

**HOXNE
DENHAM, SYLEHAM
&
WINGFIELD**

**VILLAGE
VOICE**

**FEBRUARY - MARCH
2012**

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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po@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk
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Meeting times for all Councils will vary. Please refer to Council reports for time of next meeting.

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The Revd. Susan Lorton is chair to Hoxne & Denham PCCs.
The Revd. Fiona Newton is chair to Syleham & Wingfield PCCs.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Editorial

Get up, Get up: Get out of Bed!

It seems a long time ago now that David Weller and I were positioned comfortably round the fireplace at one of Alan and Carole Smith's splendid New Year parties, couching hefty glasses of lubricant. Not that conversation with David was ever in need of a stimulant and nor was he known for mincing his words. Those of us who remember him will not be surprised at his response to what, in hindsight, was an impertinent question. David had not been in good health for some while and struggled to get about, and yet he still vigorously pursued many of his great passions like the study of medieval life and architecture and furniture restoration, teaching the young his craftsman's skills in the workshop. I asked him why he didn't take things a bit easier in his retirement. His reply was simple: 'If you don't have a reason to get up in the morning, you won't!' That shut me up but I've never forgotten it.

A friend once lent us his villa on Spain's Strawberry Coast for our holiday. One morning we stopped to speak to the man next door who was weeding his garden. He was an ex-pat who had taken early retirement to live in the sun. After a brief conversation, we apologised for holding him up. 'That's OK,' he replied, 'I was packing in, anyway. Must leave something to do tomorrow.' It was only 10 o'clock! We were both saddened by the sentiment. I guess a place in the sun isn't necessarily all it's cracked up to be.

I suppose most of us have, at some time, dreamt of a leisurely existence with money enough to get by. But is that what it's all about? David Weller clearly didn't think so and thankfully nor do many others striving to squeeze the last drop from the lemon of life in communities throughout the land. Taking your ease can be a one way street which has the potential of being far more debilitating than any physical affliction. An existence without purpose is an empty vessel.

Sure, there are things we would rather someone else did; mornings when staying in bed is more attractive than getting up. But that's life, taking the rough with the smooth. David knew his Longfellow as well as anyone:

*Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each tomorrow
Find us farther than today.*

Actually, I think Prince Philip may have had it even better, 'I must confess that I am interested in leisure in the same way as a poor man is interested in money' ...and so to bed. *A busy New Year to all our readers!*

JB

Diary dates

Saturday February 11

Valentine Dance,
Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Saturday February 25

Syleham soup and winter walk,
Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall
An evening with Ray Hubbard,
(Friends of Hoxne Church)
St Edmund's Hall

Sunday February 26

Losing the Plot,
St Edmund's Hall

Saturday March 10

Artisan Market,
St Edmund's Hall

Friday March 16

Call my Bluff, St Edmund's Hall

Saturday March 17

St Edmund's Pre-school dinner dance,
St Edmund's Hall

Wednesday March 21

Mothers' Union Annual Coffee
Morning, Eldfield, Goldbrook, Hoxne
Eastern Angles,
Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Saturday March 24

Hoxne village tidy up (also Sunday),
St Edmund's Hall car park
Spring Fayre, Syleham and
Wingfield Village Hall

Friday March 30 and Saturday 31

Roughcast Theatre Company
Richard III, St Edmund's Hall

Thursday April 19

Hoxne Annual Parish meeting,
St Edmund's Hall

Saturday April 21

HSA 50/50 sale,
St Edmund's Primary School

Thursday May 3

Hoxne Parish Council agm,
Playingfield Pavilion

Future editions of *Village Voice* will include a diary section extended to cover dates throughout the year to give organisers the information they need to avoid other events.

■ **For Carol services and Christmas and other church services, please see page 21.**

■ **For St Edmund's Hall bookings call Andy Bull 668273.**

■ **For Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion ring Gail Jackson 668186.**

■ **For Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall, call Joyce Revell on 668102.**

■Special Cheese and Wine 'Call My Bluff' evening. Friday 16th March in the St Edmund's Hall. In support of Hoxne Music Festival. More information in the Post Office and hoxne.net
Tickets from Gill 668241 / Carmel 669123 / Gladys 668245.

