

June 2025

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.

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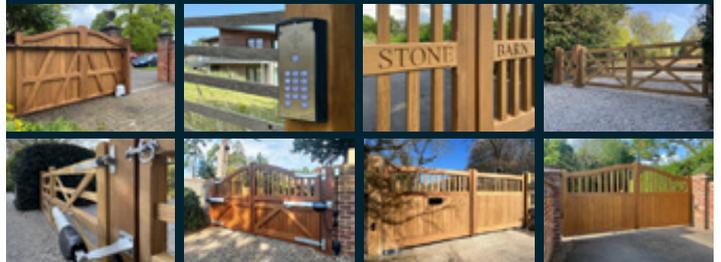


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BOXFORD VE80 COMMEMORATION AND BEACON LIGHTING

Once again, villagers turned out in good numbers to attend the Commemoration and Beacon Lighting for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. In line with national events, the church bells rang out for peace, the beacon of light and hope was lit and the Tribute was read out. The beacon was lit by Tony Murphy, a reading was given by David Burden, the Last Post and Reveille played by Mark Miller and the tribute read by David Phillips. Father Rob and Father James welcomed the onlookers and gave the blessing at the end.

It was a very fitting ceremony to mark the anniversary of peace in Europe and the hope for the future whilst also remembering that many from Boxford and the surrounding area were still serving, either actively or as a prisoner of war in the Far East. News of those would have to wait another four months, so VE Day celebrations have a bittersweet memory for many in this area.

Thanks to all those who organised the event and to the villagers who turned out to make this another memorable occasion.



Photo: David Lamming



Photo: Peter Norris

THIS MONTH'S COVER IMAGE



This month's front page is local artist Helen Maxfield's wonderful 'Murmuration over Sizewell Marshes'. Helen specialises in lino prints of the East Anglian coast and landscape. Prints (each of which are unique in their own right due to the printing process Helen uses) are available to purchase from Mill Tye Gallery, 3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye, Great Cornard, Sudbury, CO10 0GW.

Tel: 01787 376 796

Web: www.milltyegallery.co.uk

FAREWELL PARKER-McGEEES!

The end of June will be a sad time when Fr Rob, Sarah, Jasmine and Tom Parker-McGee will leave the benefice for Rob to take up ministry at St Mary and St Nicolas Parish Church, Spalding. The Parker-McGee family have been with us for the last 6 years and have been so involved in daily community life in all of the benefice villages here that it is hard to conceive of their absence.



As the spiritual leader of the Box River Benefice, Fr Rob has provided inspiration and guidance to a vast number of local residents, religious and non-religious alike. His work in Boxford Primary School has been warmly appreciated by hundreds of children as they have passed through the school. Sarah, in her role as Children and Families' Minister, has taken spiritual learning and broken it out of the traditional church setting into the outside world. She has tirelessly worked to organise and set up a huge number of benefice events throughout their time here that everyone has enjoyed immensely and that have really pulled the community together.

On a personal level I would like to apologise to Rob for my ceaseless demands for content for the Box River News, especially near print-deadlines at weekends and odd hours of the day. He has coped admirably and shown remarkable restraint in all his responses - truly demonstrating the patience of a saint!

The family will be very much missed but we wish them all the best of luck for their future life in Lincolnshire. On behalf of the benefice I would like to thank them for everything they've done during their time here.

Father Rob's final Box River service will be at St. Mary's, Boxford, **Sunday 29th June** at 11am.

Box River News

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Telephone: 01787 210946

email: editor@boxrivernews.com

www.facebook.com/BoxRiverNews

www.instagram.com/boxrivernews

Deadline date for the July 2025 Issue is:

June 15th at midday

NEWTON FIRESIDE CLUB

Our first session of the term was a showing of the film 'Conclave'. This title was chosen some time ago but proved to be very relevant. Although there was inevitably some artistic licence, it did give an idea about how the new pope would be elected.



As you can see, we have some extra events this term. The coffee morning on Saturday 31st May will follow the usual format, so we would be very grateful for donations for the raffle, cake stall, plant stall and good quality bric-a-brac.

The Fireside Club is coordinating refreshments at the Open Gardens on Sunday 22nd June. We are looking for volunteers to help on the day and donations of cakes and scones. Please do get in touch if you are able to help.

Keeping the ball rolling, the following Sunday, 29th June, we are hosting a Picnic in the Park. No tickets – just come along for a convivial village get together.

SUMMER 2025 PROGRAMME

Sat 31 st May	Fireside Coffee Morning 10am
Tues 3 rd June	Cream Tea
Tues 17 th June	BINGO!
Sat 22 nd June	Open Gardens
Sat 29 th June	Picnic in the Park
Tues 1 st July	Talk from GCB Cocoa Ltd. Glemsford
Tues 15 th July	Boat Trip & Henny Swan

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

NEWTON OPEN GARDENS
SUNDAY 22nd JUNE

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FURTHER INFORMATION FROM
SUE & PAUL 07881 383 998
sue_presland@hotmail.com

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

AFTERNOON TEA: To celebrate Summer we will be hosting an afternoon tea at 3pm on Sunday 27th July. Weather allowing, this will take place in the Jubilee Garden. Tickets are £10 from Sue Presland.

BOOKINGS: The only number for bookings is now **07955 199 000**. To help with the booking process, please visit www.yourhall.co.uk/hall/newton-green where you will find a detailed description of the hall, along with photos and a diary of bookings. Although you cannot book on this site, you will be able to find out if the hall is available for your function. For public events and clubs there is also a description and contact details. We are sure that this will be a very useful website.

COFFEE MORNINGS:

Sat 31 st May	Fireside Club
Sat 21 st June	Newton Charities
Sat 27 th September	Macmillan
Sat 22 nd November	Village Hall

All coffee mornings are from 10 - 11:30am with the raffle usually being called at about 11:15.

GROTON VILLAGE HALL

A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise, and to all those who participated in, the Quiz & Curry night held in Groton Village Hall at the end of April. The evening was a great success and raised over £950 for village hall funds.

Groton Village Hall (formerly the WI Hall) has been at the heart of the Groton community for nearly 100 years. Originally a WW1 army hut, next March sees the centenary of the hall's arrival in Groton. It was purchased from Colchester Garrison by Groton WI – led by the redoubtable Misses Elsa and Eleanor Dawson - for a princely £48.00 in 1926.

Today the upkeep and management of Groton Village Hall is a constant, but worthwhile, challenge. The hall is an invaluable venue for several regular local activities - including the Boxford Study Centre Literature Group, Groton History Society and Boxford Drama Group - alongside many social functions. It also offers off-site hire of tables and chairs.

Groton Village Hall is holding its annual general meeting in the hall on Wednesday 25th June at 7:30pm. We'd love as many Groton residents as possible to attend and, better still, to consider joining the management committee. This will help us keep the hall relevant, well-preserved and improved for now and future generations.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact Joanna Roberts on 01787 210619 or Stephen Watkins on 01787 210977

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GROTON PEOPLE & PLACES

I would like to bring to your attention a couple of items, focused on the community and the environment.

Firstly, several residents have asked Groton Parish Council whether a children's play area could be created in the village. The parish council is supportive and, at this early stage, would like to ask whether any residents would join council members to consider this further including possible location. If the project has real potential all residents would be consulted on the way forward. If you are interested please email me. nigeljchap@gmail.com

Secondly, many residents have raised the litter issue, especially used cans discarded by the roadside. I know of several people who are voluntarily picking up litter on their walks around the parish. I am sure I speak for everyone in Groton, when I say "Thank You". This was raised at the recent parish council meeting and everyone is supportive of looking for a solution to this. The sense is that the culprits are probably passing through the village. All we can ask at this stage is that we all do our bit to keep Groton tidy, like many of you are already doing. If you know the Phantom Thatchers Chucker, please can you enlighten them?

Nigel Chapman nigeljchap@gmail.com

RECLAIM THE RAIN

Hello Boxford! We're excited to share that in May we installed SuDS Pods at two locations in the village: The Boxford Bowls Club and The Spinney Hut. To learn more about 'SuDS', you can read our most recent Reclaim the Rain Newsletter, here: www.reclaimtherain.org/newsletter.

The SuDS Pods are drainage units that connect to the buildings' existing downpipes and reduce the risk of localised flooding by capturing rainwater straight from roofs and storing it temporarily. This reduces strain on the existing drainage network by introducing a lag before the water's slowly released back to where it would normally go. At full capacity, each SuDS Pod can hold up to 445 litres of water before discharging it at a slow rate into drains.

As well as reducing flood risk, each unit has a built-in planter on top which supports pollinators and offers a water quality benefit too by filtering the rainwater naturally by infiltration.

This community project has been made possible through partnership with Anglian Water to deliver small-scale sustainable water management solutions across our Reclaim the Rain communities. Thank you to members of Boxford's Bowls Club and Spinney Campsite for your continued support and keenness to collaborate with us.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about Reclaim the Rain's work in Boxford, please get in touch with us at reclaimtherain@suffolk.gov.uk.

Best Wishes,

Ruby and Sian www.reclaimtherain.org

ALLOTMENTS IN KERSEY

The Nightingale Trust run the allotment site in Kersey Village. We will soon have plots available for hire. Have you ever wanted to grow your own fresh vegetables, fruit, flowers etc? Now is your chance! The allotments are situated behind The Kersey Bell, within beautiful and peaceful countryside. The rent is £30 annually for a half plot, and £40 for a full plot - cheaper than a gym membership and better for you!!

For more information, please contact Natalie Blyth - 01473 827805 or 07487 816966 - nablyth1@gmail.com



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Wednesday, June 11, 2025

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Wednesday, May 28, 2025
Wednesday, June 25, 2025

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Pizzas: Sit in/Takeaway - Thurs 5-8pm, Fri & Sat 12-8, Sun 12-4

May Bank Holiday
Friday & Saturday 12-11pm, Sunday 12-10pm & BH Monday 12-6
See socials/website for food service hours

Little Earth Fest - Friday & Saturday - July 4th & 5th
Our annual festival of wild & sour beers!

Street Food
Follow us on Facebook/Instagram for weekly updates!

Wagyu Burgers - Every Friday except May 23
My Thai Chef - Saturday May 31 & Sat June 14
Tasty Turk - Fri May 23, June TBA
Taqueria La Gringa - Saturday, June 7
Suffolk Spice Fusion - Saturday, May 24
Moules Frites - Sunday May 25, 12-5pm
Noodles & Dumplings - Sat June 21

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GROTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Upcoming Events:

Friday 20th June: *'The Cambridge Five - Elite Betrayal'* by our very own Trevor Barnes. An infamous tale of betrayal and the hunt for the traitors. This should be a really fascinating discussion, given the infamy and the recent spy ring threats and convictions. Trevor is the author of *'Dead Doubles'* (<https://amzn.to/4jZ8rs2>), which tells the tale of the Portland Spy Ring, a lesser known exposé. We recommended Trevor's book several months ago. A great read.



Friday 26th September: *'Towns and Trade in Medieval Suffolk'* by Professor Mark Bailey. Mark returns to the area to share his brilliant and very popular insights into Suffolk's medieval past.

October and November events are still being worked on. We will share details with you all as soon as we can. Some great potential talks being developed.

80 Years ago with the Suffolks:

Over several months we have followed the 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment, as they battled their way gloriously from Normandy into Germany. They were not the only battalion of the Suffolks actively engaged in defending Britain and defeating our enemies. I thought I would say a few words about the 2nd, 4th and 5th battalions, as they too have stories to tell of forgotten fields, less glorious in popular minds than Normandy's path.

The 2nd Battalion, one of two regular army units alongside the 1st Suffolks, was stationed in India at the start of the war, guarding the north west frontier. Initially serving on internal security duties it wasn't until October 1943, when mobilised as part of the 123rd Indian Infantry Brigade, that it saw action against the Japanese in Arakan, Mayu Ranges and then in Imphal, taking objective Issac during the infamous siege. It saw out the war in Lucknow district until the end of August 1945. The Battle for Imphal and Kohima is arguably Britain's greatest land victory of the war.

The 4th and 5th battalions, both 'territorial units', suffered terribly. Initially serving on home defence duties, they were both deployed as part of the 18th Division to Egypt in 1941.

When Japan entered the war in December 1941 they were diverted to Singapore, arriving 18 days before Percival surrendered to the Japanese in February 1942. Held captive, forced to work in brutal conditions, including on the Burma-Thailand Railway resulted in untold casualties, misery and depravation. Those who survived spent 3 years in POW camps.

The Suffolk regiment experienced it all. Let's not forget the 2nd, 4th and 5th.



Burma-Thailand Railway c.1943. POWs laying railway track.

Other Key June Events in History:

- 4th June 1989: Chinese Government orders troops to open fire on unarmed protesters in Tiananmen Square. Between 300 to 3000 died, depending on who you ask!
- 5th June 1968: Robert F Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded in Los Angeles whilst leaving the Ambassador Hotel. He died at 1:44am the following day, aged 42.
- 6th June 1944: D-Day dawned as Operation Overlord took the fight to Germany that would trigger the beginning of the end of the war.
- 11th June 1994: Soviet military occupation of East Germany ends after 49 years, leading to German unification.
- 12th June 1086: A census commences that will result in the Domesday Book. Grotena (Groton) and Edwardstone are mentioned, as inhabited settlements with sufficient wealth.
- 15th June 1215: King John sets his seal on the Magna Carta. This was the first charter to set out basic rights that has influenced many democracies since.
- 18th June 1815: Emperor Napoleon is defeated at Waterloo by a combined Allied Army, led by Wellington and Blucher. This ended 23 years of war. Napoleon was to die in exile on St Helena 6 years later.
- 28th June 1914: Archduke Ferdinand and his wife Sophie were assassinated at Sarajevo, kickstarting the descent into the war to end all wars.
- 28th June 1919: The Treaty of Versailles is signed formally ending WWI. The longer term consequences arguably led to another world war.

Recommended Reading, Listening and Viewing:

- *'Holocaust Journey'* by Sir Martin Gilbert. Movingly powerful account of a two week trip around Europe with a group of University of London students. A warning from history and reminder that it takes many, many hands to murder en masse.
- *'Black Yanks'* by Kate Werran. This is the story of an African American soldier who ended up on death row in Shepton Mallet, Somerset and the British campaign to free him.
- *'Legacy of Violence: A History of the British Empire'* by Caroline Elkins / *'Colonialism: A Moral Reckoning'* by Nigel Biggar. Not light reading but essential if you want to review the evidence and arguments on both sides of this emotive debate.
- *'The History of Ireland'* multiple series of podcasts from *Empire Podcast* with Anita Arnan and William Dalrymple. From the test bed of British Empire to the Troubles. Brilliant.
- *'11th Century masterpiece: Genji Monogatari by Murasaki Shikibu'* from *The Rest is History*. Fantastic insight into early Japanese literature and imperial court society. Written by a woman, ahead of her time both in Japan and certainly in the West.
- *'Darkest Hour'* 2017 Film by Joe Wright and Anthony McCarten, starring Gary Oldman as Churchill. Never tire of watching this, especially the scene on the Tube that probably was not true.
- *'Downfall'* 2004 Film by Oliver Hirschbiegel and Bernd Eichenger. Topical given VE Day celebrations in May. Controversially tells the story of Hitler's final days in the bunker. It has spawned hundreds of satirical dubs.

I hope to see many of you at Trevor's talk about 'The Cambridge Five' on 20th June.

As always please email me your recommendations for reading, listening and viewing history, as well as subjects you like me to write about in this article going forward.

Nigel Chapman
nigeljchap@gmail.com

CITIZENS ADVICE

I'm moving and will be renting somewhere on my own for the first time. It feels like there's so much to think about, I'm worried I'll forget something important. Do you have any advice on what I should do when looking for a new home?

**citizens
advice**

Most properties available for rent are listed online or with lettings agents.

