteries, glazing, or heat pumps will all be possible with loans of up to £15,000 to be repaid over a maximum of 7 years at 0% interest.

The £3 million project will be open to homeowners across Suffolk from November, but you can register your interest now at Lendology. Making homes more energy-efficient helps retain their heat and use less energy, meaning homeowners can save on their energy bills and reduce their carbon emissions. A warm home also has a positive impact on health and well-being. For more information and to register your interest in an interest free loan, visit Lendology's website.

### Fostering can mean everything to those involved – new film

That is the message of a powerful new fostering film from over 100 councils. 'Everything' was launched on 17 October 2024. It is the seventh film produced by a growing partnership of councils and children's trusts to promote local authority fostering. The 'Everything' project is the largest collaboration yet, with participants from Cumbria to Devon and Lancashire to Suffolk.

Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions for the Stour Valley Fostering is a flexible role with options for short term care from a weekend a month to longer term opportunities, all providing life-changing support for local children.

Suffolk will continue with Foster Carer Recruitment Event on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month, and an Adoption Event is on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday all 7pm in the home of the applicant.

Watch the new film here: <https://youtu.be/8f16EdKHUdg>

Visit: [www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk) to find out how you can foster and adopt.

James Finch

[james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk)

Tel: 01206 263649 / Mobile: 07545 423796

## FEEDBACK FROM BRYN HURREN

### Babergh District Councillor for Box Vale Ward

I think the past year has been the most difficult for Babergh/Mid Suffolk and local government generally, resulting in some big authorities being unable to remain solvent and provide a service at all. Some of this is down to bad management and bad investments but in many cases it is down to providing more expensive services and the money just running out.

The huge rises in capital costs for materials, provisions and fuel coupled with dealing with huge housing issues and massive homelessness, along with the cost-of-living crisis, have been difficult to bear and the efforts have been incredibly wearing on staff and councillors alike.

The financial support from central government remains minimal and the extra duties we have been asked to fulfill are increasing. We have a statutory duty to carry out some functions, but others are beginning to be beyond our reach.

About 50% of our financial resources come from your council tax and the rest is made up from investments, paid-for services, green energy income and grants from LGA and our own initiatives.

It has also been the year where our Joint Local Plan has kicked in to achieve a planning goal and ambition. It has guided our officers well and has also resulted in a strong performance at appeals. Like all live documents it needs regular updates and refreshing, and we were already embarked on a new call for sites appeal when the new deputy Prime Minister announced the new house building requirements for all LPAs for the foreseeable future.

These included a rise in numbers for Babergh from 450 to 760 dwellings per year. Quite doable, I think, but can we find the materials, contractors and craftsmen to keep up these numbers and maintain, refresh and increase the required infrastructure?

At least 50% of new dwellings need to be affordable to rent or buy to fill the huge gap in that sector and it has emerged that, although not in Chancellor Reeves budget speech, any council or housing association homes built from now will not be subject to right-to-buy legislation. Cartwheels from Bryn. The haemorrhaging of stock makes it very difficult to house an increasing demand from an increasingly rising list of applicants.

The CIL monies scheme continues to do well and has reaped huge rewards and benefits for most villages in the Babergh area, including all those in Box Vale. However finance for the mega projects like roads and schools will still need to come from the national pot and if massive house building continues to race ahead of crumbling and incompatible infrastructure, we are heading for disaster. The experiment to privatise our national utilities has not served us well with the bulk ending up in either overseas hands or used by shareholders to create massive incomes along with eye-watering bonuses for themselves at the expense of the ultimate customers.

While in Babergh/MidSuffolk we are landlord to over 4,000 dwellings, a rise of about 80 since this time last year due to our clever house building programme, our housing team have struggled badly to house many semi or totally homeless people and almost every village has struggled and been aware of this issue. An increase in social houses is imperative for a caring society.

Closer to home our well-managed leisure centres have performed well and paid their way as well as keeping our residents fit and entertained. We do offer a good service to our residents along with NHS referrals as part of a treatment plan and are one of the first to do this.

I am really sorry that the Kingfisher pool has been out of action for 12 weeks now but will reopen on 11<sup>th</sup> December for paying customers. While all the other facilities have remained open, the pool is obviously our biggest asset and used by so many. The problem has been a cracking of the top laminated glass panels, and all will need replacing at a later date. A big blow.

Another hard pill for this councillor to swallow is the impending implementation of across-the-board parking charges in Babergh to

match mid Suffolk. While I would have accepted increased charges with the first hour remaining free, this move is, I feel, detrimental to the local market towns who already suffer from challenges from out-of-town stores on lesser rates and their own free parking facilities. I have asked our chief finance officer and executive to write to the government minister responsible for business rates on council owned car parks for them to be rated at zero but with our national finances in such a poor state, this is unlikely to happen.

Currently we run all our car parks for around £145k but business rates of just over £300k are too much of a killer blow for us to take out of our precious receipts.

Hadleigh Health Centre has applied to close Boxford surgery. This was a horrible bolt out of the blue for residents but obviously in the minds of the practice for a long time, as mitigation measures are well thought-out and planned. I am of course opposing this on behalf of residents, but it looks maybe inevitable.

We at least have so much more than most other villages in the area, let's hope with good support we can keep the rest of these businesses solvent and serving us.

My meetings in November at Monks Eleigh Causeway and Old Chapel, along with a couple of hours at the GoStart Community Transport HQ, were very productive and hopefully will make a difference to Box Vale residents as well, with a more walkable path from Back Lane and some public transport to the wider world.

GoStart are a brilliant community transport initiative to provide transport in places where there is no other suitable service for those who have no other means to access health, dental or just a means to access normal day to day provisions in a rural area. To do this, anyone can register for free at: [www.gostart.org.uk/sign-up-as-a-user](http://www.gostart.org.uk/sign-up-as-a-user) or just pick up a telephone 01787 242116 to do it verbally.

Membership entitles you to book a visit to clinic, dentist, hospital or other vital service and to be brought home again, within 90 mins.

They also offer trips at reduced prices to facilitate groups attending functions, places of interest etc. Also they run a twice weekly 16 seater minibus to pick up folks without transport along a route between Bildeston and Sudbury to access the market town to pick up essentials.

There are to be county council elections next year and all of Box Vale will be in South Cosford Division along with Brent and Monks Eleigh and others up to the Northwest of that part of Babergh district. Please everyone come out to vote in these elections, so important for local democracy, and give locals a chance to vote for someone who will do a fine job for you, not just a political animal who may take a different course.

Don't forget that I have a small locality budget for each village and you can apply through your parish council, or myself for a small grant for a pet project before the end of March 2025.

Thank you to all who make our villages run so well, parish councils and all residents included.

Have a great Christmas and 2025.

*Bryn*

[bryn.hurren@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:bryn.hurren@babergh.gov.uk)

Tel: 01787 210854 / Mobile: 07771 508348

## *Remember!*

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

[www.boxrivernews.com](http://www.boxrivernews.com)

# PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

## BOXFORD

### Summary of Council Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

**Public Forum:** *What is happening with the 20mph speed limit?*  
The resident was advised that there is no further update at present.

*Why have the plaques not been reinstalled on the benches?*  
DCllr Hurren advised that he has not had the opportunity due to work load but he will do so ASAP.

The development at Goodlands appears to be at the point to reinstate the footpaths to Primrose Wood. DCllr Hurren advised that the case officer has confirmed the development has reached slab level, they are working with the Woodland Trust.

Jasper Education & Support Services from 2 Brook Hall Road attended the meeting to explain the situation regarding the parking.

The meeting was updated on the matter of the village buses. The bus company are happy to look into further enhancements.

**District Council Report:** DCllr Hurren commented on the support for the Boxford Post Office. DCllr Hurren has written to the practice manager of the surgery, who has agreed to a meeting. DCllr Hurren confirmed that CIL payments have been agreed.

**Finance:** The finance report was accepted.

**Grass maintenance plan and specification:** Specification has been agreed, this will now be put out to tender.

**Parking restriction options:** Confirmation of letters will be raised with CCLr Finch.

**Proposed closure of the Mill Surgery and dispensary:** A number of meetings have taken place between a volunteer group and Hadleigh & Boxford Surgery. The group are trying to ascertain the detail required for upgrading the building. The matter is ongoing.

**Cox Hill Permissive Path:** SCC will look into the matter again.

**Support for Village Organisations:** It was resolved that the previously agreed donation to the village hall of £2,500 to be reinstated once the shelving units have been sorted in the meeting room.

It was resolved that the PC would pay for the cost of the refreshments for the volunteer group meeting with the bus company.