■Over the past few months a small team has been reviving a series of articles written for the *Village Voice* in the 1990s by our former priest, John Draper (1975 - '85). It was always John's intention to collect these writings in to a single volume but sadly he died before he could accomplish it. We hope to put the finished compilation onto the Hoxne web by the Spring. In addition, a bound version will be available for those who either do not have access to the internet or just prefer to sit down with a book. **Please see page 44.**

■Valentine Dance - Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall - Saturday February 11. Doors open 7pm - bar, raffle and food available. Tickets £6. For further details please call Doreen on 01379 644960.

■Due to 'terrific request', the Hoxne Players and the New Eye Theatre will return with the comedy *Losing the Plot* on Sunday February 26 at 7.30pm at St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne. Tickets available from Hoxne Post Office from February 1 - £8.80 and £7 concessions.

■The recent, successful Pilates taster course arranged in conjunction with Fit Villages in St Edmund's Hall left some wanting more! It is hoped to continue the classes independently for a trial period at 3.30pm on Thursday afternoons. Please come along and join in. Enquiries to Sharon on 07979

OUT AND ABOUT...

411644 or sharon@scalton.orange-home.co.uk

■In 2003 John Brawn prepared and presented a quiz to raise funds for Save the Children and every January since has continued to put together a mindprobing evening. Consequently he has raised in excess of £5,000. The committee of the Diss and District Branch wish to say a huge thankyou to him for his dedication. They also wish to thank all their loyal supporters who every year come to the different events organised - this year, one way or another almost £5,000 has been raised. Well done and please continue to support this most worthwhile charity.

■Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall
Forthcoming Events: *24th February* - Bingo for SBEC Prom - 7.30 for 8pm.
25th February - Syleham Soup and Winter Walk 11am - 3.30pm.

21st March - Eastern Angles present Private Resistance - Tickets: £8 and Concessions £7. *24th March* - Spring Fayre 10.30am - 1pm. *30th March* - Bingo for Fressingfield Scouts Kenya Trip - 7.30 for 8pm

■Brian Chester thanks those who opted for a 'needle-free Christmas' and reports that tree sales resulted in £140 being divided equally between the Air Ambulance and the RNLI.

■St Edmund's Pre-School, Hoxne is planning a dinner dance for Saturday March 17. Contact Hannah Mayhew on 668186 for details.

■If you missed out on a copy of the the 'unmissable' Hoxne calendar call John Chapman on 740821 - quickly!

Letters to the editor

From Adrian and Jane Knott

We had a wonderful evening on Wednesday 21st December, carol singing to the folks of Syleham - we even stretched as far as Weybread and Wingfield! Mulled wine, sausage rolls, mince pies and even sloe gin - all the Christmas fayre - flowed from our hosts. And thanks to everyone's generosity the grand total of £365 was raised for the excellent London charity, Kids` Company, run by the inspiring Iranian lady, Camila Batmanghelidjh. She devotes her life to caring for neglected children in London. Thank you everyone and...see you next year for a re-run!

The White House Farmhouse, Syleham

From Susan and Richard Downe

Many of you will know of the sterling work done by the Big C Cancer Support and Information Centre at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital. Elisabeth Downe - formerly of Heckfield Green and now living and working in London - will be running the Brighton Half-Marathon on the 19th February to raise money for the Big C Centre. If anyone would like to make a donation to this very worthwhile charity, this can be done on-line at www.justgiving.com/Beth-Downe. Thank you.

4 Heckfield Green, Hoxne

From Maria Price

Our very first *Christmas with your Community* (St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne on Christmas Day) was really enjoyable and 20 plus people turned out to enjoy a Christmas afternoon together. We shared food and drink, sang carols and had a lovely time in each other's company. There were some people attending that wouldn't have seen another soul on Christmas day and therefore not have been able to share the joy of Christmas - the community allowed them to have a lovely day instead! So a big thank you to all those that contributed either time or food or donations of any type - you helped to make Christmas special. If you have any thoughts on how to make Christmas special for 2012 please get in touch and let us have your thoughts (01379 668032).