If you have the chance, renting directly from a landlord might be a bit cheaper before you move in, as they may ask for fewer references and you might not need to do a credit check. But you'll have to deal with them directly if any issues arise during the tenancy. It's worth noting some landlords use a lettings agent to find their tenants and then manage the properties themselves. If an agent is managing the property then you'll deal with them rather than with the landlord directly, for instance, if you need to get any repairs done.

Remember, never pay any money before you've seen the property as this is a common tactic used by rental fraudsters. If you can, take someone with you when viewing properties for a second opinion. If repairs are being done when you view a property, it's a good idea to take pictures of the issues and follow up after the viewing with an email so you've got a record of the issues and that you were told they'd be sorted before you move in.

Things often happen very quickly when trying to find somewhere to rent so always ask the landlord or letting agent some key questions to make sure properties you're considering are safe, affordable and meet your needs.

Key questions to ask include:

- How much is the rent? Is it payable monthly or weekly?
- How long is the tenancy for?
- Are bills included in the rent?
- Are any appliances or furniture included?
- Is there a break clause allowing any fixed term to be ended early, if needed?
- Does the landlord need a guarantor?
- Is there a tenancy deposit, how much is it, and how will it be protected?

It's also good to ask whether the tenancy is for a self-contained property, or whether there are shared facilities, whether or not it's a joint tenancy with other people and, if relevant, if you can have pets. Make sure you're happy with the arrangements.

Check if you'll need to pay a holding deposit while the landlord carries out pre-tenancy checks. A deposit can't be more than a week's rent and should be returned to you at the end of the tenancy. You should also ask your landlord or letting agent what documents you'll need to provide when you agree to rent the property including evidence of your Right to Rent.

Avoid 'subletting' which is when you rent directly from an existing tenant, as they might not have the landlord's permission to rent to you, which could cause problems further down the line. If a tenant is showing you around the property on behalf of the landlord they should give you the landlord's contact details.

If a landlord refuses to rent to you because of who you are, this may be discrimination - for example because of your race, religion or sexual orientation. A 'no kids policy' or refusing to rent to you because you get benefits could also be discrimination. You only need to tell a landlord or letting agent you receive benefits if they ask.

Remember, if you need any other pointers or advice on renting, or you run into any problems, you can contact Citizens Advice for help.

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THE BUTCHER'S WIFE

What is with all the flies this month?! What started as one lone fly chancing his luck has turned into a full on house invasion. They are obsessed with flying into the house and then pretending like they can't get out.

We have a super duper fly zapper in the kitchen but that only seems to work when it gets dark and I think the flies have wised up to it. I tried leaving a bowl with apple cider vinegar mixed with washing up liquid on the side. Apparently the vinegar is like fly crack and lures them in and the dish soap kills the surface tension so they are supposed to sink like the Titanic. No joy, there was only one fly in the bottom of the bowl. I reckon he started sinking and sent out some sort of warning signal to his mates to stay away.

Next up, the electric racket. I can't get the hang of this, you have to get so close to them to zap them and by then they've cottoned on and flown away.

One thing that does work are the sticky fly strips but it's gross watching flies struggle on sticky tape hanging from the ceiling, it feels a bit like I live in a bug themed haunted house. Highly effective, horrifying to look at.

The Butcher bought smoke bombs that you set off and leave for 2 hours. He had the bright idea to do this just before we were going out to do a food shop. He told the mini Leeders to avoid the kitchen for two hours, set the bomb off in the middle of the room and we legged it out the door. One thing to note is that we have wired in fire alarms. The Butcher is able to disable them from an



app on his phone. We got halfway to Sudbury when a distressed mini Leeder called to say the smoke alarms were going off. The dog was howling in the background, it was chaos. The fancy app only works when you are in close proximity to the alarms so we had to drive all the way back to Boxford to turn the alarms off. Ended up being a massive waste of time. Flies were still buzzing around and the house smelt weird.

My most effective method is the trusty old tea towel. I've become a pro at whipping them across the room. It's actually becoming a bit of a hobby. I've become a part time assassin, part time chemist and a full time lunatic!

On a completely separate note, as you all know, our lovely Father Rob, Sarah, Jasmine and Tom are moving on at the end of this month to start a new challenge. Since they moved to Boxford they have not only become an integral part of our village, but they've become good friends and I'm sure I speak on behalf of you all when I say they will be missed. Good luck and please come and visit!

Chicken Souvlaki

Ingredients

- 12 boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 4 metal skewers
- For the marinade:**
 - 4tbsp olive oil
 - 2 tsp dried oregano
 - 1 tsp dried mint
 - 1 tsp ground cumin
 - 1 tsp coriander
 - 1 tsp paprika
 - ½ tsp ground cinnamon
 - Zest and juice from 1 lemon
 - 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- For the tzatziki:**
 - ½ cucumber
 - 200g Greek yoghurt
 - Small bunch of mint, finely chopped
 - 1 garlic clove, crushed
 - Juice from ½ lemon

Method

1. Mix all of the marinade ingredients together well in a large bowl.
2. Put the chicken into the bowl and mix well, ensuring the thighs are well coated. Add salt and pepper to season. Cover and chill in the fridge for a couple of hours or overnight (the longer the better!)
3. To make the tzatziki, halve the cucumber lengthways and scoop out the seeds. Finely chop or grate and then combine with the remaining tzatziki ingredients, along with a pinch of salt. Chill in the fridge.
4. Heat the grill to its highest setting. Line a roasting tin with foil and find 4 metal skewers long enough to sit across the top with a little space underneath. Thread 2 skewers through each chicken thigh so each thigh has a skewer through either side. Leaving a slight gap between each piece, you should fit 6 thighs on each pair of skewers.
5. Position the skewers on top of the roasting tin and place under the hot grill. Cook for 15-20 minutes brushing with oil and any juices from the tin. Turn halfway through cooking.
6. Divide the chicken into four kebabs and serve in toasted pitta bread with lettuce, tomato, red onion and tzatziki. *Kali Orexi!*

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We are a family run company that will go the extra mile for our customers. We open every day from 7am – 7pm, this includes weekends and Bank Holidays, for appointments and viewings.

1Stop Trailers Ltd are based in Suffolk. We cover all of East Anglia, Lincolnshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex & into London.

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Rob 07850 554 776 or Jeanette 07974 189 647.**

SUFFOLK TREE SERVICES LTD

For All Aspects of Tree Works Including:

- Planting • Reducing • Pollarding • Felling •
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We offer a complete and professional service
Established over 30 years

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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.aleaderbutchers.co.uk






RAMBLINGS FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends

As I sit in the sunshine writing this little pondering to you all, I am surrounded by wildflowers on my lawn, the birds are chirping, the bugs are buzzing and life feels pretty good. I recline back in my chair, facing a statue of St Francis, which has become an important place of prayer for me. This is the place where I come some mornings and lunch times – a place of real stillness. Francis is standing on a tree stump plinth and beautiful bamboos gently overhang him from either side. Above his head sits a little bird house, which is sometimes frequented by Mr and Mrs Greenfinch and their chirpy children. I am going to miss this idyllic retreat after we move, a place where I can prayerfully contemplate and still my mind.



I wonder, do you have a place you use to focus and still yourself? If not, I would highly recommend you find yourself one and use it regularly. Prayer and meditation is proven to massively improve mental health and having a favourite place that is stilling in which to pray can be really helpful.

We assume that meditation and prayerful reflection are about removing yourself from the world – shutting out everything else. We pretend that if we just meditate or pray hard enough, we can somehow form a kind of protective forcefield that will mean the troubles of the world cannot touch us, but we couldn't be more wrong. The word meditation comes from the Old French word *meditaci3n* meaning 'thought, reflection or study.' Prayerful contemplation and meditation does not move us out of the world but gives us the stillness and space to lay aside the distractions so we may contemplate the things of the world more deeply and see things for how they truly are – see things the way God sees them.

As I sit here in this beautiful sanctum of prayer, I have beside me a letter from the hospital that I have just read. The computer that I have just laid aside is open on a screen of emails which include such topics as children struggling with the pressure of exams, families needing assistance through the foodbank and hardship fund, individuals requesting help with real-life struggles such as relationship difficulties or worrying medical diagnoses, someone struggling with the weight of past mistakes, and one gentleman needs spiritual nurture as he approaches death. It is a reminder that whilst it is true that prayerful contemplation and meditation can help us build a kind of spiritual resilience, it does not take us out of the world, instead it moves us ever more deeply into it, because that is where we find God. The point about God becoming human in Jesus and facing the worst the world can do, and through that suffering securing eternal life, is that it shows that God is concerned with our lives and struggles. If we want to feed our souls so they become healthy, we be where Jesus is – present in the places where all the struggles and difficulties are. Our faith does not cocoon us away from them, it demands we engage with them bringing the love, peace and joy we find in God as we do so.

One thing I have been drawn to contemplate these past few weeks, as my ministry here draws to a close and I prepare to begin somewhere new, is the nature of priestly ministry – especially *my* priestly ministry. I have come to realise that my ministry is at its best when I have come to the end of my resources and exhausted my own abilities. It is only then that I am humbled enough to find it possible to hand things over to God. In these moments, he draws me to the places where real people are, and inevitably I discover that is where Jesus has been all along - walking with them in their joys, sufferings, or the beautiful mundaneness of daily life. This is where the Church is called to be, where every Christian is called to be. Through our prayers and meditations, I pray that each of us may find it possible to live out that life of service that we see modelled in and through Jesus, wherever the journey may take us next.

*With much love and every blessing,
Fr Rob*

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE, CONFESSION & PASTORAL VISITING

The Benefice offers a rich ministry of Spiritual Guidance, Confession & Pastoral Visiting. Our Priests and Ministers accompany people from all walks of life. If you would like Spiritual Guidance, Confession, House Blessing, Pastoral Visiting, Home Communion, Hospital or Prison Visiting for yourself or someone you know, please do get in touch with the Benefice Office.



BOXRIVER BENEFICE

COFFEE MORNINGS

DROP IN FOR COFFEE EVERY TUESDAY BETWEEN 10.00 AM TO 12.00 PM AT MARY'S HOUSE, SWAN STREET, BOXFORD

FRIDAY, 6TH JUNE

10.30 AM - COFFEE MORNING AT ST LAWRENCE'S, LT WALDINGFIELD

WEDNESDAY, 18TH JUNE

10.00 AM - COFFEE MORNING AT ALL SAINTS', NEWTON

SATURDAY, 21ST JUNE

10.00 AM - COFFEE MORNING AT ST MARY'S, BOXFORD

EVERYONE WELCOME, COME ALONG FOR CUPPA AND A CHAT

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH NEWTON GREEN



SUMMER

COFFEE MORNING

*with Stalls including Pie & Pasties,
Bric a Brac, Tombola & Raffle*

**SATURDAY, 5TH JULY
10.00 - 11.30 AM**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS OUR KITCHEN AND TOILET FUND

Smooth, Safe, Summer Skin



There's no denying it feels great to have lovely, smooth skin. But hair-removal can be a faff! It's easy not to bother, or to rely on a quick once-over with a razor in the shower. If you like to be hair-free and want a solution that LASTS, waxing is the best option. Lasting 3-6 weeks, waxing leaves skin silky-smooth. Regular treatments will gradually make hair finer and softer, diminishing growth.

And don't forget the sunscreen to protect that gorgeous smooth skin! Also on offer this month - all our Heliocare has 20% off.

Waxing Offer

This month, get 20% off
all waxing treatments

Heliocare Offer

This month, get 20% off
all Heliocare sunscreen

Call 01787 211 000 to book or drop-in to buy.

* Offers valid once per person, until 30/06/25

Suffolk Medical & Beauty Clinic, 6 Broad Street, Boxford.

Tel: 01787 211 000 www.suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk





SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2025



Sunday 1st June <i>Easter 7/The Visitation</i>	09:30	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 4th June	10:00	<i>Communion & Coffee</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Sunday 8th June <i>Pentecost/Barnabas</i>	09:30	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Bartholomew's, Groton
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist with Choir</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
	17:00	<i>BCP Evensong</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 11th June	10:00	<i>Communion & Coffee</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Sunday 15th June <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	09:30	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone
	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist with Choir</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 18th June	10:00	<i>Communion & Coffee</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Sunday 22nd June <i>Corpus Christi (transferred)</i>	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	All Saints', Newton Green
	11:00	<i>Family Eucharist</i>	St Mary's, Boxford
Wednesday 25th June	10:00	<i>Communion & Coffee</i>	Mary's House, Boxford
Sunday 29th June <i>Peter & Paul</i> <i>Father Rob's Last Service</i>	11:00	<i>Sunday Eucharist with Choir</i> <i>Benefice Service</i>	St Mary's, Boxford

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

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

A LETTER FROM THE REVD CANON SIMON WHITE

Dear Friends,

At the end of June we will sadly be saying goodbye to Father Rob, Sarah and their family as they leave to carry on their ministry at the church of St Mary and St Nicolas in Spalding. Our loss will be Spalding's gain.

Personally, I will miss Rob's wisdom and insights into how we are called by Jesus to serve and be part of our communities. While the focus of his ministry has been with the Box River villages, Rob's influence has extended further afield where he has been bold enough to join in some of the more challenging discussions of our time, including those around how we are called to care for those in committed same sex relationships. Navigating through the pandemic was a particularly challenging time for clergy but as an early adopter of live streaming and videos, Rob showed us how we could continue online when we weren't able to meet face-to-face.

There's not space here to recount all that has happened but I am sure that if you compare the Box River Benefice when Rob joined 6 or so years ago with now you will appreciate how different it is and that he will be leaving the villages and churches in good health and good hands. There is always room for more help but the administrative and ministry teams are working well together and will help us during the vacancy. I've lived in Assington for 30 years and both my daughters attended Boxford CEVC Primary School so I know

the Box River villages, and I will be nearby to help support in my role as Rural Dean.

Change is rarely comfortable and there can be a sense of sadness when a parting of the ways like this happens. Emotions of loss and anxiety about what will happen next become mixed with feelings of anticipation and excitement. The search for who will next lead us as rector of the Box River Benefice won't start until the vacancy formally begins later in July when Archdeacon David Jenkins and I will be on hand to guide and help. But rather than focus on what happens next, let us all join in with what is happening now in our churches and communities. The end of June is still some way off so there's still time for us to enjoy Rob's ministry.

Rob's last service will be on 29 June at St Mary's, Boxford when everyone will be welcome to come along to say a final thank you to Fr Rob and family for all they have given while they have been with us.

*Simon White,
Rural Dean*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Benefice Office

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

Fr Rob Parker-McGee SR
01787 210434 email: boxriverrector@gmail.com



The Box River Benefice

Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton,
Little Waldingfield and Newton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JUNE

- Sun 1st 11am** *Boxford Open Gardens with Edwardstone*
- Tue 3rd 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Fri 6th 10:30am** *Coffee Morning, St Lawrence's, Lt Waldingfield*
- Sat 7th 6pm** *Music for a Summer's Evening, St Mary's, Boxford*
- Tue 10th 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Tue 17th 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Wed 18th 10am** *Coffee Morning, All Saints', Newton*
- Sat 21st 10am** *Coffee Morning, St Mary's, Boxford*
- Sun 22nd 11am** *Newton Open Gardens*
- Tue 24th 10am** *Drop in for Coffee, Mary's House, Boxford*
- Sat 28th 5pm** *Wattisham Military Wives Choir; St Mary's, Boxford*

A FOND FAREWELL TO FATHER ROB

On Sunday 29th June at 11am at St Mary's, Boxford our Benefice will gather for Father Rob's last service. As he, Sarah and their family prepare to embark on the next chapter of their journey, we will come together in worship, gratitude, and reflection, celebrating the impact Father Rob has had on our parishes and communities. Father Rob's dedication, kindness, and unwavering guidance have shaped our Benefice family, offering wisdom and compassion to all. His presence in our lives has been a true blessing, and his ministry has left an indelible mark on us all. Following the service, parishioners are invited to gather to express their personal thanks and share fond memories. As we reflect on Father Rob's years with us, we hold onto the lessons, kindness, and faith he has shared. Thank you, Father Rob, for your dedication and service. May you be blessed in all that lies ahead.