Cllr Strafford volunteered to personally donate the funds for the flower boxes.

It was proposed that the PC reappropriate reserves for the playing field to maintain the cricket square, estimated at £2,000 per year. It was resolved to agree the proposal.

**Cemetery:** It was resolved to approve the log removal and leaf clearance.

**Public Realms:** The quote for replacing the street light is slightly over the figure that has been budgeted, £2,306.53. It was resolved to approve the quote and use reserves to cover the additional cost.

**Planning:** The full planning details can be seen in the minutes on the parish council website: <http://boxford-pc.gov.uk>

**Date of Next Meeting:** 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Parish council (PC) meetings are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month except in August and December. They are held in the village hall starting at 7pm with a video link when requested. All are welcome to come along and observe and there is a regular item to allow residents a short time to comment and raise items.

Full minutes can be found at: <http://boxford-pc.gov.uk>

**Zoe Rumsey**

01787 739317 / [clerk@boxford-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@boxford-pc.gov.uk)

## GROTON

### Summary of Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Present:** Piers Roberts, Sarah McGrath, Nigel Chapman, Catherine Hearn, Richard Jones (Clerk)

**Guests:** J Finch (Suffolk County Council) B Hurren (Babergh District Council)

**Apologies for absence:** A Dixon-Smith, M MacKay-Morris, R Cheeseman

**Financial Matters:** 6.1 The Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment and quarter 2 accounts were approved.

**Groton People and Places Update:** N Chapman reported that BMSDC had viewed the proposed housing policy and felt that it was a bit too detailed. As a consequence, Councillor Hurren offered to speak with the officer concerned to suggest that the level of detail collated in the housing policy component of the Neighbourhood Plan develops is appropriate. The other main issue that had arisen from the public consultations was speeding vehicles, which is being dealt with so will remain a standing item in future council meetings. The Council agreed that speeding vehicles are a serious concern and although the probable cost of Groton-specific speed controls in relative terms is likely to be considerable, the council knows that a solution must be found. Concern and disappointment was expressed at the pending closure of the Fox and Hounds public house and councillors' were keen to ensure that such a community asset is supported as much as possible and the pub will be registered as a 'community asset' in the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Planning Matters:** DC/24/04501 Land and Agricultural Building, Parliament Heath Full Planning Application - Erection of 1No dwelling (following demolition of barn approved for conversion under Class Q DC/22/05279). The council had previously considered and formally objected to two applications on this site and again, having reviewed and discussed the application, agreed to object to the latest application on the same grounds that it had previously objected to DC/23/05866 being that the proposed dwelling would (i) be outside of the footprint of the current building, (ii) be outside of the village settlement boundary, and (iii) would encroach on to agricultural land. In addition, the parish council had recently carried out a documented housing needs survey as part of its neighbourhood plan process, which had shown that there is no demand or need locally for accommodation of this proposed size. Indeed, the housing needs survey shows the opposite is true – smaller accommodation is necessary.

**Groton Traffic Assessment:** Contact was being made with other similar sized parish councils who had installed traffic calming measures and SALC regarding how to obtain funding. Councillor Hurren also agreed to assist with any possible funding from BMSDC's CIL budget.

**Village Hall Matters:** C Hearn reported that she had made several enquiries regarding Wi-Fi and each proposal was too expensive to justify in terms of likely usage. The village hall committee was asking the parish council for a further contribution of £140 towards the cost of insuring the hall. Before this can be agreed, the clerk to check whether the hall is covered under the parish council's insurance policy. The issue of extending the lease is also under discussion.

**Highway and Footpath Matters:** Footpath cutting invoice from A Adams now received.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm

**Groton Parish Council Schedule of Meetings 2025:**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 AGM + Annual Parish Meeting  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

All meetings start at 7pm in Groton Village Hall

Full minutes can be found at:

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

**Richard Jones**

01473 828246 / [grotonclerk@yahoo.com](mailto:grotonclerk@yahoo.com)

## LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

### Summary of Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Present:** Cllr Tim Sheppard; Cllr Robert Wheeler; Cllr Matt Foster; Margaret Maybury (BDC); Phillip Fairclough-Mutton (SCC), and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Chris White; Cllr Tina Impett; Paul Clover (BDC).

**Planning matters:** Application DC/24/04020 - Change of use of the existing hall to form 6 triplex apartments and retention of one existing single-storey flat and the development of 3 x three-storey detached five-bedroom dwellings - Brookwood Manor Residential Care Home, Holbrook Hall Park, CO10 0TH, was considered.

It was resolved to object to the application for the following reasons: access to the site is inadequate for the type and size of development proposed; there is no sustainable access to the site by a means other than by car; the impact on the residential amenity of the property at the to the immediate north-east of Holbrook Hall is unacceptable; the (x3) detached 5-bedroom outbuildings are located outside of the village envelope and are therefore contrary to Neighbourhood Plan Policy LWD1; the proposed development, and in particular the (x3) detached 5-bedroom outbuildings, is contrary to Policies LWD2 (housing development) and LWD5 (housing mix) of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Annual Budget, Reserves & Precept:** The proposed budget and reserves were approved. It was resolved not to change the precept for the forthcoming year.

**Appointment of new Clerk:** Cllr Tim Sheppard confirmed that following an interview for the role of clerk and RFO, a subsequent offer of the role was accepted by the applicant. Councillors were happy with the draft proposed contract terms.

**Parish Room Defibrillator:** It was resolved to purchase replacement batteries and pads for Parish Room defibrillator.

Full minutes can be found at: <https://bit.ly/lw-parish-council>

**Tim Sheppard, Chairman**

07961 410148 / [clerk.littlewaldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clerk.littlewaldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk)

## NEWTON GREEN

### Summary of Council Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**24/169 Public Participation:** Community Police Sergeant Oliver Williams explained the new structure for policing in the area. Newton is now within the W16 Area, and he will update the clerk with all the contact details for raising issues with his team. He emphasised the importance of maintaining active communications for Neighbourhood Watch issues and will give the council the contact details of adjoining schemes. The chairman thanked Sgt Williams for attending and hoped it would mark the start of more communication between NPC and the Police when issues arise.

**24/170 Pedestrian Crossing Feasibility report:** The councillors reviewed, with James Finch, the report published by SCC Highways on the feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossing in Newton. NPC

asked that a footpath between the crossing point and School Lane be included in the proposal. James emphasised the issues the NPC must address to move the project forward:

- NPC to confirm the preferred location for a controlled crossing: either a zebra crossing situated adjacent to the Rectory Road junction by removing the layby or a signalised crossing further away from the junction with Church Road and Rectory Road nearer to the bus shelter on the green
- NPC to engage with Newton Green Trust and obtain an agreement in principle that the layby and land required for a footpath between School Lane, Rectory Road and the road to the golf club can be dedicated to public highway
- NPC to investigate funding for the scheme.
- Once NPC can confirm the above items to Darren Smith and James Finch, the feasibility of the scheme will be assessed by the Safety and Speed Management team and the Asset Manager. If agreed feasible, James Finch will use his Local Highway Budget to commence the traffic and pedestrian surveys.

**24/174 Finance:** a. The councillors authorised all payments made and due for authorisation, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C) and noted the income received since the last meeting.

b. The councillors resolved to donate £1,000 from CIL Receipts towards the village hall windows replacement project cost, which would be paid on receipt of the invoice for the works.

**24/177 Walk of the Parish:** The councillors were extremely pleased with the efforts of Gary Flowers and the golf club in preparing the war memorial and area for the remembrance service.

**24/179 Christmas Lights 2024:** The councillors agreed that the Christmas lights would be switched on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024 at a time suitable to the pub. Lee Parker will manage the dressing of the tree, for which new decorations and lights will be required.

**24/180 Questions to the Chair:** Due to his imminent move out of the village, Cllr Cole resigned from NPC. The Chairman thanked him for his contributions to the council since joining in January 2023.

Full minutes can be found at: [www.newton.onesuffolk.net](http://www.newton.onesuffolk.net)

**Dave Crimmin PSLCC**

01787 375085 / [clerk@newton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@newton-pc.gov.uk)

## OTHER PARISH COUNCILS

**Edwardstone PC**

Clerk: Richard Jones - 01473 828246

[edwardstoneclerk@outlook.com](mailto:edwardstoneclerk@outlook.com)

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



**Discover Suffolk App**



Enjoy over a hundred walking, cycling and riding trails plus high quality mapping throughout the county.

[www.discoversuffolk.org.uk](http://www.discoversuffolk.org.uk)

Scan QR Code

## THE GLOW PRO



The festive season is in full swing, and if you're looking for a universally appreciated gift, skincare is always a winner.