Denham

From Doreen Weller

I'm not sure who was responsible for the lights on the trees and seat on The Green in Low Street, Hoxne but a very big thank you. They looked lovely and just right as you came down the hill into the village. I'm sure Santa Claus found them very helpful!

Bridge Farm, Low Street

6 Village Voice

Letters to the editor

From Greta Cattermole

I would like to thank all my paper round customers in Cross Street and Heckfield Green for their kind support and generosity at Christmas.

Tudor Close, Hoxne

From Ellen Pitt

I should like to thank all those who so generously filled my SSAFA Forces Help collection box in record time; what an achievement. Your kindness is greatly appreciated not more so than that of Peter who kindly allowed me to put the box in the Hoxne Post Office and shop. The box has been sent off for counting/replacement and once I know the amount I will let you all know. Thanks and best wishes. (Voluntary Caseworker - SSAFA Forces Help).

Green Street, Hoxne

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Don't let this facility go to waste

Use it or lose it... this message is often heard as we go about our daily routines but now it has to be stressed - if we want to continue to have household waste facilities in Mid Suffolk we need to use it to not lose it!

In 2011, we were in danger of losing the household waste site at Brome due to Suffolk County Council cut-backs; the situation was saved and the site re-opened in July.

Bolton Bros, have been operating the site at Brome and the recyclable tonnage is slowly increasing, but to make this facility more financially viable there needs to be a greater input by you all to ensure they are able to remain open.

Cllr Diana Kearsley, portfolio holder for communities at Mid Suffolk supports the sites, saying: "On hearing this message, I soon went to my garage, had a much needed clear out and the estate car was full within an hour with loads of rubbish.

"At the Brome site - two friendly attendees were there and promptly emptied the car - the whole job done in a short time - not bad for £6.

Items which are 'free of charge' to dispose of at the sites are: waste paper, plastic, metals, cardboard, textiles, glass, inert soil and hardcore, cooking oil, tetrapaks and electrical appliances.

Those items that have a disposal fee are: non-recyclable material and mixed waste, wood and garden waste.

For more information and opening times go to www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/Waste+and+Recycling+Street+Cleansing+Grounds+Maintenance/Waste+and+Recycling/LocalRecyclingFacilities.htm

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New headteacher relishes challenge



Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne, the new headteacher of the primary schools at Hoxne and Mendham, is relishing the challenge of ensuring their future at a time when financial constraints in neighbouring counties are placing schools with fewer than 100 pupils under the threat of closure.

“Fortunately, Suffolk does not have such a policy but by working the two schools together we can guard against it happening here,” he said.

Mr Aalders-Dunthorne moves to his new role from the Greenacre Primary School, Great Yarmouth where he was deputy head teacher. Before that he taught for eleven years at Bignold Primary School, Norwich.

“Running the two rural schools is a new model and has many challenges – but also great appeal,” he said. Although the demands of present-day education mean that headteachers must focus on many issues of direction and leadership, he is determined to spend time in the classroom with the children whenever possible.

Speaking at St Edmund’s Primary School, he also rates as highly important the role which the school can play in village life. The school had the resources to ►►

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►► be able to open its door more for use by the wider community. There were also opportunities for extending the school day through activities before and after school hours and a holiday club.

Mr Aalders-Dunthorne, who is 42 and lives at Fressingfield with his wife and two children, is also group scout leader of the 1st Fressingfield Scout Group which attracts membership from many surrounding villages.

.....

Maynard bids farewell to John

Following the last meeting of the Maynard Educational Trust (Hoxne) in late November last year, the Trustees met to ponder their most recent applications and also say a sad but fond farewell to Mr John Ball, chairman and trustee.

John has served the Maynard Trust tirelessly for more than 20 something years. His experience, knowledge, fortitude, enthusiasm, and humour will be a loss to us. He leaves us in a sound position, but with work to do to secure the long term future of this valuable trust. As a trust, we are bound by its rules and constraints, one lesser known fact is that while we are able to accept donations...we are not allowed to organise fund raising events ourselves, a subject I hope to come back to in the future.