BENEFICE OFFICE – OPEN AS USUAL

As Father Rob and his family prepare to leave, we want to reassure everyone that the Benefice Office and Clergy Team will continue to operate as usual. I will remain on hand to support you with all enquiries, answering them directly or forwarding them onto someone who will be able to assist you, I will be contactable by email, to deal with emergency queries, 7 days a week and while transitions bring change, the Benefice's commitment to serving the community remains steadfast. Please do not hesitate to reach out—we are here to help.

Liz Potter, Benefice Administrator.

OPEN GARDENS

We are very much looking forward to the annual opening of Boxford gardens with Edwardstone on **Sunday 1st June** between 11am and 4pm. Tickets are £6, under 16s are free, available at the main ticket stall at the St Mary's Church. For more information or to open your garden please contact Audrey Zuck, audrey@a2zriskservices.com

Discover the beauty of Newton Green's gardens at our Open Gardens event on **Sunday 22nd June** between 11am and 5pm. Tickets are £6 and will be available on the day at the Village Hall, where you can also enjoy refreshments and convenient parking.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD FLOWER FESTIVAL

Little Waldingfield will be holding their bi-annual flower fes-

tival this year on **30th and 31st August**. We are always keen to encourage new people so if there are any flower arrangers out there who would like to join us, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Nancy Roser on 01787 882897 or nancyroser2004@yahoo.co.uk

ST MARY'S BOXFORD - MUSIC IN JUNE

Saturday 7th June at 6pm – 7pm, *Music for a Summer's Evening*, Suffolk Clarinet Quintet Recital. Admission is free, so just come along. There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Mary's Church Organ Fund: enjoy a glass of wine after the concert.

Saturday, 28th June at 5pm, *Wattisham Military Wives Choir*. Tickets £10, available at Boxford Post Office, or contact Alison 01787 211067.

SAVE THE DATES

5th July - *Summer Coffee Morning, with stalls, inc Pie & Pasty Stall, Bric-a-Brac, Tombola and Raffle*, Newton, 10 – 11:30am

5th July - *Music for a Summer Evening, Patricia Eddington & Tom Cogan, Voice & Piano*, St Mary's, Boxford, 6pm

12th July - *Charlie Haylock, The History of Surnames*, Edwardstone Village Hall, 7:30pm

22nd July *Fr Rob's Licensing at St Mary and St Nicolas Parish Church Spalding*, 7pm

30th & 31st August – *Lt Waldingfield Flower Festival*

FATHER ROB LICENSING IN SPALDING

You are warmly invited to the Licensing Service of Father Rob at St Mary and St Nicolas Parish Church, Spalding at 7pm on 22nd July. This special occasion marks the beginning of his new ministry, and we'd love for you to be part of it. As a Benefice we are looking to arrange a return coach to take people to and from the event, if you could contact the Benefice Office to book your seat by 10th June. A suggested donation of £10 would be appreciated or whatever you can afford. Join Father Rob, Sarah and their family in celebrating this new chapter with prayers, fellowship and joy.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOXFORD "MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING"

SATURDAY 7th JUNE

6pm – 7pm

FREE ADMISSION

SUFFOLK CLARINET QUINTET



Enjoy a glass of wine after the Recital.

RETIRING COLLECTION IN AID OF
ST MARY'S CHURCH, ORGAN FUND.

NEWTON FIRESIDE CLUB COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 31st MAY
10.00 - 11.30am
NEWTON VILLAGE HALL

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

Donations of raffle prizes, cakes and savouries
and plants would be most welcome

For further details
please contact Sue on

01787 379204

or

07881 383998



Newton Open Gardens

Sunday 22nd June 2025
11am - 5pm

Tickets £6

Children under 12 FREE

Available from the Village Hall on the day

Refreshments

Plant Stall

Free Parking at the Village Hall

Do join us for our first open gardens

Many of the gardens involve a stroll along
beautiful country lanes, but there is additional
parking for the gardens in Rectory Road



WILLIAM ALSTON CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 21st JUNE
10.00 - 11.30am
NEWTON VILLAGE HALL

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



ALL WELCOME!

PICNIC IN THE PARK!

JUBILEE GARDENS NEWTON GREEN

 SUNDAY 29th JUNE 2025  FROM 12 NOON

Please do join us for a village picnic.
Bring your own food and drink, picnic blanket and gazebo.

This is a free event, but there will be a raffle

Further information from Sue on 07881 383 998



BOXFORD
GARDENING SOCIETY

The Holy Island

Orchids of Lindisfarne off the coast of Northumberland

Reinhild Raistrick - Artist and Orchid Specialist



Tuesday 3rd June 7.30pm
at Boxford Village Hall



Fleece Jazz at
Stoke-by-Nayland Hotel presents

The Benoit Martiny Band

Wednesday 11th June 2025 8pm - Tickets: £20



The Benoit Martiny Band consistently pushes the limits of jazz fusion, discovering new sonic realms with contagious energy and flawless musicianship.

Benoit Martiny – Drums
Sandor Kem – Bass
Jasper van Demme – Sax
Joao Driessen – Saxes
Frank Jonas – Guitar

Horn Factory

Wednesday 25th June 2025 8pm - Tickets: £15



Fast-moving, hard hitting, foot-tapping contemporary big band jazz.

An 18-piece band

Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Keepers Lane, Leavenheath CO6 4PZ

Ample parking; fully accessible. Directions: 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

GROTON HISTORY SOCIETY

JUNE

20



'The Cambridge 5 Spy Ring'
Elite Betrayal

Trevor Barnes

Journalist, Author and a founding member of the Groton History Society.

@ Groton Village Hall: 19:30 - 21:30

£5 entry, includes Glass of Wine
(Students free)

THE BOXFORD SOCIETY

OLD PICTURE SHOW

FROM THE ARCHIVE

SHOWING AT

BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY 12TH JUNE 2025

7.30PM

PART 1: COX HILL, ELLIS STREET & BROAD STREET



By popular demand Roger Loose will be showing old pictures and maps of these ancient parts of our village. He will explain through pictures the origins and history of these streets, shops and buildings, and the people who lived there in the last century.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see just some of the many elements of the Boxford Society Archive on the screen.

Entrance is free to Boxford Society members and just £5 at the door for visitors.



COMBINE CULTURE & COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

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

WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE

THE ECLECTIC VICTORIAN GARDEN

The expansion of the British Empire, extensive plant collecting and technological innovation during the Industrial Revolution fuelled garden development and design possibilities. This talk examines the quest for the unusual and the amazing diversity which resulted. A must for those with a passion for gardening!

Contact: info@TASstourvalley.org.uk
quoting BRN or simply click the QR code
which will take you direct to our website
www.TASstourvalley.org.uk



Boxford Open Gardens 2025

Opening Times	Tickets	Things to Do
Sunday 1st June 11am - 4pm	£6 / free for under 16s Purchase at the main ticket stall at the Church, or at the first garden you visit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gardens in Boxford and Edwardstone New gardens to see Children's Trail Choir performances by "Madrigalia" Teas, coffees, cakes
More Information	<p>Audrey Zuck audrey@ a2zriskservices.com</p>	

Boxford Summer Market

Saturday June 28th
10am - 1pm

📍 Boxford Village Hall - CO10 5NP

Local artisan craft stalls, food and drink

Free Entry

Scan the QR code to find out more

Instagram: [Boxford_Market](https://www.instagram.com/Boxford_Market)

FOOTBALL FUN DAY

📅 14TH JUNE 2025
11AM UNTIL 3PM

📍 HOMEFIELD PLAYING FIELD, BOXFORD, CO10 5AE

- INFLATABLES
- BEAT THE KEEPER
- RAFFLE
- CAKE STALL
- BBQ
- BAR
- PLAYER AWARDS
- FUN GAMES

FREE MINI'S COACHING SESSION

INTERESTED IN JOINING ONE OF OUR TEAMS? - MEET THE COACHES
INTERESTED IN BECOMING A COACH? - TALK TO US ON THE DAY

EVERYONE WELCOME - BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY

WWW.BOXFORD-ROVERS-YOUTH.COM

 *elizabethmartland*
dealwisart



STUDIO SALE

MAY 31 - JUNE 1

10- 4 pm & by appointment

@ 1 HOMEFIELD, SWAN ST, BOXFORD, CO10 5PB

Discover our fresh
summer menu
& the friendliest
welcome
— only at the
Fox & Hounds

Watch out for
Pan-Asian & Indian nights
Coming Soon!

Enquire now...

Church Street, Gröton, CO10 5ED
01787 210 474

Don't worry we are still serving the Thai
dishes you know & love plus weekly specials!

10% Discount with Menu Flyer

Daily Menu

Starters & Salads

- Pan-fried Garlic Mushrooms (v) - £6.50
- Bruschetta - with tomatoes & fresh basil - £6.50
- Prawn Cocktail - with Marie Rose sauce - £7.50
- Buffalo Mozzarella, Tomato & Basil (v) - £7.00
- Mixed Leaf Salad (v) - with house dressing - £5.00
- Greek Salad (v) - in oregano-infused olive oil - £7.00

Mains

- Filet/Ribeye steak & chips, mushies & toms - £24
- Beer-Battered Fish & Chips, tartar & peas - £15.50
- Country Pies (v) - veg & mash/salad & chips - £15.50
- Lasagna (v option) - beef or veggie, salad - £12.50
- Chicken Parmigiana - veg, mash or chips - £13.00
- Bangers & Mash - with creamy mash & gravy - £12.00
- Gammon, Egg & Chips - & garden peas - £12.00

Desserts

- Fudge Brownie - with cream or ice cream - £6.50
- Tarte au Citron - with cream or ice cream - £6.50
- Profiteroles - fresh cream & chocolate sauce - £6.50
- Waffles - cream or ice cream & topping - £6.50
- Mr Whippy-Style Cone - £2 (kids) / £3 (adult)
- Cheesecake, Sundaes, Thick Milkshakes - £6.50
with Extra Toppings:
Banana · Biscoff · Chocolate ·
Nutella · Mango · Oreo · Salted Caramel ·
Snickers · Strawberry - 50p each

**C
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OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 29 June 2025
11.00 to 5.00

20 Gardens Open - Refreshments - Gardener's Market

Adults £7.50 Children and Parking Free

WiFi can be problematic so cash payment would be appreciated

Dogs on a lead welcome

Chelsworth on the B1115 between Sudbury and Stowmarket · IP7 7HU

Proceeds to All Saints Church Chelsworth (XR8792)

www.chelsworth.onesuffolk.net



Prime Sponsor
CADE HILL
Investments

Receive
10% discount
with this voucher

Minimum Spend £15
maximum discount
£10 per customer

Valid 22/05/25-
22/07/25

Gift vouchers
available

Complete for free entry
into prize draw.



Name:
Email:
Tel:

01787210474
info@foxandhoundsgroton.co.uk

Kids Menu

Mini Fish & Chips -
lightly battered cod - £6.50

Chicken Nuggets - with chips
& a pot of ketchup - £6.00

Sausage & Chips -
a pub favourite in mini form - £6.00

Mini Lasagna (v) homemade veggie
lasagna & garlic bread - £6.50

Cheese & Tomato Pasta (v)
comforting & delicious - £5.50

Kids Desserts

Ice Cream Sundae -
choice of strawberry,
chocolate, banana or
Biscoff topping - £3.00

Chocolate Fudge Brownie
- served warm or cold
with ice cream - £3.50

Kids Waffle - with a scoop of
ice cream & topping
of choice - £3.50

Mr Whippy-Style
Ice Cream
Cone - £2.00

info@foxandhoundsgroton.co.uk

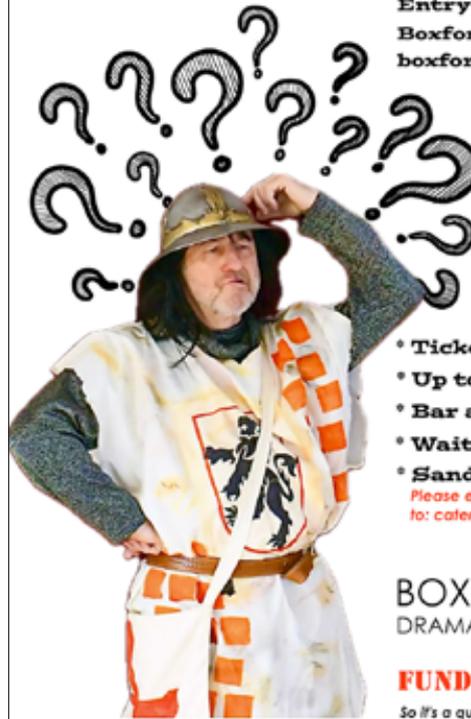
10% Discount with menu flyer
up to £10 per customer.
01787 210 474

QUIZ NIGHT

Boxford Village Hall
Friday 27th June - 7:30pm

Doors open at 7:00pm

Entry by ticket only, from
Boxford Post Office - or
boxfordshows.uk/tickets



An evening
of brain teasers,
laughter and
friendly
competition

- * Tickets £10 per person
 - * Up to 8 per table
 - * Bar and Raffle
 - * Waiter drinks service
 - * Sandwiches included
- Please email any dietary requirements
to: catering@boxfordshows.uk

BOXFORD
DRAMA GROUP



FUNDRAISING EVENT

So it's a quiz, not a performance, ok?



charity No:
1037332

JOIN US FOR THE "FOBS GONE BARKING" FUN DOG SHOW

Saturday 7th June

1pm-3.30pm,

Boxford Primary School playground

Stone Street Road, Boxford, CO10 5NP

A paw-some event for dog lovers and families



Competitions (with prizes!!)
- £2 per entry (or £10 for 6)

- "Puppy Love" for pups under 2
- "Golden Oldie" for those over 8
- "Fine Pedigree,"
- "Fancy Dress"
- "Great Cross Breed"
- "Child's Best Friend"
- "Best Condition," and
- "Best Trick."

Don't miss out on the
delicious treats at our
drink and cake stall.



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS ENHANCING BOXFORD
PRIMARY SCHOOL'S PLAYGROUND, SO YOUR PARTICIPATION
WILL MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE!



LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

Saturday 28th June 10am - 1pm

Sellers - To participate as a seller, please contact Sue Bowen: 07962 210359 01787249473
sd.bowen@btopenworld.com (by 24th June)

Fee £5

(for advertising, signs, maps and donation to Parish Room funds)

This is a great opportunity to recycle items you no longer need to raise money for yourselves and the Little Waldingfield Parish Room Trust.

You set up your stall at the front of your property or there are some pitches available (with tables) in the Parish Room and we provide a map to buyers showing where you are.

Buyers - A map showing participating properties will be available from the Parish Room, Church Road CO10 0SW on 28th June for 50p.

Light refreshments will also be available in the Parish Room during the Sale.

All funds raised go to the Little Waldingfield Parish Room for its upkeep.

MILDEN MIDSUMMER BARN DANCE

WITH CEILIDH GROUP

CAT'S WHISKERS

BBQ-HOG ROAST-BAR-MUSIC - 5PM
DANCING - 7PM

Entrance £15 per person

Under 14's Free

Please purchase tickets in advance via:

email: info@mildenpavilion.co.uk

Phone: 01787 248145

Online: Eventbrite - Milden Midsummer

LOWER FARM
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MILDEN, IP7 7AN
BBQ & LICENSED BAR
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FREE PARKING

SATURDAY
21 JUNE
5PM TO 11.30PM

In aid of Milden Pavilion

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ST MARY'S CHURCH,
BOXFORD, SUFFOLK

and

BOXFORD
FRIENDSHIP GROUP

present

WATTISHAM MILITARY WIVES CHOIR

Saturday 28th June at 5pm

Held at St Mary's Church

£10 tickets with refreshments

Raffle prizes



Ticket Information
Contact Alison
01787 211067

Buy tickets from
Boxford Post Office
1 Swan St, Boxford

THE FLEECE HOTEL

Charity

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

Wednesday 11th June 8pm
Wednesday 16th July 8pm
Wednesday 13th August 8pm
Wednesday 10th September 8pm

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

Up to 6 people per team, call 01787 211 818 to reserve a table!