From the drying effects of central heating to arctic winds outside, it's fair to say that winter can sap our skin's moisture.

To give the gift of glowing skin this Christmas, I've teamed up with Eve, our ALLSKIN|MED (ASM) Specialist, to share our top picks for the season.

Plus, take a look at our Ad this month for a very special retail offer...

## ASM Vitamin C Ampoules



Let's face it, winter can leave us looking a little tired, which is where these ampoules come in. Loaded with Vitamin C, they are total gamechangers for reviving lacklustre skin.

Think of them as a daily dose of sunshine for 28 days, bottled up in a tiny vial. Is there anyone who wouldn't love that?



## ASM Cleansing Gel



Even for the skincare minimalists, a good cleanser is one step that should never be skipped. It's key to keeping skin happy and healthy, but choosing the right one?

Now that can be trickier...

Enter: the ASM Cleansing Gel.

Formulated with anti-bacterial properties and enriched with softening ingredients and antioxidants, you can't go wrong!



## ASM Restore Cream



The Restore Cream is a wonderful introduction to the revitalising benefits of retinol, elevating any skincare routine.

With a potent formula, it works to encourage skin renewal, hydrate, and strengthen the skin's barrier, all whilst improving the appearance of fine lines.

It's the gift that keeps on giving, leaving you with more refined skin each day.



## ASM Rich Replenishing Cream



This moisturiser feels like a pot of luxury, with its ultra-hydrating and silky texture. This hassle-free cream melts into the skin to deeply nourish dry patches whilst locking in moisture.

And, it's packed with anti-ageing growth factors, leaving skin feeling rejuvenated and irresistibly smooth.



## Heliocare Sunscreen



Gone are the days of slathering on any old sunscreen, as Heliocare has completely raised the SPF bar. With a fabulous range that includes tinted, sheer, and oil-control options, there's something for everyone.

And the best part? These products look and feel as good as they work, meaning there's no need to compromise.

P.S yes, you still need sunscreen in the winter!



## ASM Pigmentation Control Serum



Pigmentation has a way of popping up over time, but winter is the best time to tackle those stubborn spots! This powerhouse serum, with its triple-action formula and lightening complex, balances out your skin tone.

It's ideal for anyone who's seeking a brighter and more radiant complexion.



## Gift Vouchers

For those hard-to-buy-for people, why not give the gift of choice?

A thoughtful voucher in the form of self-care is bound to spark joy, and at the clinic, we have you covered.

From our relaxing treatments to our professional skincare range, we're sure you'll find something that will make your loved one's Christmas extra special.



*Helena x*

office@suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk  
01787 211 000



# DIRECTORY OF CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

## CLUBS & GROUPS

|  |                             |   |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Boxford Bellringers                              | <i>Richard Gates</i>        | <b>01787 210432</b>   |
| Boxford Bible Study Group                        | <i>Peter &amp; Margaret</i> | <b>01787 211077</b>   |
| Boxford Bike Club                                | <i>Kevin Bridge</i>         | <b>07876 798617</b><br><a href="http://www.boxfordbikeclub.co.uk">www.boxfordbikeclub.co.uk</a>               |
| Boxford Bowls Club                               | <i>Lea Blackham</i>         | <b>01787 210313</b>   |
| Boxford Carpet Bowls                             | <i>David Warren</i>         | <b>01787 211067</b>   |
| Boxford Drama Group                              | <i>Janice Macmillan</i>     | <b>07779 303690</b><br><a href="mailto:janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk">janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk</a>         |
| Boxford Friendship Group                         | <i>Alison Warren</i>        | <b>01787 211067</b>   |
|  | <i>or Wendy Hills</i>       | <b>01787 210342</b>   |
| Boxford Gardens Open                             | <i>Audrey Zuck</i>          | <b>07852 102 455</b><br><a href="mailto:audrey@a2zriskservices.com">audrey@a2zriskservices.com</a>            |
| Boxford Gardening Society                        | <i>Elizabeth Wagener</i>    | <b>01787 210223</b><br><a href="mailto:elizabeth.wagener@btinternet.com">elizabeth.wagener@btinternet.com</a> |
| Boxford Literary Group                           | <i>David Jones</i>          | <b>01787 211104</b><br><a href="mailto:audav@hotmail.co.uk">audav@hotmail.co.uk</a>                           |
| Boxford Rovers Youth FC                          | <i>Melvyn Eke</i>           | <b>07873 971701</b><br><a href="mailto:m.eke@btinternet.com">m.eke@btinternet.com</a>                         |
| Boxford Tennis Social                            | <i>Sue Moore</i>            | <b>07808 481447</b>   |
| Boxford WI                                       | <i>Lyn Beer</i>             | <b>07961 357526</b>   |
| Fleece Jazz                                      | <i>David Gasson</i>         | <b>01787 210796</b>   |
| Highway 12 Western Partner Dance                 | <i>Chris</i>                | <b>01787 371006</b>   |
| Little Waldingfield History Society              | <i>Diana Langford</i>       | <b>01787 248298</b><br><a href="mailto:dianalangford765@gmail.com">dianalangford765@gmail.com</a>             |
| Little Waldingfield Over 60s and Friendship Club | <i>Tricia Eddington</i>     | <b>01787 247932</b>   |
| Local History Recorder Edwardstone               | <i>Daphne Clark</i>         | <b>01787 210698</b><br><a href="mailto:daphne.clark@btopenworld.com">daphne.clark@btopenworld.com</a>         |
| Local History Recorder Groton                    | <i>Joanna Roberts</i>       | <b>01787 210619</b><br><a href="mailto:jgant87618@aol.com">jgant87618@aol.com</a>                             |
| Madrigalia Choir                                 | <i>Sue Price</i>            | <b>01787 210913</b>   |
| Milden Cricket Club                              | <i>Andrew Simmons</i>       | <b>07951 055643</b>   |
| Milden Singers                                   | <i>Pearl</i>                | <b>01449 741876</b>   |
| Natural Boxford                                  | <i>Louise Carpenter</i>     | <b>01787 211862</b><br><a href="mailto:louisecarpenter@proton.me">louisecarpenter@proton.me</a>               |
| Newton Arts & Crafts Club                        | <i>Carole Langley</i>       | <b>01787 373548</b>   |
| Newton War Games Club                            | <i>Brian Lawson</i>         | <b>01787 312160</b>   |
| Newton Fireside Club                             | <i>Moira Evans</i>          | <b>01787 374652</b>   |
| Pilates (Edwardstone)                            | <i>Claire</i>               | <b>07772 074 750</b>  |
| Primrose Wood Volunteers                         | <i>Evan Flockhart</i>       | <b>07968 336883</b><br><a href="mailto:obliquewoodland@protonmail.com">obliquewoodland@protonmail.com</a>     |
| Swing jive & Lindy Hop Dance                     | <i>Sarah Boldock</i>        | <b>07956 614824</b>   |
| Yoga (Boxford)                                   | <i>Marianne Marshall</i>    | <b>01787 210323</b>   |
| Yoga Paper Kite (Newton)                         | <i>Sophie</i>               | <b>01787 313662</b>   |
| Yoga With Lindsey (Newton)                       | <i>Lindsey</i>              | <b>07971 800540</b>   |

## CHARITIES

|                                    |                        |   |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Boxford & Groton United Charities  | <i>Guy Godfrey</i>     | <b>01787 211378</b>   |
| Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust | <i>Marijke Morris</i>  | <b>07914 767013</b><br><a href="mailto:marijke_e@yahoo.co.uk">marijke_e@yahoo.co.uk</a>                                 |
| Edwardstone United Charities       | <i>Nick Raymond</i>    | <b>01787 210461</b><br><a href="mailto:ngraymond@hotmail.co.uk">ngraymond@hotmail.co.uk</a>                             |
| Groton Educational Foundation      | <i>Stephen Watkins</i> | <b>01787 210977</b><br><a href="mailto:stephen_watkins49@yahoo.co.uk">stephen_watkins49@yahoo.co.uk</a>                 |
| Groton Winthrop Mulberry Trust     | <i>James Wills</i>     | <b>01787 210484</b>   |
| Little Waldingfield Charities      | <i>Mary Thorogood</i>  | <b>01787 247658</b><br><a href="mailto:littlewaldingfieldcharities@gmail.com">littlewaldingfieldcharities@gmail.com</a> |
| Newton Green Trust                 | <i>Philip Taylor</i>   | <b>01787 211265</b><br><a href="mailto:philiptaylor433@gmail.com">philiptaylor433@gmail.com</a>                         |