In the meantime, trustees were very happy to present to John a small token of their appreciation for all his hard work over the many years, before moving on to business.

The Maynard Educational Trust is now made up as follows;

Mrs Felicity Golding, representing Hoxne Parish Council.

Mrs Sally Procner, representing governors of St Edmund's Primary School.

Mr John Bourne, representing Hoxne Parish Council.

Mrs Victoria Williams, representing Hoxne PCC.

Mr Simon Pretty, (chairman), representing governors of St Edmund's Primary School.

Mrs Elaine Baxter (Non Trustee), secretary and treasurer.

All the trustees would like to thank Elaine for her continuing help and support. Please also remember to give her a thank you if you are a successful applicant, as it is Elaine who does much of the hard work behind the scenes.

All of the above trustees can be contacted if you would like to apply to the Maynard Trust. Remember, your written application must be for educational purposes, and you must live in the Parish of Hoxne.

If you prefer to mail your application please send to;
Simon Pretty, 17 Cross Street, Hoxne, Eye, IP21 5AJ.

Our meeting dates to consider applications for 2012 are;
February 27th, May 21st, September 3rd and November 26th.

In the meantime, we wish you all well for 2012. SP

Ladies plan another entertaining year

The Hoxne Phoenix Ladies finished 2011 with hand bell-ringing and singing carols which put us in the Christmas mood. Our past year has been very interesting, with talks on many different subjects. Our programme for 2012/13 looks just as entertaining and we hope to have two outings in the summer. In February we are holding our annual meeting and social evening and on March 13 we have Mr Rob Spray who will talk about the marine wildlife around the coast of Great Britain. Also in March we will have our annual lunch. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month in St Edmund's Hall at 7.30pm. Guests are very welcome at a small fee of £2.

Doreen Weller, secretary

.....

Hoxne Poppy Appeal tops £3,300

As of previous years, this year proved again the feeling of commitment of local people towards the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, and I cannot thank all those involved enough.

Details of money raised are:

House to house	£1343.00
Static points, unmanned	£283.98
Hoxne church remembrance service	£286.60
Hoxne RBL	£1400.00
Total:	£3314.37

My special thanks, once again, go to Peter and Nena Drake and my wife Jean for counting the money. The amount raised by the branch during 2011 is accrued through various functions and is highly commendable and much appreciated. It would be remiss of me not to mention the sterling work and effort our secretary, Roger True, has exercised over the past fourteen years and who is now stepping down from the post; the branch cannot express enough the service Roger has given.

Our new secretary, Roger Clay, is taking up the reins at our next meeting in February 2012. My final comment is to wish all our readers a happy and healthy new year.

Bill Herrington - chairman, Hoxne and District Branch

.....

■The Hoxne Artisan Market organisers are pleased to record another very successful year. They would like to thank all those who have given their support. The market restarts the 2012 season, with a market on 10th March, 10am to 2pm in the Village Hall. Regular markets at the same venue are scheduled to occur on the second Saturday of successive months in 2012. Those interested in having a stall should contact the market's new organiser Elisabeth Davies. Her email is LISDAVIES37@aol.com

PF

New developments will start the year

Hoxne Garden Club had a very varied programme in 2011, culminating in a most enjoyable Christmas Dinner in December. Our speaker for the evening was Charlie Haylock who had us in fits of laughter almost from the start with his tales on Suffolk and its language.

The hall looked very Christmassy with bunting and the beautifully decorated Christmas tree. (The decorations were for sale the following day at the Church Christmas Fair). Our usual raffle was run very ably by Gladys Baldwin and Margaret Phillips.

We meet on the third Thursday of every month in Hoxne Village hall at 7.30pm for a talk and tea/coffee after.

February's speaker is Mr Perry from Thompson and Morgan talking about

new plant development.

March brings our annual meeting, which is a short affair held after our speaker, Mr Diamond. His talk is entitled *Charles 1st, Charles the worst!* We welcome visitors and new members at any of our meetings, please contact me on 668258 if you would like to know more.