POLSTEAD FILMS

BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY

Friday 13th June, Doors open 7pm

POLSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

"The sequel we didn't know we needed, Mad About The Boy is a heartfelt, charming return to the chaos surrounding the one and only Bridget Jones. You might even shed a few tears."

Tickets £5. Email: polsteadfilms@gmail.com to reserve or buy in Polstead Community Shop.

The film starts at 7:30pm and will finish around 9:45pm.

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



KERSEY OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 7 June 2025 11am to 5pm. Adults: £5, Under 16s: Free

With over 20 gardens to explore and refreshments available in the village hall throughout the day.

Cash only please for entry, and food/drink purchases.

Proceeds will be shared between St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich and Kersey Projects for community events.

Contact us at: kerseyprojects@gmail.com for further details.

BRENT ELEIGH OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 1 June 2025 2 to 5pm. At the village hall there will be flowers and plants for sale, along with tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes and biscuits. In addition, down at Tudor Cottage there will be classic cars to look at and admire.

SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 28th June Winston's Wheels Summer Fair with table top sale and fun dog show in Newton Village Hall and field behind 10am til 3pm

GROTON VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 7:30pm

The Annual General Meeting of Groton Village Hall will be held in the Hall (formerly the WI Hall) at 7:30pm on Wednesday 25th June 2025 for the following purposes:

1. To receive the Report & Accounts for the period to 31 March 2025
2. To elect members of the Management Committee
3. To conduct any other relevant business.

All residents of the Parish of Groton, aged 18 or over, are entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.

By order of Groton Village Hall Management Committee – 7th May 2025



BOXFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 30TH JUNE 2025

7pm for 7:15PM start at The Pavilion

ALL WELCOME

THE HISTORY OF SURNAMES BY CHARLIE HAYLOCK



SATURDAY, 12TH JULY 2025
DOORS OPEN AT 7.00 PM FOR 7.30 PM
EDWARDSTONE VILLAGE HALL

ADMISSION - £10.00 BAR & RAFFLE

To purchase your tickets please contact:

Ineke Morris: 07765 098864

Marlene Clarke 07884 312953

PROCEEDS TO GO TO OUR CHURCH, ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EDWARDSTONE

PUB NIGHT

**THE FATHEN INN
IN MILDEN PAVILION**

**Friday 6th June
6:30 pm-11pm
Licensed bar**

Organised by Mildren Cricket Club. All Proceeds go to Mildren Pavilion (charity No.304919), St Peter's Church (charity No.XN56419) and Mildren Cricket Club

**WITH MARK MASON
(CLOSE UP
MAGIC)**

**DELICIOUS
HOME COOKED
PUB MEAL
ONLY £7.50***

**'IT'S GOING TO
BE MAGIC!'**

*Per serving, from a selection.
Subject to availability.

*An intriguing Suffolk pub and restaurant
with rooms, it has oodles of charm*

MID-WEEK LUNCH

Monday - Friday, 12pm - 2pm

Two course £25 | Three courses £30

TASTING MENU

26th June, from 6.30pm

5 courses & wine pairing, £95

BEER GARDEN

*Enjoy a drink or two in our
beer garden...*

www.thebildestoncrown.com/



*Charming family and dog friendly
country pub with large beer garden*

WEDNESDAYS

Any Burger and a selected drink, £18

TRACTOR RUN

Sunday 29th June

BEER FESTIVAL

23rd - 25th August, Bank Holiday

Real ales, craft ciders, live music & BBQ

FIREWORKS

Saturday 1st November

www.thelindseyrose.co.uk | 01449 741424



LEAVENHEATH EVENTS
SUMMER FETE
Saturday 5th July
11:45am-5:30pm
LEAVENHEATH VILLAGE GREEN & HALL
LIVE MUSIC FROM:
CCJ'S BAND, SARAH MAI VOCALIST,
THE HAPPY SOUNDS CHOIR & HADLEIGH UKULELE GROUP
SHOWS FROM:
SANDAL STICKS THEATRE, STROLLERISE DANCE FITNESS
& MISS G'S DANCE ACADEMY
FOOD FROM BISHOPS CATERING
LICENCED BAR BY THE HARE & HOUNDS
STALLS FROM A HUGE VARIETY OF VENDORS
CLASSIC CAR SHOW ON THE GREEN
RAFFLE & TOMBOLA
CREAM TEAS IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ICECREAMS, INFLATABLES,
VARIOUS ATTRACTIONS,
GAMES & DISPLAYS TO ENJOY.



MILL TYE
MILL TYE GALLERY
& ARTS CENTRE
Terry Flower
'A Sense of Place'
June 2025
New work by artist Terry Flower
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE - Mill Tye Gallery June 2025
Workshops and Artist Demonstrations
'A Sense of Place' Exhibition Preview Day
Saturday 31st May 2025 from 10:30 am to 6:00 pm
Join us for complimentary drinks as we celebrate
the opening of Terry Flower's Exhibition.
The exhibition continues until Sunday 29th June 2025
www.milltyegallery.co.uk/exhibitions
Mill Tye Gallery and Art Centre 3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye, Great Cornard
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0GW Visit: www.milltyegallery.co.uk
Open: Thursday to Sunday from 10:30am to 4pm. Free Admission.


MONKS ELEIGH
FETE & DOG SHOW
Saturday 7th June 2025
1pm to 5pm
 Recreation Ground, Church Hill, Monks Eleigh IP7 7JL
Traditional family fun and games
Free entry & parking
MORRIS DANCERS

• Donkey Rides	• Dog Show classes:
• Children's Tent	• Handsomest dog
• Bar and BBQ	• Prettiest bitch
• Afternoon Teas	• Waggiest tail
• Traditional fete games	• Best rescue dog
• Vintage cars	• Golden Oldie (8yr+)
• Face Painting	• Doggy Derby

Lots of other stalls including Bric a Brac, Plants and the famous Preloved Clothes Greyhound Trust, French's Care Haven, Cinnamon Trust, SeeDee Pets, & many more.
 Proceeds of the Fete will be used to maintain St. Peter's Church, a 15th century place of worship in the heart of the village

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE LINDSEY ROSE?

The Lindsey Rose prides itself on being a hub of our pretty village of Lindsey. A new menu full of pub classics has been unveiled. It's important to us that families feel welcome, and we've created a wholesome childrens menu that receives good reviews. Our milkshakes are a particular highlight with children! Our Sunday roasts are also a winner at The Lindsey Rose and you need to get in quick to book a table.



Our Maize Maze returns this summer! An attraction for you to enjoy with the children.

Do we have the best beer garden in Suffolk?

The beauty of the pub is its spot in stunning Suffolk countryside with an incredible beer garden and the best views of the sunset across the field in the summer months.

Grab a pint of our local ale and enjoy the view – it's bustling with locals and folk from further afield.

What's on this year?

Every Wednesday. The Lindsey Rose holds Burger Night. For just £18, you'll enjoy a burger and any pint of Mauldons, Carlsberg, Aspalls, soft drink or a small glass of house white or red wine.

August 24th, 25th & 26th 2025. Annual Beer Festival. A weekend full of ales, ciders, lagers, fun ... and maybe even some sun! In August last year, we served 2,258 pints of ale across the weekend of The Beer Festival!

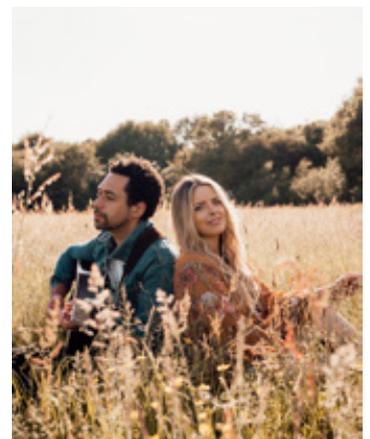
www.thelindseyrose.co.uk

THE SHIRES

The UK's biggest country music export, *The Shires* have announced an exclusive East Anglian show this summer when they will appear in an exclusive summer afternoon matinee concert at The Lavenham Annual Undercover August Theatre on **Saturday 16th August 2025**. On site parking, camping, bars and food.

Also appearing in that week of concerts are Dr Feelgood, Clearwater Creedence Revival, The Carpenters Experience, Scott Bennett's Comedy Zone, Genesis Connected, The Manfreds Featuring Paul Jones, Shakatak and T-Rextasy/Absolute Bowie.

For more information or tickets visit www.weloveconcerts.com or ring 01256 416384



FASHION SHOW

Stoke by Nayland Village Hall. Friday 13th June at 6:30pm. In aid of local hospices.

Collections from Laura Jane of Woodbridge and Puzzle of Ipswich and Felixstowe. Claire, a colour analyst, will also be present to give comments.

Tickets are £10, which includes a glass of wine or soft drink and nibbles, and can be bought from Park Street Stores in Stoke by Nayland. Please buy your tickets early as we need to have a minimum of 50 people to make it a viable event. Why not come along with friends and neighbours and get some ideas for your spring/summer wardrobe.

We will also be holding a raffle to raise funds for this very worthwhile cause.

Beth Baker and Marian French

BOXFORD WI UPDATE

We have a fantastic programme for the second half of 2025, with guest speakers which include the Hadleigh Ukulele Group.

So if you are interested in joining the WI why not come along to the village hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm where you will receive a warm welcome.

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 June – September)

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



NATURAL BOXFORD

The Amazing World of River Flies

On the last weekend of April, the Natural Boxford river group took part in national and Europe wide river surveying as well as our regular activities. Earthwatch's 'WaterBlitz' saw us recording water quality data from our 5 usual sites, and the Rivers' Trust's River Watch involved observing the river for fifteen minutes and recording a range of information from observations of feelings to wildlife spotted. We are all enjoying the interaction with our River Box, getting to know it through the seasons, observing changes and spotting a wide variety of wildlife. Get in touch if you would like to join us.



We are lucky to have Adrian Chalkley living in Boxford (County Freshwater Recorder) who has been surveying and monitoring the miniature life in our waterways for decades and building a comprehensive and invaluable archive of information. He recently treated us to an entertaining and informative talk on the River Fly helping us citizen scientists identify what we collect in our samples. He has kindly written a guest article for us this month to introduce you to the wonders of these tiny creatures.

“The two main types of riverflies are Mayflies and Caddis Flies and the purpose of riverfly surveying is to collect a standardised sample and count how many different species are in the river. Repeating the survey at regular intervals allows you to monitor differences in those counts. If there is a difference in the river conditions eg from rainfall or pollution, it will be reflected in the species counts. Stoneflies are also counted if present - one species occurs in Hol Brook Lake.

Different riverflies have their own life histories but all hatch from eggs, live for some time as a larva, turn into a pupa then become an adult and fly away from the river. Having mated, the riverflies lay more eggs and so the cycle repeats. In the River Box and its feeder streams I have identified 10 species of mayflies and 24 species of caddis.

This photo shows the adult of *Ephemeroptera vulgata*, the largest mayfly in the River Box and one which can often be seen flying near the river between May and August. As with all



Mayflies the larva hatches out at the surface then flies to a nearby bush to rest. This first stage is called the sub imago and only lives for a short time before it splits down the back and a second adult stage, the imago, complete with new wings flies off to mate. The males form swarms flying up and down in a mating dance, usually above some plant or tree, to entice females in. The females fly in and mate, and then fly upstream and lay up to 6,000 eggs, a few

at a time, by dipping the abdomen into the water. When all eggs are deposited she settles on the water and dies. The eggs hatch into nymphs which spend the next two years burrowing through the mud and eating organic detritus, usually leaves, which slowly decay in the water. Mayflies are the only insects in the world which hatch into a sub imago and again into the imago.

As explained above there are many more Caddis Flies than Mayflies in our river. Many Caddis flies build tube like protective cases which they live inside. The caddis larva is able to spin a web from a gland under its head and it collects stones, sand grains, sticks, leaves etc. which it assembles into a tube – see right. The web it spins is as strong as spider silk and is sticky even under water. Inside its case it is somewhat protected, it holds on with two hooks at the tail end and protrudes the head to feed with strong jaws mainly on plant material such as algae which it scrapes from stones. The larva may live for a year, sometimes two and then it seals the end of its case and the whole body changes shape into a pupa, like a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. Finally the adult bites its way out and swims to the surface before flying away to mate and then lay eggs to continue the life cycle. There are some caddis which I have recorded in the river for over 40 years living their same life cycle unseen by passers by.



Most of our 24 species have only latin names, the photo (right) shows *Agapetus fuscipes* protruding out of its case of small stones; a colony of these has been living outside the White Hart for the last 40 years that I've lived in Boxford!



There are caddis however that make no case and live a very different life. This photo shows the larva of a species called *Hydropsyche siltalai* which I first found at The Wash in 1984 when we moved here. The last photo shows how it spins its silken threads into a fishing net between stones on the river bed. The free living larva hides under one of those stones and comes out to eat anything that the river flow has deposited into the net. It is hard to see the nets, picking up a stone causes it to collapse into nothing.”



Next time you look at the river and it appears there is not much happening just imagine all these hundreds of mini-creatures busily living their lives amongst the silt and pebbles. Of course, they are also food for others - many of our garden birds, as well as swallows and increasingly rare flycatchers rely on insects and feed them to their young.

You may not be aware that the drains at the side of the road flow directly into the river. Please consider carefully what you are allowing to be washed down into the watercourse. For example, when cleaning the car make sure you are using biodegradable products which will have less detrimental impact on the inhabitants of the river.

Thanks again to Adrian and our enthusiastic and dedicated river group.

Much love, Louise on behalf of all at Natural Boxford.

PHOTOS AND STORIES FROM BOXFORD SOCIETY VILLAGE ARCHIVE

Isaac Strutt and a glimpse of Georgian life in Boxford and Groton.

Many Boxford surnames have endured down the ages, from those who lived in abject poverty to some of the wealthiest families in the area. Eventually some names die out as the younger members of a generation seek fame and fortune elsewhere. One such important family which appears to have disappeared from Boxford is the Strutts.

Isaac Strutt first came to my notice in connection with the building of Semer workhouse (Box River News April 2024). He was a Georgian gentleman with homes and lands in Boxford, Groton and surrounding towns and villages. When he died his will was 27 pages long and his accumulated wealth was the equivalent of £36.5 million in today's money; quite impressive for someone following on in the family business as a carpenter and coppicer.



Isaac Strutt (1746-1829) in the year of his death riding to Groton Place, painted by John Robert Hobart (1788-1863). The original at Thetford Museum is seriously defaced in the centre. It was a gift from Prince Duleep Singh in 1921 along with the house that is the Museum today. Digital software has been used to complete our copy.

The earliest Boxford reference to a Strutt is Anne Strutte marrying Joseph Brand 1st Mar 1602. The Isaac Strutt in this story (nicknamed Rodney after the Admiral Rodney, a controversial figure of the time) was born to William Strutt and Elizabeth (née Child) who are both buried inside Boxford St Mary's Church, where William was church warden. Their son Isaac Rodney 1746-1829 then took on the role of church warden. Isaac's grandparents were Francis Strutt (1678-1729) and Katherine (née Rutter). Amazingly their legible gravestones still stand in the churchyard by the north wall of the church.

We know little of Isaac Rodney Strutt's early life except that he was one of about 12 siblings living in Boxford. He and his wife Elizabeth Church, daughter of the then Boxford Rector, appear to have had no children. However, his siblings had many children who were also heirs to his fortune, hence the very long will.