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

|                               |                      |   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 3PR Boxford 1st Responders    | <i>Rich Wild</i>     | <b>01787 210946</b><br><a href="mailto:office@boxfordresponders.com">office@boxfordresponders.com</a>   |
| Boxford Allotments            | <i>David Burden</i>  | <b>01787 211926</b><br><a href="mailto:d.burden379@btinternet.com">d.burden379@btinternet.com</a>   |
| Boxford Bounty                | <i>Mark Miller</i>   | <b>01787 211596</b>   |
| Boxford Community Car Scheme  | <i>Jen Eastwood</i>  | <b>01787 211853</b><br><a href="mailto:jen.eastwood8@gmail.com">jen.eastwood8@gmail.com</a>   |
| Boxford Community Council     | <i>Ward Baker</i>    | <b>07850 941 831</b><br><a href="mailto:boxfordcommunitycouncil@gmail.com">boxfordcommunitycouncil@gmail.com</a><br><a href="http://www.boxford.me.uk">www.boxford.me.uk</a>            |
| Boxford Playing Fields        | <i>Craig Needham</i> | <b>07970 733934</b><br><a href="mailto:craig.needham@me.com">craig.needham@me.com</a>   |
| Boxford Society               | <i>Jen Eastwood</i>  | <b>01787 211853</b><br><a href="mailto:jen.eastwood8@gmail.com">jen.eastwood8@gmail.com</a><br><a href="http://boxfordsuffolk.com/boxfordSociety">boxfordsuffolk.com/boxfordSociety</a> |
| Boxford Tennis Courts         | <i>Hugh Phillips</i> | <b>01787 211729</b>   |
| Lt Waldingfield Playing field | <i>Jennie Jordan</i> | <b>07522 352558</b><br><a href="mailto:52Jennie1@gmail.com">52Jennie1@gmail.com</a>   |

## SCOUTING

|                             |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1st Boxford Beaver Scouts   | <i>Not currently active</i> |   |
| 1st Boxford Cub Scouts      | <i>Susie</i>                | <b>07843 280396</b>   |
| 1st Boxford Scouts          | <i>David Talbot-Clarke</i>  | <b>07946 550519</b>   |
| 1st Boxford Explorer Scouts | <i>Neil Barkham</i>         | <b>07734 108257</b>   |
| 1st Boxford Rainbows        | <i>Janice Macmillan</i>     | <b>07779 303690</b>   |
| 1st Boxford Brownies        | <i>Janice Macmillan</i>     | <b>07779 303690</b><br><a href="mailto:janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk">janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk</a> |
| 1st Boxford Guides          | <i>Bethany Ireland</i>      | <b>07852 102 455</b><br><a href="mailto:bethanyireland1@gmail.com">bethanyireland1@gmail.com</a>      |

## CHILDREN FAMILIES & LEARNING

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Boxford Primary School           | <b>01787 210332</b><br><a href="http://www.boxford-suffolk.secure-dbprimary.com">www.boxford-suffolk.secure-dbprimary.com</a> <a href="mailto:office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk">office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk</a> |
| Friends of Boxford School (FoBS) | <a href="mailto:talktofobs@gmail.com">talktofobs@gmail.com</a>   |
| Sunflowers Childcare             | <i>Moira Grant</i> <b>01787 211363</b><br><a href="mailto:info@sunflowers-childcare.co.uk">info@sunflowers-childcare.co.uk</a>   |
| Boxford Baby & Toddler Group     | <a href="https://facebook.com/Boxfordbabyandtoddlergroup">facebook.com/Boxfordbabyandtoddlergroup</a>  |

## HALLS & FACILITIES TO HIRE

|                                 |                       |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Boxford Pavilion                | <i>Natalie Woods</i>  | <b>07772 916135</b><br><a href="mailto:nataliewoods25@gmail.com">nataliewoods25@gmail.com</a>  |
| Boxford Spinney                 | <i>Mark Miller</i>    | <b>01787 211596</b><br><a href="mailto:mark.miller@talktalk.net">mark.miller@talktalk.net</a>  |
| Boxford Village Hall            |                       | <a href="mailto:booking@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk">booking@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk</a>   |
| Edwardstone Parish Hall         | <i>Daphne Clark</i>   | <b>01787 210698</b><br><a href="mailto:daphne.clark@btopenworld.com">daphne.clark@btopenworld.com</a>  |
| Edwardstone Millennium Green    | <i>Marijke Morris</i> | <b>07914 767013</b><br><a href="mailto:marijke_e@yahoo.co.uk">marijke_e@yahoo.co.uk</a><br><i>Galaminus pircatus 'Three Ships'</i>               |
| Groton Village Hall             | <i>Joanna Roberts</i> | <b>07845 940008</b><br><a href="mailto:jgant87618@aol.com">jgant87618@aol.com</a>  |
| Little Waldingfield Parish Room | <i>Sue Bowen</i>      | <b>01787 249473</b><br><a href="mailto:sd.bowen@btopenworld.com">sd.bowen@btopenworld.com</a>  |
| Little Waldingfield Pavilion    | <i>Jennie Jordan</i>  | <b>07522 352558</b><br><a href="mailto:52Jennie1@gmail.com">52Jennie1@gmail.com</a>  |
| Marquee Booking                 |                       | <a href="mailto:BoxfordMarqueeBooking@gmail.com">BoxfordMarqueeBooking@gmail.com</a>   |
| Milden Pavilion                 | <i>Pearl</i>          | <b>01449 741876</b><br><a href="mailto:info@mildenvillagehall.co.uk">info@mildenvillagehall.co.uk</a><br><i>Prunus x subhirtella 'Aurumalis'</i> |
| Newton Village Hall             | <i>Alan Vince</i>     | <b>07955 199000</b>  |

# The Blooming Garden

## Nothing but Radishes?

'When the winter chrysanthemums go there is nothing to write about but radishes'. Matusuo Basho.



When my beloved and I are on a long car journey we keep ourselves entertained by making up limericks about the places we pass by. But we'll draw a decent veil over those. If we are feeling a bit more intellectual we make up haikus. The haiku is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. It has three lines; the first and the third line have five syllables and the middle line has seven. There are usually two images and the concluding line juxtaposes them. The haiku celebrates the Japanese aesthetic of finding beauty in the simple and imperfect. It tries to capture a fleeting moment in nature. The little poem above is a translation of a haiku by the Japanese poet, Matsuo Basho. Obviously, in translation the lines are the wrong length and it doesn't really come off as a haiku, but I can't read Japanese and you probably can't either, so we have to do with a translation which clearly loses the elegance of the original. The poem is a meditation on the transience of life, but as gardeners, let's forget the philosophy behind the images and consider whether we can actually enjoy other flowers after the chrysanthemums in December.



*Chrysanthemum 'Chelsea Physic Garden'*

The very last chrysanthemum to bloom in my garden, and by far my favourite, is *Chrysanthemum* 'Chelsea Physic Garden'. Unlike my other 'mums' it blooms right into December and its double flowers are a gorgeous colour; I don't know whether to call it burnt orange or rusty red

but it is bronze on the reverse of the petals and it blooms for a long period in autumn and should keep anybody's mind off radishes.

There are some fabulous shrubs pumping out colour in November and December. *Mahonia x media* 'Charity' is ever-green with handsome, holly-like pinnate leaves which look good all year. It has upright racemes of bright yellow cup-shaped flowers which are lightly fragrant. If you want a more intense scent of lily-of-the-valley you have to choose *Mahonia japonica* which blooms a bit later.



*Mahonia x media 'Charity'*

These mahonias can get a bit leggy but you can easily keep them more compact by pruning them back to just above a knobby bit after flowering.



*Viburnum farreri 'Candidissimum'*

Viburnums are looking good in December and there are several to choose from. I always avoid the ubiquitous *Viburnum tinus* which blooms all winter long because I think it smells of wet dog when it is wet. My favourite viburnum isn't seen quite so often. It has pure white, scented flowers and it is called *Viburnum farreri* 'Candidissimum'.

Witch hazels are coming into bloom in December. Some varieties have delighted us with a blaze of colour with fiery foliage in autumn, but now the spidery flowers are coming out and there is

something quite magical about them. Most of them have an elusive fragrance which is more noticeable when you cut sprays to bring indoors. The one in my picture is called *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Orange Peel' and it is a gorgeous bright orange. I suggest choosing one when they are in bloom to get just the colour you want. They come in a lovely range of shades of yellow, orange or red. There is even one called 'Amethyst' which is supposed to be purple in colour but it looks red to me.