The February ramble is from the White Horse, Rickingham. In March we walk from the Cock Inn, Stanton. Both are venues that we have used in the past and been pleased with the fare. We meet at 10am to order lunch and leave at 10.15am. Ramblers walk at their own risk. Phone Roger Knight (01379 668403) for more details.

Sue Flag, chairperson

Fair facelift brings benefits to all

The traditional Church Christmas Bazaar held in St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne on a Saturday in December has had a facelift. On 3rd December, 2011, it became the Christmas Fair and what a fair it was! A quite brilliant team, inspired and led by Carmel Searle and Gill O'Connor, transformed this annual event into a classy and excitingly rich extravaganza of seriously good merchandise that none could resist.

So much so, in fact, that the amount raised for church funds increased from last year's total of £626 to an amazing record breaker of £2,215!

Although a hugely welcome boost to the ever struggling church finances,

the Fair also brought a freshness of purpose and professionalism to the fundraising scene and, even more importantly, a social event worthy of the effort put into it. A big thank you to all who put in that effort.

■ A book about daily life at Sibton Abbey has been published to raise funds for the Friends of St Peter's at Sibton Church. Entitled *Food and Ale, Farming and Worship*, it is a translation from the medieval latin of some of the Abbey's accounts from the 14th and 16th centuries. The book, by John Ridgard and Rosie Norton, is A5 size and has 50 pages. Copies are £5 each. Contact Rosie on 01728 660369

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New year brings new ways at school

We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break and wish everyone a Happy New Year. A new year brings change to St Edmund's Primary School, Hoxne school with the farewell to Mrs Shepherd who is on maternity leave and to Mr Digby who has retired. We welcome our new head teacher Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne to the school and the partnership school of Mendham.

November brought the long awaited fitting of the photo voltaic solar panels which was very exciting and although sunshine has been in short supply since their installation they have still generated a small amount of electricity for the school to use and we look forward to the summer to see how much we can save.

Class 1 had a visit from Barclay's Bank in November when Ian Cobain spoke to the children about the different types of money along with other craft activities based upon coins. The Bank has now visited every class during the year and will hopefully repeat this again soon.

Class 3 travelled to Diss in November to observe the volume and types of vehicles, pedestrians and pollution within different parts of the town. This data was then collated into graphs and used to evaluate Diss within class. During our visit we were able to interview two passing police officers (after Mrs R chased them up the road) who told us about the types of crime which affects Hoxne versus Diss; they even made an arrest!

Class 2 children have been learning about teeth, the types of teeth and what we use them for, how to clean their teeth, detecting plaque using special chews and how to keep their teeth healthy for years to come.

The whole school took part in planting hedgerows, trees and special Jubilee Trees throughout the village to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee in 2012; these trees were grown from seed on the Sandringham estate.

Class 3 children invited their parents to join them on 29th November for an afternoon of Christmas activities of making decorations, sewing and drawing followed by tea and biscuits.

The Christmas productions from the children went wonderfully well, Class 1's play was called *Whoops a daisy* and Classes 2 and 3's *Stars come out for Christmas*. Well done to the children and parents for the learning of lines and costumes.

The children made decorations for the school Christmas tree and placed them on it during a special assembly. The Year 6 children also lit a candle each upon the stage. The school also attended a carol concert on 15th December at Hoxne Church to sing carols and then repeated their singing during a visit to the Depperhaugh on the 16th. The children hope to visit St Edmund's House, Hoxne in the New Year.

Julie Rogers

Project co-ordinator

For school pictures see pages 16 / 17



In the picture:

**The panels;
the teeth;
the arrest;
planting trees;
Christmas productions;
Christmas activities.**





HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

PRECEPT and BUDGET FOR 2012/2013 FINANCIAL YEAR - at its January meeting, Councillors agreed on a Precept of £13,000 for the coming financial year. The Precept is the money the Parish Council requests, from the District Council, to run services within the village. The Parish Council has a mandate from the Parish Plan which includes speed deterrents and traffic management in the village, more environmentally friendly street lighting and the provision of allotments and the increase in the Precept will allow the Council to work towards achieving some of these goals.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC SURVEY – the Parish Council is in receipt of a Traffic Plan from the Suffolk County Council's Area Highways Manager on possible solutions for speeding traffic along Green Street and through the village, parking congestion around the school and additional signage on the Hoxne to Denham Road – all matters which have recently been brought to the Council's attention. The Parish Council will debate the Plan further at its February meeting.