We do know he ate well and particularly sweet things. A 'Mrs Strutt of Boxford', probably Isaac's mother, is recorded as being a sharer of her large cheese cake recipe and various other sweet meats. They were discovered in a collection

MRS STRUTT'S GOOD CHEESECAKE WITH CURD (BOXFORD)

A pound & half of Curd (four quarts of Milk make that quantity) when it is well drained, five ozs of Butter, beat these in a Mortar till all look like Butter, six Eggs with half the whites, a little beaten Mace, two spoonfuls of thick Cream and half a pound of fine sugar a quarter of an hour bake them in puff paste in a quick oven. Put in what currants you think proper.

Elizabeth Hicks: late 18th Century

Mrs Strutt of Boxford's Cheesecake recipe.

of recipes gathered by Elizabeth Hicks from friends in the late 18th Century and later turned up outside a solicitor's office in Colchester and published in 1978.

It would appear that Isaac Strutt's forebears had done well as coppicers and carpenters. This is hardly surprising as at the time houses here were still largely built of timber (coppiced woodlands were a vital resource for fuel, construction, and a variety of craft industries, including basketry, fencing, and charcoal production). His grandfather is referred to as a coppicer in the court book of Peyton Hall 1706, when he acquired Frogg Hall by copyhold. This meant that technically the tenant owned it, but the Lord of the Manor held the Freehold title. He passed it on 20 years later to Thomas Brooks, a wool comber, possibly because the timber on the land was exhausted and no longer of any real value to him.

Isaac Rodney Strutt was born into the profession of carpenter and no doubt took on apprentices as his father had done before him. We know about him through his work as church warden and as a business man mentioned in the diaries of two Suffolk aristocrats. Frances Leeke of Yaxley Hall near Eye was agent for his half brother Reverend Seymour Leeke, who owned it. Both were grandsons of Lord Scarsdale. There was, for a long time, a strong Boxford and Groton connection between Isaac Rodney Strutt and the Rev. Seymour Leeke. They had clearly developed a beneficial friendship and business association.

By October 1778 Rev. Leeke had purchased or rented the 'Manor of Groton, Suffolk' which he retained until c.1785. We cannot be sure if Isaac Rodney Strutt owned the Groton Place part of the manor before this, or only after Rev. Leeke left. It may just be that Isaac introduced the Rev. Leeke to Groton Place, which he then lived in. Soon after Rev. Leeke moved in he brought his mother Christiane to Groton Place, having already packed his wife off four years earlier to her father with a good annuity for life! There is clear evidence that Isaac owned Groton Place by 1785, when Leeke left to go back to Yaxley Hall.

We know Isaac Strutt must have carried out some rather costly work for Rev. Leeke, probably at Groton Place and Yaxley Hall. On December 4th 1782 Leeke records in his diary, "the bargain I made for removing the great barn at Yaxley to Isaac Strutt of Boxford. He to pay every workman, also thatching, all nails, bricks, mortar, and every expense, and is to have 100 pounds and the tiles for himself." It seems, given the Rev. Leeke's love of pomp and show, which he inherited from his grandfather the Earl of Scarsdale, he did a lot to Groton Place before he came to reside there. Soon we find, "gates came down from Strutt's. Went to Sudbury to buy a carpet and paper for the great parlour at Groton. Went to Colchester and paid Bartholomew for the marble chimney piece nine pounds four shillings." This was certainly not for the "Farm near the Wood", which he let to Mr Thomas Jacobs early



Rev. Seymour Leeke of Yaxley Hall by J. Sanders c1761 as a Cambridge student where he gained his qualification but he never practised as a vicar.

in 1780. He also took on the responsibility of holding a Manor Court in The White Hart, which was at that time in Groton parish. He brought a man down from Eye to act as Steward. He clearly saw himself as a man of some importance in Groton and Boxford.

Rev. Leeke only resided at Groton Place for a few years, but he and his half brother Francis Leeke entered fully into all the festivities the neighbourhood offered. Immediately after their arrival, early in February 1778, they both became members of the Boxford Club, the membership fee for which was one guinea. Before the end of August they had returned "visits" with all the country gentry they met there. On September 18th 1778 Rev. Leeke writes, "we kept Queen Elizabeth's birthday, and our own a harvest frolic," and then on the 21st, "was chosen last Friday one of the Governors of Queen Elizabeth's charity school at Boxford."

In the following year, on April 1st 1779, they all attended Boxford fair, when Rev. Leeke records that he spent one pound 17 shillings and nine pence, mostly on China and glass, and gave eight of his servants five shillings each to spend. We can only assume Isaac Strutt was enjoying the same kind of pleasures.

A letter, likely from Francis Leeke to his brother Rev. Leeke, gives an account of several things relating to Isaac Strutt visiting Yaxley Hall. "Mr Strutt has been with me with his accounts which I have signed. So far I think it is right as to work done, being myself on the spot during the performance, but cannot be a proper judge in regard to the measured work, that is the prices per square yard, as that is out of my way. As to the articles, on reading them through, I could remember them clearly. The bill itself is considerably larger than I should have thought, and I am sensible that Mr Seymour Leeke was not aware that he owed Mr Strutt so much. In balancing the account we made a mistake of 3 pounds 13 shillings and 9 pence, and instead of 736 pounds eight shillings and six pence, Mr Strutt has received 740 pounds two shillings and three pence as he had underwood (done work under the roof) to that amount which was omitted."

On 12 November 1779, Rev. Leeke took Isaac Strutt with him to Yaxley and together they visited Carleton Rode "to value the Carleton enclosure, when I sold the timber and Pollards which I was compelled to take down on account of the exchange of lands". No doubt Isaac Strutt was the purchaser. Isaac Strutt also purchased Groton Wood in 1779. In another comment Leeke wrote, "Ann Disley was shot in my kitchen by accident on Friday Sept 1st 1780". This is just after he



Christiane Leeke, mother of Rev. Seymour Leeke, came from a military, aristocratic family. Her family were close to the Russian Royal Family. She died at Groton Place of heart disease.

Until last year, historians thought the English birthplace of John Winthrop Jr., Groton Place, had been destroyed.



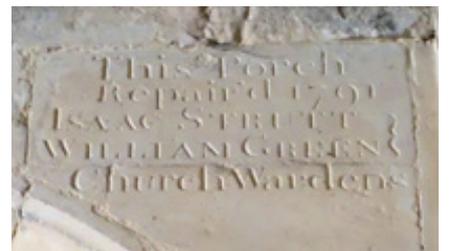
Renovating Groton Place in 1980s and discovering the Tudor building beneath the Rev. Leeke Georgian refacing.

■ Groton Place, above, as it appears today.
 ■ Renovations in the 1980s, left, photos revealed the original Tudor structure of the Winthrop homestead.
 ■ Period portrait of John Winthrop Jr., inset left.

seems to have moved to Groton, although it could have been at Yaxley, and we have no idea how bad the injuries were.

During the five or more years the Leeke brothers lived the high life in Groton, Rev. Leeke's mother Christiane died, aged 70. She was temporarily interred in a vault at Groton awaiting removal to the ancestral home. Rev. Leeke continued to reside at Groton Place for two years longer, and the diary records many visits to the Boxford and Bilston (Bildeston) Assembly Rooms (Possibly a large room above a public house, similar to that at the Boxford Fleece). The entries in the diary in 1781 are very thin, consisting mostly of arrangements about servants and their wages, but there is one entry of interest, indicating as it does a custom of those days. "August 3rd, Bound over my footboy (footman) Abraham Mattock to John Hall of Woolpit for 5 years. £8 I gave with him," and then on November 30th he writes "Began to take the Chelmsford News and gave up the St James Chronicle." Some time after his mother's death he records that he sold his farm at Groton to Admiral Rowley.

We hear again of Isaac Strutt in 1791 when he and William Green, another Church Warden, repaired St Mary's South Porch. The Greens too have been long standing church wardens as both their fathers worked on an indenture in 1758 on behalf of the church lands.



This inscription is high on the right hand wall of the South Porch of St Mary's Church, Boxford and reads: "This Porch repaired 1791 Isaac Strutt William Green Church Wardens."

"Twixt William Strutt Boxford (Carpenter) and Robert Green Yeoman, Church wardens of Boxford and James Gardner Yeoman of Boxford. All those 3 pieces of land called Boxford Townlands and one other piece of land called Boxford Townland and one other called Town Pightle, now in occupation of Jacob Aleston and James Gardner. Rent £6.10s, £1.6s & £1. Farming practices to be no more than 2 crops a year, 15 loads of good rotten muck, left Summer tilled." This brought in funds to maintain the church, other church responsibilities (the poor houses and the bridge) and to support the poor at home.

In 1790 Isaac Strutt and Hugh Green (related to William Green), commission Thomas Osborne of Downham Market to make the



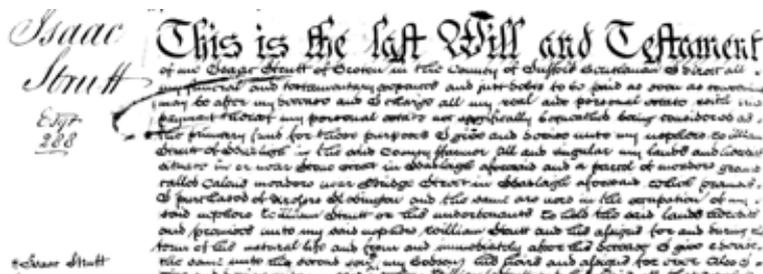
Groton Place today

5th church bell. Besides the maker's mark it bears the names of these two 18th century church wardens. This role was demanding, varied and responsible work bringing prestige to both families.

In 1805 Isaac Strutt is mentioned in the Bury and Norwich Post with a notice to register his gamekeepers according to the new law of that year. It shows that Isaac owned considerable land and was now well and truly part of the upper echelons of Suffolk society.

In 1813 Isaac Strutt is described as a 'Timber Merchant' and has an "11 year land lease of the Place Lands, Brick Kiln Field and messuage, called Middle Farm, Groton, except timber with extensive conditions from Sir William Rowley baronet of Tendring Hall." Are the special conditions ones that permit coppicing and felling trees for timber? Isaac seems on a continual search for purchase or lease of lands where he can harvest timber.

Isaac lived out the latter part of his life at Groton Place and gets to enjoy much of his own improvement work, embellishment and the Georgianisation of the house carried out for Rev. Seymour Leeke. He continues to ride his horse down from Groton Place past Groton Church to Boxford Church where he worshipped and worked all his life. He has almost reached the pinnacle of South Suffolk society and now has at least three portraits commissioned.



Part of page 1 of the 27 page Will of Isaac Rodney Strutt dated 1829. Dozens of beneficiaries are named.

After Isaac's death on 4th Jan 1829 at Groton Place his nephew, another Isaac Strutt, takes over the property (is he that Isaac Strutt or yet a *third* Isaac from Norwich who was chased by relative Isaac Rodney Strutt for the Boxford Poor Rates?) "April 1792 Received of Mr Isaac Strutt of Norwich 19 pounds 9 shillings and twopence for a bastard child by the girl Woolard". This appears to be Elizabeth Woolard born 22 Oct 1786. The sum represented over £4,000 in today's money and will have protected the mother and child from the poor house. This fine prevented the church wardens from needing to find other means to support Elizabeth and her mother. The general Poor Rates would presumably have been helping support them for the previous 6 years.

There are few records relating to Isaac Strutt, nephew of Isaac Rodney, but the most interesting is the theft of his corn from a barn half a mile from the house. The court case resulted in the transportation of the criminals to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania).

(Research for this article threw up many confusions relating to Groton Place and connected properties, as well as fanciful, but historically inaccurate, stories about the origin of Isaac's nickname. Any new reliable information will be gratefully received.)

Tina Loose

EBONY'S DIARY

The lovely weather continues and all our ponies and riders and making the most of it. One of our long time resident ponies, April, has now been retired and is enjoying life as a companion. We have a new pony, Taric, on loan and when he has settled in we hope he will prove a good replacement for April, being a similar size.



As well as ponies and helpers coming and going, we have riders leave for various reasons and new ones are taken on. Sue, who is a physiotherapist, assesses potential riders before they are offered a place at the Centre. Last autumn, Bella, a delightful and bright 4-year old came in her tiny wheelchair to be assessed as she needed help to strengthen her core muscles. When she arrived she spent time stroking a pony before



Bella with Sue.

Sue carried her on her hips to assess how wide Bella's hips would open. Although she wanted to ride a live pony it was clear she needed to start out using Ebony, the mechanical horse. Initially her little legs were so tight she couldn't stretch her legs down and was very floppy and couldn't sit up on her own needing a volunteer on either side to hold her up. She was happy playing games and stretching to reach things and was an absolute delight to work with. After a few weeks she was trotting and cantering on Ebony, sitting up much straighter and for longer, and her legs relaxed more. Then to everyone's delight she was ready to ride our lovely pony Thomas. This is helping her progress even more – what a star!



Diana and Chocolate.

At the other end of the age scale, on Tuesday afternoons we have elderly, frail and dementia patients come for Tea with a Pony. Spending time petting the little ponies Chocolate or Cookie is very therapeutic, especially as many of them once rode or kept horses. And there is a lovely cuppa and cake afterwards. Pictured is 88-year

old Diana with Chocolate. She rode for much of her life and loves the opportunity to be around the ponies.

Our fundraising continues apace. Last month our walk, followed by homemade cakes raised over £1,000 and as I write this we are preparing our stand at the Hadleigh Show.

Events coming up include (for details see our website or contact the centre):

29th June - Long Distance Ride

18th July - Summer 'Fiesta' Ball. There are still a few places available for anyone who would like to attend.

www.shelleyrda.com

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WE'LL MEET AGAIN - AN EVACUEE'S MEMORIES

A Talk to LWHS by Bryan Thurlow

Little Waldingfield History Society was delighted to welcome Bryan to the Parish Room With a background in professional theatre & drama, having worked in theatre, TV, and taken educational theatre to schools across East Anglia, it was no surprise his supreme acting skills shone through.

He began by getting into character, dressing up as Billy Jackson, a pearly king from Bethnal Green. Whilst doing so, he got the audience to sing 'We'll meet again' - happily his singing voice is good and there were a couple in the audience who also sang well.

As Billy Jackson Bryan recounted a stay as an evacuee on a Suffolk farm, during the war, along with dramatic events that befell both he and sister Doris on their brief return to London. If we hadn't known that Bryan was too young to have been an evacuee, his performance was so good we would have thought he had been. Below I've tried to capture the essence of the story, which is in fact an amalgam of memories taken from interviews with a number of actual evacuees. This wasn't easy because Bryan spoke for more than an hour with hardly a pause. What follows are the words of Billy and various members of his family, as recounted by Bryan.

Billy's childhood was spent in Bethnal Green in a close-knit community based around his Mum and Dad, his sister Doris and a neighbour they called Aunt Maud, who was a great baker of cakes and buns, and fondly remembered. His mum used to take in washing, which needed a fire to heat the copper, which Billy would light. He also remembered that it was hard work operating the mangle. Dad was a milkman who made deliveries by horse and cart, and Billy fondly remembered the horse's name being Rhubarb, from the old adage that horse muck is good for your rhubarb!

Life was good, with their local school just six doors away and the Odeon cinema club beckoning every weekend when mum had sufficient housekeeping money left over. In winter they could also keep warm as 'Uncle Vic' (Maud's husband) was a projectionist. Billy also recounted bus trips to Southend before the war, with the joys of eating sandwiches on the beach, though perhaps not so much eating winkles with a pin.

As war threatened dad joined the army and left the family home, and mum took work in a munitions factory. Soon after she packed them both off to stay with cousins on a farm in Suffolk. Billy then 12, told of the thrill going on a very long and slow train journey with Doris, then 10, the delight of seeing a huge sow with 18 piglets, and riding on uncle's big Suffolk Punch horse, Sampson.

Billy told us how quiet the nights were after London, and also how dark as there were no street lights. They had to rise early because breakfast was always at seven, when they had their farm produced eggs with really yellow yolks, home cured bacon and field mushrooms.