*hamamelis x intermedia 'Orange Peel'*



*Prunus x subhirtella 'Autumnalis'*

long. It is also available with pink blossom.

And of course there are climbers looking good at this time of the year. Common-or-garden winter jasmine, *Jasminum nudiflorum* covers a wall with a solid mass of starry yellow flowers. And the little maroon-spotted bells of *Clematis cirrhosa* 'Freckles' look far too delicate for a cold December day.



Above: *Clematis cirrhosa* 'Freckles'

Left: *Galanthus plicatus* 'Three Ships'



For Christmas Day there are usually at least a couple of snowdrops to enjoy and no, they are not early, they always bloom in December. One of them is called *Galanthus* 'Santa Claus' and the other one, *Galanthus plicatus* 'Three Ships' quickly makes nice little clumps. It is lovely to have snowdrops to add to a Christmas posy.

There is also a little daffodil which often blooms for Christmas Day. It is called *Narcissus minor* 'Cedric Morris' and is highly coveted and eye-wateringly expensive. Beth Chatto used to sell it but I don't think it is available there anymore. If you do find it, grit your teeth and buy it, it is a stunner. Plant it in light shade and it should clump up nicely. Or, I suppose I have to warn you, it could disappear entirely; this little beauty is beloved by Narcissus fly, but shade helps to protect it. If you can keep it going, it is one of the highlights of the December garden.



*Narcissus minor 'Cedric Morris'*

I am running out of space so I can't talk about the lovely fragrant shrub *Chimonanthus praecox* or daphnes or hellebores and bright blue *Iris unguicularis*; they must wait for another time. But we certainly don't need to talk about radishes when the chrysanthemums finish.

*Chloris.*

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## NOVEMBER 2024

|                  |  |              |
|------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>23</b><br>SAT | <b>Shantfolk</b><br>Assington Village Hall   | 7pm          |
| <b>23</b><br>SAT | <b>French's Quiz and Fish &amp; Chips</b><br>The Ansell Centre, Hadleigh IP7 5DL       | 7pm          |
| <b>25</b><br>MON | <b>Boxford Friendship Group</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                                | 2-4pm        |
| <b>27</b><br>WED | <b>Far From The Madding Crowd Christmas Fair</b><br>St Mary's Church, Hadleigh IP7 5DT | 10-8pm       |
| <b>28</b><br>THU | <b>Far From The Madding Crowd Christmas Fair</b><br>St Mary's Church, Hadleigh IP7 5DT | 10-4pm       |
| <b>29</b><br>FRI | <b>Pop-up Pub</b><br>Little Waldingfield Pavilion                                      | 6:30-10:30pm |
| <b>30</b><br>SAT | <b>Christmas Craft Fair</b><br>Bull Hotel, Long Melford CO10 9JG                       | 11-3pm       |
| <b>30</b><br>SAT | <b>Chelsworth Christmas Craft Fair</b><br>All Saints' Church, Chelsworth               | 11-3:30pm    |

## DECEMBER 2024

|                       |  |            |
|-----------------------|--|------------|
| <b>3</b><br>TUE       | <b>Fireside Club - Film Show</b><br>Newton Village Hall                                  | 2pm        |
| <b>4-7</b><br>WED-SAT | <b>BDG - Jack &amp; The Beanstalk</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                            | 7pm        |
| <b>6</b><br>FRI       | <b>Festive Drinks &amp; Nibbles</b><br>St Lawrence's Church, Little Waldingfield         | 7-9pm      |
| <b>7</b><br>SAT       | <b>Christmas Coffee Morning &amp; Festive Stalls</b><br>All Saints' Church, Newton Green | 10-11:30am |
| <b>7</b><br>SAT       | <b>Polstead Films - 'Arthur Christmas'</b><br>Polstead Village Hall                      | 2:30pm     |
| <b>11</b><br>WED      | <b>Whist Drive</b><br>Monks Leigh Village Hall   | 7pm        |
| <b>11</b><br>WED      | <b>LWHS - Medical Detection Dogs</b><br>Little Waldingfield Parish Room                  | 7:30pm     |
| <b>11</b><br>WED      | <b>Charity Quiz Night</b><br>The Fleece, Boxford   | 8pm        |
| <b>13</b><br>FRI      | <b>Fireside Club - Christmas Dinner</b><br>Shoulder of Mutton                            | TBC        |
| <b>13</b><br>FRI      | <b>Relaxation &amp; Sound - all welcome</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                      | 6-7:30pm   |
| <b>15</b><br>SUN      | <b>Boxford Christmas Tree Festival</b><br>St Mary's Church, Boxford                      | 10-3:30pm  |
| <b>15</b><br>SUN      | <b>Boxford Market</b><br>Boxford Village Hall  | 10-3pm     |
| <b>16</b><br>MON      | <b>Carols Around The Tree</b><br>Outside The White Hart, Boxford                         | 7pm        |
| <b>17</b><br>TUE      | <b>Fireside Club - Christmas Dinner</b><br>TBC   | TBC        |
| <b>19</b><br>THU      | <b>Carol Singing</b><br>Brent Leigh Village Hall   | 6pm        |
| <b>21</b><br>SAT      | <b>Borley Illuminations and Carol Concert</b><br>Borley Church                           | 7pm        |

## JANUARY 2025

|                  |  |        |
|------------------|--|--------|
| <b>8</b><br>WED  | <b>Boxford WI - Beetle Drive</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                           | 2pm    |
| <b>15</b><br>WED | <b>LWHS - The Billy &amp; Charlie Forgeries</b><br>Little Waldingfield Parish Room | 7:30pm |
| <b>17</b><br>FRI | <b>Groton History Society Talk</b><br>Groton Village Hall                          | 7:30pm |
| <b>25</b><br>SAT | <b>Keep The Heat Drop In Session</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                       | 10-1pm |

## FEBRUARY 2025

|                  |   |        |
|------------------|---|--------|
| <b>4</b><br>TUE  | <b>Boxford Gardening Society - Talk</b><br>Boxford Village Hall               | 7:30pm |
| <b>5</b><br>WED  | <b>Boxford WI - Kate Baker, Suffolk Author</b><br>Boxford Village Hall        | 2pm    |
| <b>12</b><br>WED | <b>LWHS - Bury St Edmunds Through Time</b><br>Little Waldingfield Parish Room | 7:30pm |
| <b>22</b><br>SAT | <b>Barn Dance</b><br>Boxford Village Hall                                     | TBC    |

**THE EDWARDSTONE  
BUS SHELTER**

**THE BUS SHELTER IS IN THE  
PROCESS OF  
BEING CONVERTED  
INTO A PLACE WHERE BOOKS,  
MAGAZINES, PUZZLES AND SMALL  
TOYS/GAMES CAN BE LEFT.  
THE ITEMS WILL BE FREE OF  
CHARGE.**




**Please only leave  
items that you would  
like to have  
yourself.**

**Les Clark: 01787 210698**

**BOXFORD  
BABY & TODDLER  
GROUP**

**LET'S HAVE FUN!**

**£2.50  
PER FAMILY**

**1 2 3**

**Wednesdays 9-11am  
(term time only)  
@ Boxford Village Hall**

[www.facebook.com/boxfordbabyandtoddlergroup](http://www.facebook.com/boxfordbabyandtoddlergroup)

# NOTES FROM A BEEKEEPER'S DIARY

A few days ago Boxford conducted its own Remembrance Day ceremony, the first of many which took place in 1919, to commemorate the ending of the Great War the previous year. The Great War broke out in 1914, exactly 110 years and 3 months ago, between three European dynasties led by cousins and their treaty allies, for reasons that to this day are not fully comprehended. By the time the combatants had fought each other to a standstill the Russian empire had fallen, Germany's Kaiser banished to exile, the Ottoman empire imploded and the wealth of Great Britain, accumulated over the previous 300 years, expended on the battlefields of Europe.

Imperial autocracy, republican democracy and constitutional monarchies had all failed to prevent a conflict that had cost the lives of nearly 10 million combatants, and many times that number of wounded and civilian deaths. Social scientists of the day racked their brains to come up with a system of governance that could guarantee a lasting peace in Europe. This had to be the war to end all wars.

Writers such as H G Wells postulated a utopian society in which conflict was eliminated by the systematic management of the population. In his satire *Brave New World* Aldous Huxley described a society in which individuals were cloned in hatcheries, nurtured in cells and predestined by selective nourishment to take their place in society. Aldous Huxley must have been a beekeeper as so much of the book follows the path of life of the honeybee.

If evolution has created a honeybee society in which individuals can live at peace with their neighbours, internal discord and violence are eliminated and the species holds a constructive role in the natural world, how can it be that human and mammalian evolution has achieved the exact opposite?