NEW COUNCILLOR - we are pleased to report that Jo Chimes was co-opted to the Council at the January meeting and we look forward to welcoming Jo to her first meeting in February.

MEETING DATES – the Parish Council has agreed to meet on the first Thursday of the month, with meetings from October to March being held at St Edmund's Hall and those from April to September being held at the Playingfield Pavilion. A full list of meeting dates is on display on the notice boards and is available from the Parish Clerk.

Dates for your diary include the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 19 April at St Edmund's Hall and the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 3 May at Playingfield Pavilion.

CLEAN UP WEEKEND – This year's tidy up will take place over the weekend of Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 March. Volunteers should meet on either morning at St Edmund's Hall at 11am where equipment will be provided. Please bring your own gloves. Don't forget the clocks also spring forward that weekend!

**Dates of next meetings: Thursday 2nd February and
Thursday 1st March at 7.30 pm at St Edmund's Hall.
Sarah Foote, Clerk, Telephone: 07554 733621.
Email pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk**

Search is renewed for woodland sites

In the summer of 2005 when the New Reeding Woods group purchased the corner of a field along the Reddlingfield Road in Horham, they knew that there was a need for public woodland in the area, but they had no concept of how useful an area it would prove to be. Enclosed by rabbit proof fencing to prevent damage from both rabbits and deer, the woodland provides a safe area for children and dogs to run free.

Six years after planting began at the woodland the trees and shrubs are now well established and the group have just

received the final payment of the Forestry Commission Grant awarded when the land was first acquired, and are now turning their attention back to fulfilling their prime objective of woodlands across the parishes of Denham, Horham and Athelington, which would reinstate the ancient Reeding Woods that once covered this area.

So once again the search is on for land within the villages suitable for developing as community woodland. If you know of any suitable land, please contact Mike Reeves on 01379 668179.

Group lines up drama and dance

Since the last report in the *Village Voice* Hoxne Theatre Club has enjoyed a visit to the Theatre Royal in Norwich in November to see *Top Hat* which was the first time this musical was brought to the stage and beautiful sets, lavish costumes and sensational dancing made this an outstanding spectacular which was thoroughly enjoyed by a full coach of our members.

December brought us to Thursford once again and this year everybody seemed to agree 'it was the best ever'! A bright sunny morning was enjoyed in Holt on the way to Thursford and drinks and mince pies completed a very happy trip on the way home.

In January we visited the Theatre Royal in Norwich to see *Hello Dolly*. The show has won many awards over the years with good songs and foot tapping music for all to enjoy.

On Wednesday 22nd February we have booked to see *Top Girls* at the

Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich which is one of the seminal plays of the 20th century with razor sharp wit and its moving study of success.

Splendidly funny and very moving according to the Press.

At the end of March seats have been booked for the *Nutcracker* at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, one of the most popular dance productions staged by Matthew Bourne with wit pathos and magical fantasy.

And for April 2012 we have reverted to a light comedy first performed in the 1940s written by Noel Coward entitled *Present Laughter* to be performed at the Maddermarket Theatre Norwich.

Full details will be sent out to our members in due course but if anybody wishes to join Hoxne Theatre Club or make enquiries please get in touch with Nigel and Viv Bradford (01379 668551) or Doreen Weller (01379 668291).