School was a three mile walk to a neighbouring village, but they did not dare to be late because they would be punished with loads of lines to do. After just a couple of weeks, war was officially declared, but after this nothing really happened - it was the so called Phoney War.

Still there at Christmas 1939, mum sent a present of a knitted



balaclava for him and a pair of gloves for Doris, along with a promise that she would be with them for Christmas. Happy hours were then spent in putting up Christmas decorations: rusty tinsel, paper chains and some bakelite baubles for the purloined tree, along with dangerous looking clip on candle holders.

Shortly after this came the disappointing news that mum had to work over Christmas. Despite this, Christmas was still good, and got better when, just before New Year, mum sent another letter saying they would be soon be going home - not much had happened in London either. They returned home after Christmas, and then dad suddenly turned up with a 48 hour pass, so mum recreated another Christmas dinner. Things remained quiet, and there were few children, who were mostly evacuated.

In September 1940 the London Blitz began. Having no Anderson or Morrison shelter, the family hid under the stairs or went to a large public shelter with saucepans as crash helmets, but sleep was difficult and there "were bad smells from the lavs".

A little later Aunt Maud said they could now shelter in the underground, which quickly became a huge community. Boy Scouts built three tier bunks along the walls, they could play games like Ludo, Snakes & Ladders and Tiddly Winks, and could also sing songs with a wind up record player.

One night in late November, the crashes and bangs from bombs became much louder and people could feel vibrations through the floors, whilst the all clear was much delayed and there was a smell of burning rubber. Billy then spoke of the palpable tension as people emerged from the shelter, and the shock of his mother upon seeing their house with no front. It was horrible.

Billy and Doris were packed off again to Suffolk whilst Mum moved in with Aunt Maud. They were comforted by their country relatives but it was not such a happy time because it was just so quiet, until that is, RAF and USAAF airfields began springing up. As Billy said, the thrum of bombers taking off and landing was amazing, though there were always less returning home. In 1942 came the devastating news that dad was "missing presumed dead". Mum arrived soon after, putting on a brave face, but their dad never did return home.

After the war Billy returned to Bethnal Green, living with mum in a brand new prefab - they had to wait eight months - and later he too became a milkman, just like dad. Doris later married and moved to Cornwall, and so the wonderful tale ended.

Our audience were completely spellbound throughout Bryan's talk, which was simply superb.

We very much look forward to welcoming guests both old and new to the Parish Room, Little Waldingfield for our next talk on 18th June. Miriam Stead will tell us all about Walpole Old Chapel, a historical gem and one of the oldest non-conformist chapel meeting houses.

Andy Sheppard

BOXFORD GARDENING SOCIETY MAY MEETING

Bryan Thurlow, founder member of Berkeley Square Music Hall Co., took on the character of Mr Potter, a nineteenth century gardener to Glebe House, a large estate in Bury St Edmunds. He took us through his career there and the restoration of the long lost knot garden and after many years of growing vegetables and flowers for the owners finally losing the whole lot to a modern new owner who sadly built over it. An enchanting and enjoyable evening.

To join us for our talks, we would welcome you as a guest or make enquiries by email:

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BOXFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

A visit to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (School value: Respect)

Year 5 and 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Neasden. The children asked some thought-provoking questions during their visit and every child's behaviour reflected the school values excellently.



Celeste, a Year 6 pupil, reflected on her visit by writing a recount:

Stepping off the bus, I was immediately spellbound by the temple's breath-taking features: gleaming white marble glistened in the sunlight; red and white flags waved in the breeze; marble columns stood proudly in the courtyard; and a colossal statue of a man in gold, I later learned to be a guru, sat there, legs crossed.

Our tour guide, Jamili, took us into the inner sanctum, the heart of the mandir. There were shrines of deities (seven in total) where people prayed five times a day. We witnessed the third prayer, the Arti, which we watched with interest. Some of the students from Boxford even joined in with the clapping.

We learnt about the different gurus. The current guru does not want a statue and reflects how humble he is. The gurus have no worldly possessions except for two pieces of cloth which they drape over themselves.

An extract from 'Visiting the mandir'
Celeste, Y6

SATS (School value: Perseverance and Positivity)

We have had another busy term with many sporting clubs and trips. Year 6 are currently undertaking their SATs and they should be proud of what they have achieved. Every child has approached their learning with a smile this year and the school are immensely proud of their accomplishments. The results will be shared with parents later this term.

Would you like a school tour?

If your child is looking to start school in September 2025, or move mid-year, please contact Mrs Clarke in the office on 01787 210332 or email office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk. We would be more than happy to arrange a school tour for you to see our exciting curriculum at Boxford Primary.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Mr. S. Reynolds
Assistant Headteacher

Remember!

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



Elaine Carpenter

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

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A SENSE OF PLACE

New work by artist Terry Flower

We are delighted to welcome back a talented artist who first exhibited their evocative photographic works here at Mill Tye Gallery in June 2022. Their imagery captured the essence of our riverside location, inspired by the tranquil beauty of the river Stour as it meanders from Sudbury to Mill Tye. Visitors connected deeply with this celebration of our local landscape, and we are thrilled to host their return as our Artist in Residence this June.



For a month, our first-floor gallery will transform into a vibrant studio and exhibition space, offering a rare opportunity to witness the creative process in action. The artist will work across a variety of media, including pastel, charcoal, acrylic, photography, and even poetry, drawing fresh inspiration from the textures, colours, and atmosphere of the Stour and its surroundings.

Visitors will have the chance to engage informally with the artist, learning about their evolving practice and how their connection to the landscape shapes their work. Additionally, three themed workshops will be offered, inviting participants to explore, interpret and express their own impressions of the river and countryside.

This residency promises to be an inspiring exploration of place, creativity and the artist's journey. We hope you'll join us to experience it firsthand.

Terry Flower is an artist and educator living on the Essex Suffolk border. He trained at Goldsmiths College London, BA Hons. Fine Art. The University of Brighton, MA illustration and The University of Essex, MA Creative writing.

Exhibition Preview Day

Join us for drinks and nibbles as we celebrate the opening of the Terry Flower's Exhibition on **Saturday 31st May** from 10:30am to 6pm. The artist will be available to discuss his work throughout the preview event. RSVP is recommended to secure your place at this exclusive launch.

Exhibition Dates: Saturday 31st May to Sunday 29th June 2025.

Mill Tye Gallery and Arts Centre
3 Cornard Mills, Mill Tye, Gt Cornard, Sudbury CO10 0GW

Gallery open Thursday to Sunday 10:30am - 4pm.

Free Admission and Free Parking (in the car park before the level crossing)

This year, Mill Tye Gallery and Arts Centre is thrilled to participate in the Suffolk Open Studio initiative. Throughout June, the gallery will host Terry Flower, who will provide live demonstrations over key weekends, supporting open studios and local art trails. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to watch an artist at work and gain insight into the creative process!

Discover more about the exhibition and register your interest at www.milltyegallery.co.uk

READERS' LETTERS

LESLIE GIBBONS

We would like to thank everybody again for the cards and very kind words after the loss of our father so shortly after our mother.

His fight with Alzheimers has come to an end. As was both of their wishes there will be no funeral.

Raymond, Malcolm & Susan

Dear Editor,

Having lived in Boxford for many years, we have seen many changes in parking but just recently it has become even more horrendous due to inconsiderate parking of the bowlers using the Boxford bowling green. They take over the whole village stopping people shopping and using our pubs as they just cannot park. It is difficult enough for them to make a living without stopping customers being able to park, a lot of elderly people use our shops but can't carry shopping far - it just isn't right!



What I don't understand is there is more than enough parking at the other end of the Croft where they would not be in anyone's way! It is totally avoidable the chaos they cause for such long lengths of time. It is also the way they park taking two to three spaces for one vehicle (see enclosed photo).

I'm sorry to be writing to you moaning but enough is enough!

Name withheld at writer's request

Dear Editor,

Once again, the centre of the village is being affected by the inconsiderate parking of bowlers. It's difficult to understand why they choose not to use the perfectly suitable playing fields car park, which is only a short walk from the club. Doing so would greatly reduce the negative impact their parking has on the village.

Local businesses are losing customers who are unable to find parking and simply move on. Residents without private parking struggle to find spaces near their homes or to accommodate visitors. Moreover, this adds to the congestion in an area that is already busy at times, often for several hours at a stretch.

While it's wonderful that the bowls club provides enjoyment and a sense of community for its members, the ongoing parking issues are unfortunately causing frustration for village residents and businesses. A more considerate approach would benefit everyone.

Name withheld at writer's request

Dear Editor,

Why do the bowlers have to park in the village centre when they have a perfectly good parking area at the top of the Croft?

I feel sorry for the people that live along Broad Street and Ellis Street and the businesses it affects. Must drive them nuts!

Name withheld at writer's request



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HADLEIGH & BOXFORD PPG

Out of Hours Doctor: Need a doctor when the Health Centre is closed, including weekends? Call 111 for advice and details of your nearest 'out of hours' duty doctor.

Boxford Update: The Boxford branch surgery will close on 30th June. The practice has been working on plans to implement the closure and mitigate the effect of losing their pharmacy. To this end the practice is installing a 24-hour medicine collection machine in the car park. The machine will be for dispensing patients only but will reduce the footfall in the surgery during main opening hours. It will allow patients who sign up to be sent a code when their medication is loaded and then to be able to collect out of hours if they wish. The machine is secure and safe, will not contain controlled drugs. No car parking spaces will be lost.



Anima: Have you registered with the online triage system Anima? If not, it would be wise to complete the registration process before you become unwell and need to use it. You can register via one of the website addresses below or by using your NHS app. You can create your own unique Anima username and password. If you do not have access to a computer or the internet or you are unable to register yourself you can telephone the surgery, a care navigator will help you. All requests for an urgent on the day appointment, a routine GP appointment, home visit or a mediation review should be submitted via Anima. However, appointments for nurses and blood tests etc. can still be arranged over the telephone.

IT Help: Once a month Communities Together offer helpful IT advice in the upstairs room of the Hadleigh Library. The next session will take place on Tuesday 3rd June from 10am to 12noon. Booking is essential as places are limited. Call Tracey 01449 707031 or email info@communitiestogether-ea.org

Manic Mondays: Could you postpone your Monday morning call to the Surgery to avoid the early morning rush? There is an 30% increase in phone calls on Monday mornings. If your call could wait then please choose another time or just use Anima. This will be less stressful for you and free up slots for more pressing cases.

Free Parking for Patients: If you have to use Babergh's Toppesfield car park when you have a health centre appointment, you can register your car inside the practice and have 2 hours free parking. This concession only applies to patients visiting the practice for an appointment or medication. Sadly, this useful concession and the use of the free practice car park is already being abused by motorists with business in the town and not in the practice. Please leave both areas free for patients. Blue badge holders do not have to pay but must clearly display their badge.

Art Display: Our thanks to Carla Wiggins for loaning her pictures these past few weeks. Caroline Farrell's artwork is now on display in the waiting area. Enjoy her restful pictures when you next visit. All are for sale with some of the proceeds going to the practice's charitable trust.

Envisage Board: The rolling screens in the waiting area now include a 'rogues' gallery of all the doctors. Not sure who you will be seeing? Check out the photos on display for further information.

Both practices: 01473 822 961

Anima link: www.hadleighhealth.co.uk/anima

Website: www.hadleighhealth.co.uk

PPG Chair/ Art Work: Jan Devey deveys@btinternet.com
01473 827091 or 07881 798999

MILDEN PAVILION GRANT SUCCESS

We are delighted to announce that Milden Pavilion and Playing Field has been awarded a Community Development Grant from Babergh District Council to support our new veranda!



This grant for £8,900 along with support from Milden Parish Meeting, Milden Cricket Club, Milden Singers and monies from fundraising events ensured we were able to replace the tired wooden decking with a new modern and sustainable area which can be accessed easily. The enhanced outside area now offers a welcoming space that can be used all year round. With special thanks to local business, James Smith Landscapes who ensured the veranda was completed in time for Milden's VE80 celebrations. Our community and village groups joined together at Milden Pavilion as St Peter's Church bell rung out in united celebration with cathedrals and churches across the nation. We enjoyed a relaxing evening over food and drink and as darkness fell, we lit our beacon.

In an idyllic setting Milden Pavilion offers stunning views across open countryside and it is a lovely venue for family gatherings, children's parties or private events. With use of the playing field it is an ideal place for both young and old to relax and play together. For more details and to enquire about hiring this well-equipped facility please visit www.mildenpavilion.co.uk



Milden Singers VE80 concert

Dressed from the era the singers performed a concert of nostalgic songs which included a sing-along to war time classics. They raised £800 to support Milden Pavilion and the raffle raised £210 for the armed forces charity SSAFA. Pearl formed the Milden Singers over 10 years ago and during this time their concerts have raised a staggering £20,000 to support Milden Pavilion, along with thousands of pounds raised from their raffles which are held at each concert to support a wide variety of charities. It goes without saying Milden Pavilion Committee wish to thank Pearl and the singers, not only for their support but the enjoyment and pleasure singing brings to all. Pearl has decided to step back from organising the choir on a weekly basis but watch this space as they may have a 'pop up' concert from time to time.

FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

County Councillor for the Stour Valley

New cabinet role to lead on devolution and local government reform in Suffolk

A new Suffolk County Council cabinet role responsible for devolution and local government reform has been created. Cllr Richard Rout has been appointed to the role which comes as Suffolk is 1 of only 6 areas in the country chosen by the government to be fast-tracked for devolution and local government reform.

The reforms will see all six of Suffolk's district, borough and county councils disbanded, to be replaced by one or more unitary authorities responsible for delivering all local services that are currently delivered by the different tiers of local government.

It will also see the election of a mayor covering Suffolk and Norfolk in 2026, who will take control over strategic policy areas like transport infrastructure, economic development, health improvement and blue light services – along with devolved government funding to deliver positive change. The mayor would not run the unitary councils or have oversight of them.

Suffolk's 45 libraries see new investment as SCC plans to take service back in house

All Suffolk's 45 libraries will remain open, see no change to opening hours and have new mobile libraries and computers as part of a plan to bring the service back into SCC. Staff running Suffolk's library service – along with their years of experience and love for libraries - will transition to the direct employment of SCC on 1st June 2025.

The council will invest £200,000 in replacing Suffolk's aging mobile libraries with a further £157,000 for new books and to replace public computers in libraries across Suffolk. This is in addition to the £6.6 million a year budget available for Suffolk's libraries.

It follows an attempt to secure an external provider for a new year contract which had to be abandoned due to difficulties in aligning submissions with the service requirements and budgets.

Following the end of the procurement process, SCC entered negotiations with Suffolk Libraries (the current provider) to reach agreement on a shorter-term contract. The intention was to secure the immediate future of the library service from 1 June 2025, while the longer-term future was considered. Suffolk Libraries were unwilling to accept those terms and proposed different ones which weren't acceptable to SCC and would have breached procurement law.

In addition, serious concerns about the viability of Suffolk Libraries also surfaced. The concerns included their proposal to reduce opening hours by 30% and issues with the financial stability of the organisation. There is also concern about the cost of their head office, including senior managers, which equates to 33% of their annual staffing costs. SCC believes that more of the library budget should be invested in frontline services.

£4 million skills funding boost for Norfolk and Suffolk

Up to £4 million will be spent delivering free skills training to an extra 1,345 adults across Norfolk and Suffolk in 2025/26.

The funding has been allocated to SCC by the Department for Education to support the continued success of the region's Skills Bootcamps, which help people gain the skills they need to land well-paid jobs in high-demand industries.

The industry-led courses are key to driving economic growth in the region, supporting both the Local Growth Plan for Norfolk and the Suffolk Economic Strategy. They are designed to address skills shortages in sectors like digital technology, construction, engineering, net zero and childcare.