The Darwinian theory of evolution postulates that natural selection will encourage characteristics which are most favourable to the species. Any mutations are a result of the genetic mix of the parents of succeeding generations. But the honeybee queen does not select her mate, and indeed will offer herself and accept up to a dozen individual drones. Drones do not fight among themselves for the right to mate with a queen. Natural honeybee evolution does not favour any selected characteristic for inheritance. The possibility of random beneficial mutation is enhanced exponentially.

By contrast males throughout the world of mammals, including mankind, compete among themselves for the right to mate with females. Animal competition is physical, violent and in some cases fatal, so it is hardly surprising that as females mate with males selected on the basis of their strength and aggression, these characteristics are passed down to successive generations. Natural selection ceases to be random but is driven instead by pre-selected behaviours.

It is unusual for human males to fight each other to claim the right to mate. However women are disposed to select a partner who is



most likely to provide protection for themselves and their offspring. Protection is not limited to physical strength as society imposes its own rules but also includes the prospect of general well-being (e.g. kindness), economic stability and physical attraction. Men compete amongst each other through career success, psychological attractiveness and indeed persistence. It is not surprising that politically dominant people inherit a strong streak of aggression – otherwise known as ambition.

In the years immediately following the First World War architects such as Le Corbusier looked to the honeybee for inspiration in an attempt to create a living environment that would favour peaceful human co-existence. Corbusier's own thinking was encapsulated in his vision of the 'Ville radieuse' or Radiant City in which people would be housed in vast blocks containing not only living spaces and shops but also workplaces. Mercifully none of his ideas were realised in completed buildings. Unsuccessful high density housing in the United States and vast housing estates in Sheffield and elsewhere in the North of England, now demolished or abandoned, owe much to his ideas. Another dead end.

As we all now know the 1914 war was not to be the war to end all wars. Peace in Europe lasted less than twenty years. A bloody civil war in Spain and other local conflicts were followed in 1939 by the outbreak of war in Europe which eventually engulfed a vast proportion of the global population. The war only ended with the physical and economic destruction of one combatant axis.

Successive attempts to maintain peace through organisations such as the United Nations, NATO, even the Warsaw Pact have all failed. At the time of writing war in Eastern Europe has caused nearly a million casualties, and countless lives irrevocably damaged. A genocidal conflict in the Middle East inspired by autocratic theocracies, supported by a dwindling number of external allies, has wreaked unimaginable hardship on an innocent population.

It is no wonder then that beekeepers willingly accept the minor hazard of beestings for the privilege of sharing, if only sporadically, the peace and tranquillity of their bees. But the cost to the bees is the total absence of free will. They are the prisoners of their own genome. Like it or not, the life of every bee is pre-determined long before it emerges from its brood cell.

*Tony Rand*

## SERVICES DIRECTORY

**JB AUTOWERX**  
AUTOMOTIVE SECURITY SOLUTIONS

- TRACKERS & TELEMATICS
- IMMOBILISERS
- VAN ALARMS
- MOTORHOME & CARAVAN SECURITY
- DASHCAMS & FITTING
- REVERSE CAMERAS & SENSORS
- APPLE/ANDROID CARPLAY
- CAR STEREO UPGRADES

MOBILE FITTING IN SUFFOLK  
CONTACT JAMES ON 01473 875148  
INFO@JBAUTOWERX.COM  
WWW.JBAUTOWERX.COM  
WORKSHOP LOCATED IN ELMSETT IP7

 **07940238692**

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

 [TaylorMadeBabyGifts](https://www.facebook.com/TaylorMadeBabyGifts)

  Little Waldingfield, Suffolk

**Green Eye Gardens**  
Garden design, creative planting & landscaping

**Francesca Green**  
Tel: (01787) 210507

[www.greeneygardendesign.co.uk](http://www.greeneygardendesign.co.uk)  
[info@greeneygardendesign.co.uk](mailto:info@greeneygardendesign.co.uk)

# SERVICES DIRECTORY

## A Tennent Electrical

Quality Electrics for Domestic, Commercial and Industrial properties  
Small jobs to complete re-wires

For a free estimate call Adrian on:  
**01787 211576** Mobile: **07968 856 765**  
e.mail: [adrian.tennent@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian.tennent@btinternet.com)  
1 Church Street, Boxford, Sudbury

## Ellie's Grooming Parlour



Tel: **07473 638660**   
Email: [hello@elliesgroomingparlour.co.uk](mailto:hello@elliesgroomingparlour.co.uk)

Reliable, Qualified & Caring Dog Groomer at Kersey Mill



TRACEY PARR  
Independent Travel Agent

**07747 608 509**

[tracey@boxrivertravelboutique.co.uk](mailto:tracey@boxrivertravelboutique.co.uk)



## -PJH-

Property Maintenance

Quality Painting and Decorating  
Interior & Exterior,  
Tiling and General Maintenance,  
Carpentry

[www.pjhpropertymaintenance.co.uk](http://www.pjhpropertymaintenance.co.uk)  
[pjhpropertymaintenance337@gmail.com](mailto:pjhpropertymaintenance337@gmail.com)

6 Hadleigh Road, Boxford, Sudbury CO10 5JH  
**TELEPHONE: 01787 212366**

## Deeks Bespoke

Kitchens and Bedrooms

tel: **07969 524 124**

email: [deeksbespoke@gmail.com](mailto:deeksbespoke@gmail.com)



## OPTIMUM

Architecture Ltd

Architectural Services

Including Listed and Low

Energy Buildings

**01206 262697**



[www.optimum-architecture.co.uk](http://www.optimum-architecture.co.uk)

## D MAY

Plumbing & Heating

Offering a fully comprehensive range of domestic plumbing and heating services.

Local tradesman 30 years experience

Free estimates not VAT registered.

New bathroom and ensuite installations including floor/wall tiling.

Emergency service provided and no job to small.  
Tel: 01473 829064 or Mobile: 07886 389 995

## Qualified Foot Health Professional

**Bridget Clifford MCFHP MAFHP**  
Foot Care in the comfort of your own home.

**Tel: 01787 211345**

If unavailable leave a message and your call will be returned.

## ROBSON THATCHING

FREE ADVICE  
RE-THATCHES  
PATCHING  
REPAIRS

Over 25 years experience

56c High Street, Lavenham

**01787 247 964** or **07443 596 757**

[philiprobson2011@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:philiprobson2011@hotmail.co.uk)

## SAM'S K9 Services

Experienced dog walker and trainer, good rate, fully insured, qualified and have my first aid for dogs.

Not only am I a dog walker but I'm also a qualified dog trainer. I'm able to help with a wide range of behavioural and training issues. My methods of training are up to date and force free.

Whether you need help as a first time puppy owner, or your dog is showing signs of aggression or you need help with training problems such as lead pulling

please call me on **07939 563 282**

## W.A. Deacon

FUNERAL SERVICES

24 HOUR  
TELEPHONE SERVICE

**01787 248282 & 01787 248147**

Norman Way, High Street, Lavenham,  
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9PY

INDEPENDENT FAMILY COMPANY



ESTABLISHED 1952

## SJ Hurrell Plumbing & Heating

Over 30 years of experience specialising in custom solutions for all of your plumbing & heating requirements

- Gas & Oil Central Heating
- Annual Boiler Servicing
- Bathroom Design & Installation
- Underfloor Heating
- Energy Efficient Systems

**07970 163084 • 01787249081**

[scott@sjhurrell.co.uk](mailto:scott@sjhurrell.co.uk) • [www.sjhurrell.co.uk](http://www.sjhurrell.co.uk)



## C D Lawson

Building & Hard Landscaping  
**01787 211429** mobile: **077303885019**

- All Building work •
- Maintenance •
- Alterations • Extensions •
- Driveways • Drainage •
- Patios • Fences etc. •

Professional and Reliable service at competitive rates

13 Boxford Lane, Boxford, CO10 5JU  
email: [lawsondian@btinternet.com](mailto:lawsondian@btinternet.com)

## Bed & Breakfast

Newmans Hall Farm  
[www.newmanshall.co.uk](http://www.newmanshall.co.uk)

- \* All rooms en-suite \* \* Heated indoor swimming pool \*
- \* Ample off-road parking \* \* Quiet rural setting \*
- \* No smoking policy \* \* Spacious grounds \*

Monks Eleigh Road  
Little Waldingfield  
Sudbury, Suffolk  
CO10 0SY

Telephone: 01787 249111  
Charles mobile: 07850 210256  
Louise mobile: 07887 540432

email: [louise@newmanshall.co.uk](mailto:louise@newmanshall.co.uk)