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NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Wingfield

Main contacts for anyone who needs to get in touch with a member of the clergy are:

Hoxne – Brian Chester, Flaxfield, Witton's Lane tel: 01379 669157

Denham – Barbara Irwin, Reading Hall tel: 01379 870500

Syleham – Mary Lewis, Little Hemplands tel: 669258

Wingfield – John McCracken tel: 01379 384181

Times of worship • February - March 2012

February 5

Wingfield 10am Family Communion

Syleham 11am Morning Prayer

Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

February 12

Wingfield 11am Holy Communion

Hoxne 11.15am Morning Prayer

Denham 11.15am Village Service

February 19

Syleham 10am Holy Communion

Wingfield 10am Family Service

Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

February 22

Ash Wednesday Services

Weybread 6.30pm

Wingfield 6.30pm Compline

Wilby 7pm Holy Communion
and Ashing

February 26

Syleham 10am Village Service

Wingfield 10am Morning Prayer

Hoxne 10am Family Service

Tuesday February 28

Denham 9.30am Holy Communion

March 4

Wingfield 10am Family Communion

Syleham 11am Morning Prayer

Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

March 11

Wingfield 11am Holy Communion

Hoxne 11.15am Morning Prayer

Denham 11.15am Village Service

March 18

Mothering Sunday

Syleham 10am Holy Communion

Wingfield 10am Family Service

Hoxne 10am Family Service

Tuesday March 20

Denham 9.30am Holy Communion

March 25

Syleham 10am Village Service

Wingfield 10am Morning Prayer

Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

Confirmation service

at Stradbroke - 6.30pm

**Compline at Wingfield at 6.30pm
on March 9, 16 and 23.**

**A time for prayer takes place each week at Wingfield on
Mondays at 12noon and Syleham on Tuesdays at 12noon.**

**The Vicarage, 2 Tansy Meadow, Fressingfield,
Eye, Suffolk IP21 5RQ**

Tel: 01379 586040 Email: susan.loxton@mypostoffice.co.uk

Pausing for thought with Canon Andrew Vessey - February 2012

When Anna and I moved here in August 2010, it was with a sense of returning to our roots. If you bear in mind that the number of houses we had lived in that went with the job of either being a parish priest or, before that, working in boarding schools, comes to 18, you can understand that we were anxious to make a final move and stay put!

I had been brought to Suffolk as a child for holidays at Southwold in what became a second family home. Anna's grandparents had lived in Woodbridge. So there was a sense of our touching origins. But back in 1967, as a very young couple we began our married lives in Bury St Edmunds, teaching and having our first child. Years later, on returning from teaching abroad, we enjoyed creating a holiday cottage ourselves on the edge of Framlingham. Later still, it was to be Framlingham that became our home as back in 1986 I began my Curacy in the Church of England. And the rest, as they say, is history....except that it isn't quite as bland or chance-ridden as all that.

When you look out from our home across the fields to Stradbroke (you can see the church tower from our little tower) and are pulled up short by a sunset dragging through the branches of the woodland copse beside us, when you follow the lanes and bump into neighbours, when I stick up my easel somewhere out by Wingfield and spend three hours transfixed by pasture or ploughland and huge skies, you begin to realise that being here has a purpose, that one is meant to be here.

This sense of being where God wants us to be is, I believe, one of the foundation stones of community. Both Anna and myself know we're in the right place. I hope that goes for you too, because when those connections are made, and lived out in human activity or communal aspiration, then a different sort of world is being made. It's bigger than the garden Anna and I are making, more important than the pictures I am now able to paint, more humbling than the privilege of taking services in churches across the Hoxne Deanery. That such a different world has been called the Kingdom of God should not put us off from also owning its values; after all it's a Kingdom that God invites us to share rather than keep to Himself. And you do so when, in the course of an ordinary day, in the face of someone you meet, or the view that stops you in your tracks, one is aware of it being an extraordinary day.

To live in an extraordinary place just makes this a whole lot easier.

Thank you for making us welcome.

Canon Andrew Vessey (retired)

Revd Susan Loxton (Tel: 01379 586040) is priest-in-charge of Denham, Fressingfield, Hoxne, Mendham, Metfield, Weybread and Withersdale

Revd Canon Fiona Newton (Tel: 01986 798266) is priest-in-charge of Brundish, Cratfield, Laxfield, Syleham, Wilby and Wingfield and Rural Dean of the Hoxne Deanery

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Christmas Day

At 10.30am on Christmas morning, when Santa and his gnomes had done their wonderful stuff and returned to the grotto replete with mince pies and all manner of beverage, a grateful Hoxne congregation turned out in great number to give thanks for the Birthday Boy. They were greeted with a service composed and orchestrated by Elaine Cawdell and John Swann, memorable for its simplicity, purity and fun. You don't expect a mini panto in church with deafening 'Oh, no you're nots' from the assembled company at every opportunity, but that's what we got. It was a brilliant birthday celebration – even the Boy himself thought so (I'm told!). **JB**

Christmas Day was the culmination of an especially active time for Hoxne Church with the St Edmund's School carol service, the Village Carol Service (with the Village Voices choir and the Gislingham Silver Band) and a Christingle Service (held for the first time in the afternoon) all contributing this time of celebration and thanksgiving.