The flexible and accessible nature of the Skills Bootcamps makes them ideal for adults looking to upskill, change careers or return to work. Courses last up to 16 weeks and offer a combination of online and in-person learning to suit a variety of schedules.

Each course is tailored to meet the specific needs of local

employers, ensuring that learners are trained in areas where there are real job opportunities.

The funding also offers a boost to businesses, enabling them to train new staff or upskill existing employees. Many of the training costs are covered, and employers can work directly with training providers to create courses that align with their needs.

Suffolk Highways launches weeds and grass management programme for 2025

Spring has sprung and Suffolk Highways has commenced summer maintenance works which will see thousands of miles of grass verges cut and 2,300 miles of weeds treated. Cutting is scheduled to start in May with the grass verges alongside A and B roads being cut first and receiving two cuts each summer. Verges alongside smaller roads, such as the county's C and U class roads, will be cut once during the summer season.

Cutting is typically undertaken by tractors with a flail as this is the most efficient and effective way to undertake the vegetation works and dry weather is required as wet grass can clog the machinery. These cuts are solely for safety purposes and district and borough councils will usually supplement these with amenity cuts throughout the year.

Weed treatments have already commenced across the county. All weed treatments are weather dependent and cannot be applied in high winds or if rain is forecast due to this reducing the effectiveness of the treatment. Glyphosate is currently used for the treatment as this is not harmful to people or pets and has proved to be more effective than alternatives previously trialled in Suffolk.

99% of pupils receive a preferred primary school place on National Offer Day

99% of children were offered a place on National Offer Day at one of their three preferred primary schools and 96% were offered a place at their first preference school.

Suffolk County Council received 6,695 applications from parents and carers indicating which primary school they would prefer their child to join in September 2025.

Families who applied online can log in to the online service from today to see the school their child has been offered. They will also receive an email to confirm this offer unless they have indicated that they do not wish to. Letters were sent to parents who made a paper application by second class post on 16 April 2025.

Infrastructure reform could silence Suffolk's communities in 'energy onslaught'

SCC has serious concerns about proposed reforms to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, as announced by government on Wednesday 23 April. It is part of plans to cut by a year, the delivery of clean energy projects, public transport links, and other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

This has potential for a significant impact on Suffolk's communities who are at the forefront of many NSIPs including solar farms, offshore energy and nuclear.

One of the proposals is to remove the duty on project promoters to consult and engage with communities before a project is presented to the Planning Inspectorate. Further, the duty to have regard to any comments on voluntary consultations undertaken by a promoter is also proposed to be removed.

SCC will be submitting written evidence to the Bill Committee outlining its concerns and opposition to the proposed changes.

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. If you want to find out more about what it's like to foster or adopt with us, please call a member of the team on 01473 264800 or visit www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk

James Finch

james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk

Tel: 01206 263649 / Mobile: 07545 423796

FEEDBACK FROM BRYN HURREN Babergh District Councillor for Box Vale Ward

So lovely to see the sun at last but some showers would be nice as well, it is so important to our area and employment that agriculture not only survives but prospers as well.

Agriculture is still the second biggest industry in our Babergh Mid Suffolk area behind tourism but the two are intrinsically linked together. Someone has to look after our beautiful countryside to keep it thriving for the tourists to want to come to see it. County responsibility should look after our roads, signage and rural transport to enable locals and visitors alike to travel within and visit our area with ease, safety and comfort. This is definitely not happening due to the ever-increasing financial pressures that we are all experiencing throughout every tier of local government.

There is also a realisation that an all-county authority is too big and unwieldy to do a proper job for all and has just lost contact with local people and the real issues that matter. This brings me seamlessly to the big debate currently going on across our region which is the offer of devolution to a mayoral system with a mayor for the combined counties of Suffolk and Norfolk who will be the sole contact to the government on the bigger issues that effect our region such as transport and larger building projects including utilities and infrastructure, including the ability to have a precept to raise monies via local council tax, such as the dreadful Police and Crime Commissioner already does. God forbid we end up with both bleeding us dry financially. This process was originally meant to save us, the taxpayers, money.

Then all the other responsibilities of the combined counties will be run and maintained by the new unitary authority, replacing the current county and district councils.

We get no say on the mayoral issue but we will have an election to decide who the mayor will be next May 2026 from any candidate who decides to put their name forward. Let's hope it's not a political wannabee who follows a party line dictated from above. We need a mayor who speaks for local needs not more political claptrap.

We do however get some say in the size of the new unitary councils and the 5 district councils and the borough of Ipswich have unified to put forward a plan for three across all of Suffolk, with each representing a population of around 260,000 electors.

One scheme that has worked well for all my local villages is the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) that is collected for most planning permissions. This levy is collected at various stages of the build-out of the properties being developed and final payment demanded upon completion. 15-25% of the money collected is paid out to the host PC depending on whether they have a neighbourhood plan or not and the remainder is placed in the District NP pot for distribution across the wider council area.

More locally I am very busy with doing the rounds of annual parish meetings - 3 down and 3 to go. Much easier now to be able to stand up to deliver them and to walk about and work now, still early days but well on the path to a complete and successful process back to full mobility. This also makes it easier to do all the casework and local stuff that requires meeting residents and acting on their behalf.

All still going well with much to do on housing and planning matters, along with the need to balance the books and give the best value we possibly can with our 9% share of your hard-earned council tax. This equates to about a fiver a week for most properties, still excellent value for all that we do I hope.

Keep well and enjoy the summer and upcoming holiday season.

If you need your district councillor, I am always available on the contact details below, or catch me as I pass, but moving a bit quicker now.

C.O.Y.B. Give us just one more win against the Hammers.

Bryn

bryn.hurren@babergh.gov.uk

Tel: 01787 210854 / Mobile: 07771 508348

KERSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kersey CE Primary School is a warm, inclusive village school located in rural Suffolk, serving a mixed catchment area. With just three mixed-age classes, we take great pride in our close-knit community and our commitment to the well-being of every child in our care.



Oak (KS2)

Oak class have been reading and rehearsing script adaptations from Thomas Taylor's *Malamander*. We have been creating our own interpretations of the characters and acting out our ideas!

Sapling (KS1)

Sapling class have been excitedly preparing their comic strip for the Hadleigh Show education tent. They look forward to sharing their character 'Kersey Kale' with you.

Acorn (EYFS)

Acorn class have been busy learning all about pirates. They have enjoyed walking the plank and finding sparkly treasure and golden coins.

If you would like to know more about Kersey School or would like to arrange a visit please ring the office on 01473 823397, email kerseyoffice@tilian.org.uk or visit our new website www.kersey.suffolk.sch.uk.

Mrs. Lizzie Cousins
Acorn Class Teacher

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PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

BOXFORD

Summary of Council Meeting 22nd April 2025

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Pot Holes – The large hole on School Hill has been filled but others are still present. The clerk to email Cllr Finch to report.

Housing Needs Survey – The meeting received an update from Hugh Phillips. The Executive Summary has been received and discussed with Community Action Suffolk and as it can now be made public. It was reported that out of 610 surveys delivered, 190 were returned, which is a normal response

Public Forum: A resident wished to comment that the sign for ‘parking for Primrose Wood’ has been removed from Goodlands. Cllr Watt mentioned that it is possible that a parking area will be made at the end of the second set of houses.

The ongoing parking issues at Brook Hall Road were again raised, Cllr Warren will enquire if there are any updates.

A resident asked for an update on the speed limit reduction. Cllr Wortley advised that the clerk has approved the changes by email and the matter is now with SCC. A resident suggested that we mimic Dedham’s safety campaign by putting ‘drive carefully’ signs around the village made by the school children. It was agreed that this was a good idea and will be looked into.

District Council Report: DCllr Hurren’s full report can be found on the BPC website.

County Council Report: CCllr Finch’s full report can be found on the BPC website.

Finance: The finance report was accepted and can be found in full on the BPC website.

Cemetery: Cllr Warren advised that he wishes to make a planning application for works to trees in the cemetery, with the assistance of the village tree warden. There are a number of problems with some of the trees, some potentially dangerous. It was resolved to raise the cemetery fees.

Environmental and Ecology: The Croft – Trees; native or ornamental? It was thought that there should be an emphasis on native, if possible, but potentially to plant blossoming fruit trees, underplanted with native bulbs.

Planning: The full planning details can be seen in the minutes on the BPC website.

Date of Next Meeting: 27th May 2025 at 7pm in the village hall.

Parish Council meetings are on the 4th Tuesday each month except in August and December. They are held in the village hall starting at 7pm. 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 and other documents mentioned above can be found at: <http://boxford-pc.gov.uk>

Zoe Rumsey

01787 739317 / clerk@boxford-pc.gov.uk

NEWTON GREEN

Summary of Council Meeting 14th May 2025

25/081 Election of Chairman: Cllr Presland was unanimously elected as chairman of Newton Parish Council (NPC).

25/082 Election of Vice Chairman: It was unanimously resolved that Cllr Schwenk be elected the vice chairman of NPC.

25/088 Representatives to Outside Bodies It was resolved that the following appointments be made:

Newton Green Trust:

Cllrs Evers and Taylor

Village Hall Management Committee:

Cllr Schwenk

Alston & Plampin Charity:

Mrs S Presland, Mrs Liza Devlin and Mrs J Taylor

Representative to the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC):

Cllr Taylor

25/091 Councillors roles for Walk of the Parish: The responsibilities for keeping an eye on the village assets and services were allocated as follows:

- Grit, dog and litter bins, benches and bus shelters in the parish (except Recreation Ground) – Cllr Bower
- Allotments – Cllrs Presland
- Defibrillators – the Clerk.
- SID - all
- Recreation Ground - Cllr Evers
- MUGA including tennis net - Cllr Taylor
- Footpaths - Cllrs Schwenk
- Road and grass-cutting issues - all
- Trust assets - Cllr Taylor
- War memorial – Cllr Sherwood.

25/097 Pedestrian Crossing: The clerk updated councillors that following discussions within SCC Highways, it has been decided that if the decision is to proceed with a crossing, it would be a signalised rather than a zebra crossing. However, due to low actual numbers of people crossing the road, as analysed from the CCTV survey, they would like feedback from residents on the crossing point options. The councillors will meet with the SCC design engineer at the meeting in June, where they will finalise the questions to be asked of residents in a survey likely to be conducted in July.

25/098 Neighbourhood Plan: Cllrs Evers and Presland updated councillors that they had met to plan the roles and initial number of members required in the NP working party. Councillors agreed that Cllrs Evers and Presland will lead the operations of the group with up to 4 other residents. It is hoped that Chris Bowden can lead the strategic and support role for the group, as he had done for the initial neighbourhood plan, alongside Dave Crimmin. Cllrs Evers and Presland will now try to identify residents interested in joining the group and will target an open meeting with residents in September.

NPC is looking for applicants to fill the councillor vacancy. If you would like more information on the role, please contact Dave Crimmin as below.

Full minutes can be found at: www.newton-pc.gov.uk

Dave Crimmin CiLCA, PIALC, PSLCC

01787 375085 / clerk@newton-pc.gov.uk

OTHER PARISH COUNCILS

Edwardstone PC

Clerk: Richard Jones - 01473 828246

edwardstoneclerk@outlook.com

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

Groton PC

Clerk: Richard Jones - 01473 828246

grotonclerk@yahoo.com

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

Little Waldingfield PC

Chris White Councillor & Clerk - 07541 133535

clerk.littlewaldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk

<https://bit.ly/LW-parish-minutes>

FRENCH'S CARE HAVEN

We will be having our BBQ open day on **Sunday 27th July** between 12 - 4pm, please put this date in your diary. As well as meeting our animals we should have a variety of stalls and some children's games, along with face painting, there will be refreshments and homemade cakes to enjoy with your BBQ. Come along meet our lovely rescues and have a great day. If you would like a stall please let us know.

Our charity is looking for fundraising volunteers who would like to join our small team. Perhaps you have some good ideas on a fundraising event, or would like to help out in the summer on a stand at a local event. We have a few ladies that have a monthly meeting about fundraising ideas etc, it would be nice if you could join us.



Amongst our lovely rescues are our donkeys. Donkeys like to be with another donkey or more, they enjoy playing together with a ball, toys, or as in the photos a barrel or bucket. They are so funny to watch, they spend so much time playing. It is so sweet, watching two of them play tug of war. Donkeys like to play like this and should have a handle horse ball and some other balls/toys similar to play with.

I was asked to give a talk at The Bygones collectors club in Long Melford last month and had an evening meeting some nice people who were a pleasure to give a talk to. On that day I was a busy bee as usual and rushed around to get to the hall in plenty of time. When I was there preparing to give my talk, I looked down and noticed I had put my dress on inside out. I told the members, as I did not want them to think that was how I normally dressed! They did think it was funny, which was a good start to my talk. The donation they gave at the end of the evening for my charity was wonderful and again I would very much like to thank them as in this time of financial need for our animal rescue to continue running, a cheque that covered a month's hay costs was brilliant. If your group would like me to give a talk, my contact details are below.

We hope to have another dog walk and a meal night soon, so keep an eye out for those dates. For new readers we are a sanctuary for animals and people, nestled in the serene countryside of Groton. French's Care Haven is a registered charity dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating neglected and abused horses and donkeys. Beyond providing a safe haven for these animals, the sanctuary offers Animal Assisted Therapy to support individuals facing mental health challenges, learning disabilities and confidence issues. My contact details are: Jann: **07747 755 556** or email: jann.turner@hotmail.co.uk

www.frenchscarehaven.org.uk

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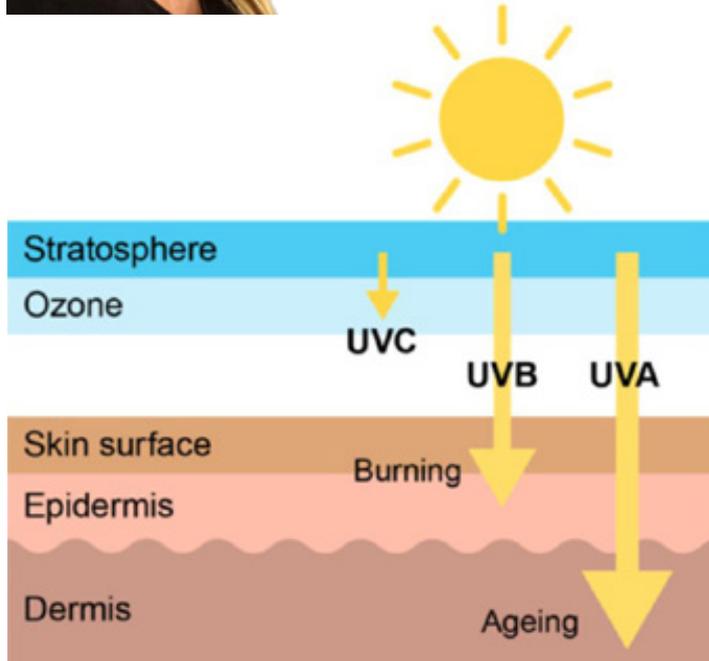
THE GLOW PRO

Decoding SPF (Grab One For 20% off This June!)



Writing about all things beauty means I get to talk about everything, from seasonal trends and skincare to the latest nail inspo. But, if you've been loyal to the Glow Pro for a while now, you'll know there's one topic I always come back to... sunscreen.

I'm no SPF guru, but I do know that sunscreens have come a long way from the greasy formulas that were once smeared on my nose (thanks Mum!). If you're still not into daily SPF, this article's for you



Cancer Research UK

The sun releases UVA and UVB radiation which can penetrate and damage our skin. UVC radiation is also released by the sun but it is blocked by the ozone layer.



New England Journal of Medicine

Let me begin by introducing you to this Canadian truck driver, whose face is all over the internet and has featured in dermatology books, skincare clinics, news articles, and now in the Glow Pro.

After 28 years on the road with the sun shining through the driver's side window, the transformation from the right side of his face to the left is jaw-dropping...