## Ken Grime & Son Ltd Electrical Contractors

Fully Qualified and part P Registered  
All types of electrical works undertaken  
No job too small • Very competitive prices

Office Tel: **01787 373 558**

Ken Mobile: **07702 358 802**

109 Bures Road • Great Cornard • Suffolk • CO10 0JE

# SERVICES DIRECTORY

## Darren Howe - Qualified Carpenter & Joiner

*All Aspects of Carpentry Undertaken*

- Handmade Kitchens & Fitted Wardrobes
- Fitted Kitchens
- Doors Made and Hung
- Floors & Laminates
- Balustrading, Decking and much more



Call me for a free No Obligation Quotation on 07795 345466 or email me at [howies@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:howies@hotmail.co.uk)

## N D Rose Int/Ext Decorating

- Gutters Cleaned/Repaired/Replaced
- Wall/Floor Tiling
- General Building Maintenance

Telephone 01787 211042  
Mobile 07518 040 465  
3 Fen Street, Boxford, CO10 5HL

## S B Electrical

For all your electrical work

Free Estimates ✓ No Call Out Charge ✓  
Part 'P' Registered ✓ Electrical Certificates Issued ✓

01787 247043

email: [info@sbelectrical.biz](mailto:info@sbelectrical.biz)  
or visit [www.sbelectrical.biz](http://www.sbelectrical.biz)



Your Local Insurance Broker Is Here For You

### Coversure Sudbury

CALL US: 01787 374 857

VISIT US: [coversure.co.uk/sudbury](http://coversure.co.uk/sudbury)

We can offer you insurance cover for Business, Property, Home & Motor

For business. For family. For you.

## AK SMITH PLASTERING

*Established 1986*

CEILINGS, WALLS, FLOORS  
LIME PLASTERING  
PLASTER BOARDING, COVING

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

MOBILE: 07808 027 116

*Based in Assington*



Email: [aksmithplastering@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aksmithplastering@hotmail.co.uk)

Website: [www.aksmithplastering.com](http://www.aksmithplastering.com)

## Boxford Lane Joinery

With the benefit of over 40 Years experience

*Specialist Manufacturers and Installers of Bespoke:  
Kitchens*

*Wardrobes and Household Furniture  
Staircases • Architectural Joinery  
Windows, Doors and Conservatories.*

*All finished/Sprayed/Polished  
in House if required.*

*A full fitting and Carpentry service  
is also available.*

Contact: Greg Deeks: 01206 263525

or mobile: 07977 738 649

or Brett Deeks: 07969 524 124

email: [BoxfordLaneJoinery@gmail.com](mailto:BoxfordLaneJoinery@gmail.com)

## FIREWOOD

BARN STORED DRY LOGS  
VARIOUS LOAD SIZES AVAILABLE  
OR KILN DRIED LOG NETS  
AT £15 EACH

Delivery available on minimum of 6 nets

### KINDLING

Contact Carol Abbot  
01473 829 130 or  
mobile 07768 795 981

## BUSINESS OWNER?

WHY AREN'T YOU IN THE  
BOX RIVER NEWS DIRECTORY?

01787 210946

[editor@boxrivernews.com](mailto:editor@boxrivernews.com)



### PAUL MACHIN GARDEN SERVICES

All types of Grass cutting undertaken, including paddocks, wild flower meadows, orchards, field edges & brush/nettle clearance.

Grass scarification.

General garden maintenance, hedge cutting, tree pruning.

Garden rubbish clearance

Patio, path and driveway cleaning.

Garden plant watering service.

Environment agency waste carriers licence held and fully insured

07854 725777

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



@paulmachingardenservices

## PADDOCK AND MEADOW CUTTING & HARROWING SERVICE

Small Tractor 6' Topper  
12' Grass Harrow

01787 210842



## COMMAND

PEST

CONTROL

Established 1986



Locally based, professional Pest Control company.  
Offering complete solutions for:

- Rats ➤ Mice ➤ Wasps ➤ Ants
- Moles ➤ Woodworm ➤ Fleas
- Rabbits ➤ Feral Pigeons ➤ Squirrels

All enquiries welcome from one off pest problems, to servicing contracts for year round protection.

Call (01787) 248049

[www.commandpestcontrol.co.uk](http://www.commandpestcontrol.co.uk)



## WHITWELL SERVICES

For all your Home Heating & Plumbing Needs

Established in 1979

Oil Boiler Servicing, Repair & Installation,

Oil Tank Fitting,

Renewable Energy Installation

Gas Safety Registered.

We offer a unique

Design & Installation service for Bathrooms, Kitchens, Renovations and New Build Projects.

To Contact us:

Tel: 01787 210277

Email: [enquiries@whitwellservices.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@whitwellservices.co.uk)

Web: [www.whitwellservices.co.uk](http://www.whitwellservices.co.uk)

## M.D.MILLS

(BUILDING CONTRACTORS) LTD

All types of building work undertaken including:

Extensions, Renovations  
Insurance Repair Works,  
Plumbing & Heating, Electrics,  
Roofing, Tiling, Decoration, etc

For a free no obligation estimate please call:

01787 373085

[www.md Mills.co.uk](http://www.md Mills.co.uk)

# SERVICES DIRECTORY



**Mobile canine and equine physiotherapy services**

• Massage • Stretching • Laser Therapy • PEMF Therapy • Remedial Exercises • Kinesio Taping •

• www.annamorleyvetphysio.co.uk  
• info@annamorleyvetphysio.co.uk  
• 07776 129 677




**Topcoat**  
**Painting & decorating Interior & exterior**

**For free quote call David on 07519 589256**



**Beauty BY GRACE**

**FORMERLY 'NAILS BY GRACE'**

I'm Grace Crimmin, a fully qualified Beauty Therapist with over 10 years experience in salons and spas. I offer a wide variety of treatments from my treatment room in Newton, including Body Massages, Facials, Manicures, Pedicures, Waxing and more! I look forward to hearing from you.

**www.beauty-bygrace.co.uk**  
**07484 648932**

**LAWNS FIELDS AND GARDENS**  
Established 1991



All types of Grasscutting undertaken •  
• Commercial and Domestic •  
• Contract or otherwise •  
• Grounds Maintenance •  
• Hedges • Trees • Fencing • Patios •  
• Drives • Pergodas •

**FOR A FREE QUOTE RING MARTIN ON 07932 477152**

**Scents Of Life** 

Essential Oil support for all areas of health

Transformative Sound Immersions

Fully qualified healing practitioner

*Louise Carpenter*  
*whole being well-being*

louisecarpenter@proton.mc  
01787 211862

**CARPENTRY & JOINERY**

*Purpose made doors, windows, conservatories, fitted kitchens, bedroom furniture, etc.*

**No job too small M Hearnden**  
Tel: 01787 248 285 / 07850 196 891

**CARPETS - VINYLs - WOOD LIONEL HATCH FLOORS**

**Your local professional, personal, competitively priced flooring service**

**Call Lionel Today**

**T: 01787 374163 M: 07766 026 875**  
**EMAIL: lionelhatchfloors@gmail.com**

**HOWARD WATTS**  
**Automotive**



Sales and Service at  
Riddellsdell Bros Ltd (Est 1900)  
ELLIS STREET, BOXFORD, CO10 5HH

**01787 210318**  
**07836 353537**

www.howardwatts.co.uk office@howardwatts.co.uk

**Andy Morgan**  
**Painter & Decorator**  
**S.E.P. Painters**

Tel: 01787 375824 • Mobile 07748 800701  
andy@seppainters.co.uk

For all your interior and exterior decorating ...  
...from New Build to Period Properties  
Your satisfaction is my speciality!  
Detailed information on my website:  
www.seppainters.co.uk

**Amanda Hollingworth**  
**Counsellor**

**Helping people overcome their emotional, psychological and relationship problems for over 30 years**

COSRT Accredited Psychosexual Therapist  
COSRT Accredited Clinical Supervisor  
UKCP & BUPA Registered Psychotherapist  
contact: 01473 824663 or  
ac.hollingworth@gmail.com

**Seasoned Firewood & Woodchip**  
**For Sale By the load**  
**01787 319200**



We carry out all aspects of tree works

**SUFFOLK TREE SERVICES**  
www.suffolktreeservices.co.uk



**Sudbury Physiotherapy Centre**  
& Complementary Health

- Musculoskeletal
- Neuro-Physiotherapy
- Sports Massage
- Chiropody
- Podiatry
- Pilates
- Shiatsu
- Clinical Hypnosis
- Nutritional Therapy