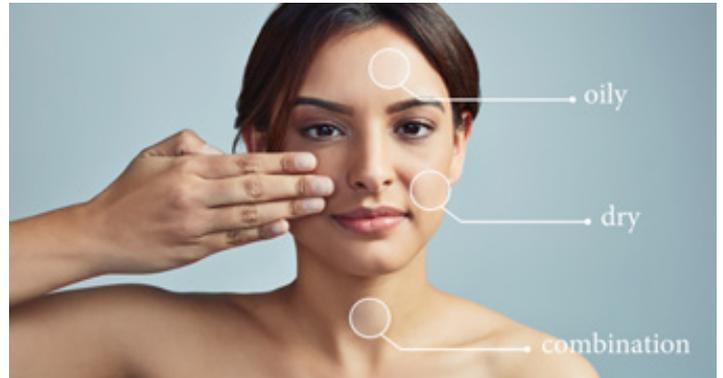
So much so, that many think the smoother side has been photoshopped!

It's a stark reminder that you don't have to be sunbathing for your skin to be at risk.

Let's break those rays down a little further:

A simple habit that makes all the difference is keeping an eye on the UV level, which you can find in most weather apps - mine even advises me on when to wear a hat! And when it comes to picking a sunscreen, opt for one that's broad-spectrum and feels good on your skin (because if it doesn't, you won't use it). A few good questions to ask yourself:

1. What is my skin type?
2. Do I need extra hydration?
3. Am I going to put makeup on afterwards?
4. How long will I be outside for?
5. Do I need something waterproof?
6. Do I care about the finish (e.g. matte, clear, or tinted)?



Once you get in sync with your skin, you'll find an SPF that keeps up with your lifestyle.

For me, Helicore is the holy grail as I can enjoy the sun knowing I'm well protected.

Specifically, I love the Water Gel (**now £28 in clinic, usually £35**), as it keeps my complexion supple and comes in a tinted version, which is perfect for that fresh-faced summer look.

Whether you're after something fuss-free, a shine-proof finish, or a richer formula to soothe dry skin, you're in the right place.

And if you ever need a reminder of why daily SPF matters, just think back to that truck driver!

If this has piqued your interest, why not pop into the clinic to try our testers, or book a skin analysis with one of our Beauty Therapists?

Helena x

office@suffolkmedicalclinic.co.uk
01787 211 000



DIRECTORY OF CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

CLUBS & GROUPS

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

CHARITIES

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

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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

SCOUTING

1st Boxford Beaver Scouts	<i>Not currently active</i>	
1st Boxford Cub Scouts	<i>Susie</i>	07843 280396
1st Boxford Scouts	<i>David Talbot-Clarke</i>	07946 550519
1st Boxford Explorer Scouts	<i>Neil Barkham</i>	07734 108257
1st Boxford Rainbows	<i>Janice Macmillan</i>	07779 303690
1st Boxford Brownies	<i>Janice Macmillan</i>	07779 303690 janice.macmillan@yahoo.co.uk
1st Boxford Guides	<i>Bethany Ireland</i>	bethanyireland11@gmail.com

CHILDREN FAMILIES & LEARNING

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

HALLS & FACILITIES TO HIRE

Boxford Pavilion	<i>Natalie Woods</i>	07772 916135 nataliewoods25@gmail.com
Boxford Spinney	<i>Mark Miller</i>	01787 211596 mark.miller@talktalk.net
Boxford Village Hall	booking@boxfordvillagehall.co.uk	
Edwardstone Parish Hall	<i>Daphne Clark</i>	01787 210698 daphne.clark@btopenworld.com
Edwardstone Millennium Green	<i>Marijke Morris</i>	07914 767013 marijke_e@yahoo.co.uk
Groton Village Hall	<i>Joanna Roberts</i>	07845 940008 jgant87618@aol.com
Little Waldingfield Parish Room	<i>Sue Bowen</i>	01787 249473 sd.bowen@btopenworld.com
Little Waldingfield Pavilion	<i>Jennie Jordan</i>	07522 352558 52Jennie1@gmail.com
Marquee Booking	BoxfordMarqueeBooking@gmail.com	
Milden Pavilion	<i>Pearl</i>	01449 741876 info@mildenspavilion.co.uk
Newton Village Hall	<i>Alan Vince</i>	07955 199000

The Blooming Garden

Wild Orchids.

Like most gardeners I love wildflowers. It is horrific that in the UK we have lost 95% of our wildflower meadows since the 1930s and we have 50% fewer wildflowers than twenty years ago. Thank goodness that many people are beginning to appreciate the beauty and importance of our native flora and to introduce mini wildflower meadows into their gardens.

But the orchids we have lost are not easy to replace, you can't buy a packet of orchid seeds and sprinkle it over your lawn. Years ago many verges in Suffolk were sprayed with herbicides and colonies of orchids were lost forever. And of course, intensive agriculture has led to the loss of many wildflower sites. Fortunately there are now a number of verges that are protected and managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust as Roadside Nature Reserves. They are marked RNR and it is always worth looking to see what is being preserved when you see these markers. It is good to know that a small number of these roadside orchids are safe but they are by no means plentiful. I last saw the very rare Man Orchid on a RNR on the lane near Flowton called The Channel, but that was eleven years ago and there has been no sign of it since.

I have recently been enjoying a book, *The Orchid Hunter* by a young man, Leif Bersweden who spent his gap year seeking out orchids throughout the UK. He had to travel far and wide and many of the sites for rarer orchids are kept secret. With determination and a lot of help, Leif tracked down all our native orchids apart from the incredibly rare ghost orchid, *Epipogium aphyllum*. His enthusiasm for orchids and his love of the countryside make this book a delight to read.



Monkey Orchid, *Orchis simia*

In the Aveyron and the Tarn and Garonne where we spend as much time as Brexit allows, you don't have to go far to find a multitude of orchids in early May and June; they thrive on the limestone 'causses' of this area as do an abundance of wildflowers. As we walk or drive around I am like a child in a toyshop. OK, I don't get to take them home with me but I can take photos and drool over them at my leisure.

The orchids in the above picture are Monkey Orchids, *Orchis simia*. They have little dangling monkey figures. They are also quite distinctive because the buds open from the top to bottom instead of the other way round which is more usual. A very similar orchid is the Military Orchid, *Orchis militaris* which is so rare in England that it is carefully guarded. In fact it is found in only two sites which have been discovered since 1947 when it was thought to be extinct. It has a very dense inflorescence with the paler upper petals and sepals forming little 'helmets' which are supposed to give it a military appearance.



Military Orchid, *Orchis militaris*

Sometimes these two orchids hybridise making identification difficult. Sometimes they hybridise with the Lady Orchid, *Orchis purpurea*. She is very elegant and distinctive with dark bonnets and spotted dresses.



Above: Lady Orchid, *Orchis purpurea*
Left: Man Orchid, *Orchis anthropophora*



The Man Orchid, *Orchis anthropophora* is very rare in the UK. When the flowers are mature they appear to have little yellow dangling men hanging from hoods with maroon stripes.

Another distinctive orchid is the Burnt Orchid, *Neotinea ustulata*. The pretty flowers are lightly fragrant. You can see how it gets its common name as the tip does look as if it has been burnt.

Of course there are plenty of ophrys growing here and they are often difficult to identify as they hybridise. These orchids mimic bees, spiders or flies depending on which insect they are trying to lure to pollinate them.

The one in my picture below is called the Woodcock Orchid, *Ophrys scolopax*. I can't see how it got its name but it is a beautiful orchid.



Burnt Orchid, *Neotinea ustulata*



Woodcock Orchid, *Ophrys scolopax*

I wish I had the space to show you more orchids. On a short walk I found thirteen different ones.

If you would like to know more about orchids that you can find in Suffolk, there is a fabulous book with great illustrations called *The Orchids of Suffolk* by Martin Sanford. It was published in 1991 and is out of print now, but is probably still available on Amazon.

I am sure that I don't need to say that if you find wild orchids you should never, never dig them up. Not only is it illegal, and an act of egregious vandalism but it is pointless too as orchids are symbiotic with mycorrhizal fungus in the ground where they live so if you dig them up and replant them they will die. Take a photograph instead, I have a set of framed and mounted photographs of wild orchids on my bedroom wall and they give me pleasure every day.

Chloris.

EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 2025

23-26 FRI-MON	Little Hall Artisan Market Market Place, Lavenham CO10 9QZ	11-4:30pm
28 WED	Lavenham Gardening Club Talk Lavenham Village Hall CO10 9QT	7pm
31 SAT	Fireside Club - Coffee Morning Newton Green Village Hall	10-11:30am
31 SAT	Mad Hatters Tea Party St Mary's Church, Kersey	12-5pm
31 SAT	Elizabeth DeAlwis Art Studio Sale 1 Homefield, Swan Street CO10 5PB	10-4pm

JUNE 2025

1 SUN	Elizabeth DeAlwis Art Studio Sale 1 Homefield, Swan Street CO10 5PB	10-4pm
1 SUN	Boxford Open Gardens Boxford & Edwardstone	11-4pm
1 SUN	Brent Eleigh Open Gardens Brent Eleigh	2-5pm
3 TUE	Fireside Club - Cream Tea Newton Village Hall	2pm
3 TUE	Boxford Gardening Society - Talk Boxford Village Hall	7:30pm
4 WED	Boxford WI - Games Afternoon Boxford Village Hall	2pm
6 FRI	Pub Night The Fat Hen Inn in Milden Pavilion	6:30-11pm
7 SAT	Kersey Open Gardens Kersey	11-5pm
7 SAT	FOBs Gone Barking Fun Dog Show Boxford Primary School Playground	1-3:30pm
7 SAT	Fete & Dog Show Monks Eleigh IP7 7JL	1-5pm
7 SAT	Music for a Summer Evening St Mary's, Boxford	6pm
8 SUN	Nayland Open Gardens Nayland	11-5pm
11 WED	Charity Quiz Night The Fleece, Boxford	8pm
12 THU	Boxford Society - 'Boxford Old Picture Show' Boxford Village Hall	7:30pm
13 FRI	Fashion Show Stoke by Nayland Village Hall	6:30pm
13 FRI	Polstead Films: Bridget Jones Mad About... Polstead Village Hall	7pm
14 SAT	Boxford Rovers Football Fun Day Boxford Playing Fields	11-3pm
17 TUE	Fireside Club - BINGO! Newton Village Hall	2pm
18 WED	LWHS - Walpole Old Chapel Little Waldingfield Parish Room	7:30pm
20 FRI	Groton History Society 'The Cambridge 5' Groton Village Hall	7:30pm
21 SAT	Newton Charities Coffee Morning Newton Village Hall	10-11:30am

21 SAT	Midsummer Barn Dance Milden Pavilion	5-11:30pm
22 SUN	Newton Open Gardens Newton Green	11-5pm
23 MON	Boxford Friendship Group Boxford Village Hall	2-4pm
25 WED	Ladies Get Into Golf Free Taster Session Newton Green Golf Club	2-3pm
25 WED	Groton Village Hall AGM Groton Village Hall	7:30pm
27 FRI	Boxford Drama Group Quiz Night Boxford Village Hall	7:30pm
28 SAT	Ladies Get Into Golf Free Taster Session Newton Green Golf Club	10-11am
28 SAT	Boxford Summer Market Boxford Village Hall	10-1pm
28 SAT	Little Waldingfield Sale Trail Little Waldingfield Parish Room CO10 0SW	10-1pm
28 SAT	Winston's Wheels Summer Fair Newton Village Hall & Field	10-3pm
28 SAT	BFG - Wattisham Military Wives Choir St Mary's Church, Boxford	5pm
29 SUN	Fr Rob's Final Service St Mary's Church, Boxford	11am
29 SUN	Chelsworth Open Gardens Chelsworth	11-5pm
29 SUN	Picnic in the Park Jubilee Gardens, Newton Green	Noon
30 MON	Boxford Community Council AGM Boxford Pavilion	7pm
31 SAT	Newton Fireside Club Coffee Morning Newton Village Hall	10-11:30am

JULY 2025

1 TUE	Fireside Club - Talk from GCB Cocoa Ltd Newton Village Hall	2pm
1 TUE	Boxford Gardening Society - Talk Boxford Village Hall	7:30pm
2 WED	Boxford WI - Gentle Chair Yoga Boxford Village Hall	2pm
5 SUN	Summer Coffee Morning All Saints', Newton Green	10-11:30am
5 SUN	Leavenheath Summer Fete Leavenheath Village Green & Hall	11:45 - 5:30pm
5 SAT	Music for a Summer Evening St Mary's, Boxford	6pm
12 SAT	Charlie Haylock - The History of Surnames Edwardstone Village Hall	7pm
15 TUE	Fireside Club - Boat Trip and Henny Swan Newton Village Hall	TBC
16 WED	Charity Quiz Night The Fleece, Boxford	8pm
27 SUN	French's Care Haven BBQ Open Day French's, Castling's Heath, Groton	12-4pm
28 MON	Boxford Friendship Group Boxford Village Hall	2-4pm

MILDEN CRICKET CLUB

Milden bounced back from a heavy defeat in their first match of the 2025 season, away at Woolpit on 27 April, to record convincing back-to-back wins, by 60 runs against Elmswell on 11 May and, in their first home fixture, by 106 runs against Brockley on 18 May. At Woolpit Milden were all out for 113, Zaryab Rashid (one of a number of new players this season) top-scoring with 27 including five 4s, before being caught on the boundary. Woolpit, 115-1, easily reached their target inside 18 overs. On 11 May, and put into bat after losing the toss at Elmswell, captain and opener Alex Cunningham (41) watched as wickets fell around him. Milden were in some trouble at 128-8, but bold hitting by Cody Neil (51) and Rashid (49) lifted the final total to 209. In reply, Elmswell struggled against the tight bowling of Rashid (2-14), Joe Smith (3-34) and David Willis (2-25). Gethin (54) was the mainstay of their innings, before he skied a catch to Alex Lomax to be ninth out with the score 122. A late flurry of runs was ended when Rashid bowled Moss (see photo) to leave the home side all out 149.



Milden supporters at the Brockley game.

before Lomax and Willis each picked up a wicket to dismiss the visitors for 32. Five Brockley batsman failed to score and none reached double figures.

There is no fixture on 25 May, but Milden then have four matches in June:

- Sunday 1 June Haverhill (away)
- Sunday 15 June Elveden (home)
- Sunday 22 June Worlington (away)
- Sunday 29 June Long Melford (home)

David Lamming



Elmswell's Martin Moss loses his wicket to seal Milden's win.

On 18 May, on again losing the toss and being asked bat first, Milden lost wickets at regular intervals to be all out 138 in 37 overs. Only Cunningham (25) and Lomax (31) scored over 20 - though Rashid threatened to do so before being brilliantly run out for 12, including a six. But it was with the ball that Rashid (2 for 11), and another new recruit, Masud Shah (6 for 13), dominated the game. Their opening attack reduced Brockley to 29 for 8 (six clean bowled) in 14 overs



Zaryab Rashid hitting Brockley's Carl Newdick for six

BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

The green was officially opened by our President, George Bullett, on Sunday 27th April and the weather was perfect. We are all now practising very hard and for some of us this also means building up our muscles to get the bowls up to the jack! Not as easy as it sounds as the green is much heavier than the indoor rinks that so many of us have gotten used to over the winter. But it's going really well - and we have had some good results to our matches already.

In particular our Federation Team, who won the North Essex Durham Centenary Trophy last year, which put them through to the National competition this year. And so the team played the first Round of this competition the other weekend against the winners of the Norfolk area last year - Acle St. Edmund. It was a close match with the final score being 88 to Boxford, 79 to Acle. Well done to everyone who played - the team are now through to the next round.

If you would like to see what Bowls is really all about and have a go yourself, then don't forget to contact Barry (01787 370225) or Steve Mansell (01787 211153). They will arrange for you to come to the Club so you can find out more. We would love to see you.

Roz Mortlock



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