**Appointments available Monday - Saturday**  
Tel: 01787 378178  
Email: sudburyphysio@hotmail.co.uk  
www.sudburyphysio.co.uk  
17 Gaol Lane, Sudbury, CO10 1JL

**Tree Surgeon**



**Blake Tree Care**

*Providing excellence in:*

- Tree Felling
- Canopy Reduction
- Hedge Cutting
- Garden Clearance
- Tree Shaping and Pruning
- Stump Grinding
- Pollarding
- Emergency Tree Work

*Free Consultation for Small and Large Jobs*

*Public Liability Insurance*

**M: 07515 288736**  
**O: 01787 228341**  
info@blaketreecare.co.uk  
www.blaketreecare.co.uk



*"A very competitive price and a VERY tidy job" ★★★★★*

**Antique Renovations** 

**Expert restorers of fine antiques & interior woodwork**

UNIT 1, BRIDGE FARM  
LAVENHAM ROAD, BRENT ELEIGH, CO10 9PB  
Tel: 01787 248 511

**H Byham & Son Ltd**  
**Ballingdon Dairy, Sudbury**

Deliveries of Dairy Produce and Goods to Boxford and Surrounding Villages

**Tel: 01787 372526**

**Suffolk Medical & Beauty Clinic**

All Beauty Therapy Treatments  
Laser Permanent Hair Removal  
Anti - Wrinkle Injections  
Thread vein treatment  
Skin Rejuvenation  
Dermal Fillers  
Mole and Skin Checks  
Dermaroller/Pen  
Medical Microdermabrasion  
Semi permanent make-up



www.suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk  
6 Broad Street. Boxford  
**01787 211000**

# SERVICES DIRECTORY



## Cass White Upholstery

Traditional & Modern

[www.casswhiteupholstery.com](http://www.casswhiteupholstery.com)

07759 924 209  
[casswhite@live.com](mailto:casswhite@live.com)

## Kirkham Sheidow Architects



Boxford 01787 211670  
[design@kirkhamsheidow.co.uk](mailto:design@kirkhamsheidow.co.uk)  
[www.kirkhamsheidow.co.uk](http://www.kirkhamsheidow.co.uk)



## SO LANDSCAPES

We are Sudbury Suffolk based hard landscaping company that excels in all aspects of landscaping.

Our 5\* reviewed company offers bespoke high quality reliable services catering for all budgets. Enhance your property's value and enjoy the beautiful weather with family & friends - or even just for some much needed self care.

Take action now by giving us a call to book your free quotation:

Phone: 01787 377846 or 07590 111 025  
Email: [Ashley@SoLandscapes.co.uk](mailto:Ashley@SoLandscapes.co.uk)



## JPS Timber

Suppliers of:

- New and Reclaimed Sleepers
- Reclaimed Scaffold Boards
- Carcassing Timber
- Decking
- Post and Rail Fencing
- Oak Barrels and Planters and more....

07970 559 251

[mail@jpstimber.co.uk](mailto:mail@jpstimber.co.uk)  
[www.jpstimber.co.uk](http://www.jpstimber.co.uk)

## Hadleigh Hairloom

78 - 80 High Street, Hadleigh  
01473 822191

Walk-in Family Salon

Catering to the entire family's hairdressing needs  
\* Easy Access \* Family Friendly \* Free Wi-Fi \*  
Comfortable Waiting Area with Toys and TV.  
Monday Wednesday & Friday: 9 - 5.30  
Tuesday 9 - 7.00 \* Thursday 9 - 8.00 \*  
Saturday 8.30 - 4.00



LOUISE'S

Mobile Hairdressing

I am an experienced, professionally trained hairdresser & will visit you in the comfort of your own home.

Full colours, highlights, cut & blow-dry  
Prom & wedding packages available  
Ladies, gents & children

Please call Louise to book an appointment

07970 704 823



Boxstore™

Archive and general storage

## The Local Self Storage Company

For all domestic and business needs

See website for details

[www.boxstore.co.uk](http://www.boxstore.co.uk)  
or phone 01787 210350

## GARDEN WORK

TREES & HEDGES

Call for a quote

G.J. & C.A. Abbott

01473 829130 or  
mobile 07768 795981

## NEWTONS FARM

INDOOR TENNIS COURT

NO MEMBERSHIP FEES

PAY AND PLAY

OPEN 7AM TO 10PM

IN WISSINGTON, 1 MILE FROM NAYLAND

BOOK ONLINE: [www.indoortenniscourt.co.uk](http://www.indoortenniscourt.co.uk)

## P.D. Garner

Plastering Services

Telephone: 01206 262207

Mobile: 07976 246713

13 Elmtree Lane, Leavenheath, Colchester CO6 4UL

## Colne Valley Windows

Your local double glazing company

Windows • Doors • Conservatories  
Bi-Folding Doors • Soffits • Facias and  
Guttering • uPVC and Aluminium • Shop  
Fronts • Manual and Automatic Entrances  
and much more!!

Transferable 10 Year Insurance  
Backed Guarantee  
Over 30 Years Experience  
Free Quotation  
Local Family Run Business



To arrange a free quotation  
please call us on 01787 827382

Website: [www.colnevalleywindows.co.uk](http://www.colnevalleywindows.co.uk)

Email: [info@colnevalleywindows.co.uk](mailto:info@colnevalleywindows.co.uk)

Certified Company 36650

# Nº 18 HONEY

LOCAL SUFFOLK HONEY

100% pure honey, straight from the hive to the jar.

Made by our happy bees from

local wildflowers right here in Boxford.

Available to buy online or direct from the driveway, cash and card payments accepted.

BBKA-registered swarm collectors

18 STONE ST. BOXFORD CO10 5NR

01787 210 946 / 07919 902 437

[www.numbereighteensuffolk.com](http://www.numbereighteensuffolk.com)

[buzz@numbereighteensuffolk.com](mailto:buzz@numbereighteensuffolk.com)



MINI WASTE LIMITED

2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12 YARD SKIPS FOR HIRE

16, 20 & 40 YARD RO/RO FOR HIRE

Tel: 01787 378811

e mail: [info@miniwaste.co.uk](mailto:info@miniwaste.co.uk)

Website: [www.miniwaste.co.uk](http://www.miniwaste.co.uk)



# The Red House

— RESIDENTIAL HOME —

A fine Georgian building set within a beautiful garden, offering a sanctuary of peace and security within the centre of Sudbury, offering all the necessary care and attention for those who wish to spend their retirement and later years in a warm and caring atmosphere.

## Contact Us

Meadow Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2TD

Telephone: 01787 372948

[www.redhousesudbury.co.uk](http://www.redhousesudbury.co.uk)



# YOU COULD BE THE HERO NEXT DOOR

3PR First Responders urgently needs new volunteers

All training and equipment is provided  
For more information please contact  
Rich Wild: 01787 210946 or [office@boxfordresponders.com](mailto:office@boxfordresponders.com)



[www.boxfordsuffolk.com/3PR](http://www.boxfordsuffolk.com/3PR)

## TRAILER SALES AND HIRE



We are a family run company that will always go the extra mile for our customers.  
We provide all types of trailers to both companies and individuals. We are based in Suffolk but we cover all of East Anglia, Kent, Surrey and into London.

Approved dealer for *Bateson, Maypole, Tickner & Woodford Trailers.*

Contact either Rob or Jeanette to discuss your requirements so we can get your perfect trailer.



**07850 554 776 / 07974 189 647**  
[rob@1stoptrailers.co.uk](mailto:rob@1stoptrailers.co.uk)  
[www.1stoptrailers.co.uk](http://www.1stoptrailers.co.uk)



Open Every Day 07:00 - 21:00hrs including Bank Holidays

# Get your business seen

Effective advertising:  
[editor@boxrivernews.com](mailto:editor@boxrivernews.com)



# YOUR 'ONE STOP' CHRISTMAS SHOP!



CHRISTMAS TREES

CHRISTMAS MEAT FROM OUR BUTCHERY

FESTIVE PRODUCE

WINTER WALKS ON OUR FARM TRAIL

GIFTS FOR EVERYONE IN OUR FARM SHOP

FESTIVE FOOD FROM OUR FARM CAFE

AND MORE!

Visit our website for our festive opening times, and to see what's on this winter!



 Hollow Trees Farm, IP7 6HX  
 01449 741247  
 shop@hollowtrees.co.uk  
 hollowtrees.co.uk



## SUFFOLK'S ONLY CAT CAFE

90 NORTH STREET  
SADBURY

PURRFECT CAT THERAPY

BOOK ONLINE  
FINNEGANSWHISKERS.CO.UK