Friends of the church

Here we are at the beginning of another new Year. On behalf of the Friends' Committee may I take this time to thank everyone who gave us support in 2011. We start our coffee mornings on Saturday 28th January and then every fourth Saturday of the month starting at 10am. All are welcome. (Any unwanted Christmas gifts will make good raffle prizes).

Our first event for 2012 will be on Saturday 25th February in St Edmund's Hall, when we will welcome Ray Hubbard

and the Suffolk Punch with music, step dancing and plenty of humour. Watch out for posters, or ring Margaret on 01379 668352 or John on 01379 740821 for more information or to book tickets.

We plan to have an Art Exhibition with Craft stalls July 28th and 29th. And in September, if possible, another last night of the Proms. October we will hold our annual harvest lunch and, who knows, maybe something in between. Any one wishing to join the Friends' Committee would be welcome. Thank you.

John Chapman, chairman.

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union meets at 2pm on the third Monday of each month.

Monday 20th February

Ann Foulds, Action and Outreach Co-ordinator, speaking about MU projects around the Diocese.

Monday 19th March.

Reflections on Lent

Wednesday 21st March

We are holding our Annual Coffee Morning at Eldfield, Goldbrook. 10.30am – 12noon.

Coffee, Bring and Buy, Easter and other cards. Books and other merchandise.

We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

Flower Rota

February 5th and 12th and 19th

Altar - Josephine Marsh- Feiley
Porch - Cathie McGregor

The remainder of February and all of March is the Lent period when there are no flowers in the church. The rota for the Easter Festival will be sent out in mid-



CHURCH NEWS

March. Thank you to all who keep the church flowers a welcome to the church.

Cathie McGregor 01379 668434

Hoxne PCC meets on February 15 at Flaxfield, Witton's Lane, at 7.30pm.

St John, Denham

The **Village Services** on February 12th and March 11th will continue to be held at 11.15am with fellowship and refreshments from 10.45am. Services of Holy Communion will be held at 9.30 am on Tuesday 28th February and Tuesday 20th March. Our Village Service in Denham is a very informal affair with all comers mellowed by the coffee and biscuits and the opportunity for fellowship and gossip before the service begins, so join us if you can, once a month for an uplifting start to your Sunday!

St Margaret, Syleham

Our **Carol Service** was very well attended and we had the great pleasure of listening to Adrian Knott's Amici choir in addition

to some lovely organ music by two of their members. This was followed by coffee and mince pies, it was altogether a heart-warming occasion.

Thank you to all the flower arrangers who decorated the church beautifully right through to the porch, it was a lovely display which received some nice comments.

Candlelit Advent Prayer held for 15 minutes every Thursday evening gave time for a very tranquil reflection with words, music and candles and was much appreciated.

In the last issue of *Village Voice*, it was mentioned that Edna Hales had faithfully served our church as organist for 16 years, which should have read a tremendous 26 years. Apologies to Edna.

Organist The search is on for anyone in or near our village who would like to come and play our organ for Sunday services.

St Margaret's is a small but very welcoming and appreciative church; we have three morning services a month but a volunteer for any one of them would be most welcome. If anyone is interested, would they please contact either of the Churchwardens or our Vicar at fionanewton@rmpc.co.uk.

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Newcomers to our community (ie arrivals within the past two years or so) were invited to a **‘welcome’ lunch** kindly hosted by Mr John Leader at Monks Hall on 7th January; a good time was had by all and we do hope we did not miss anyone out.

At the time of writing, it was hoped to hold a **Community Service** in the Village Hall on 22nd January, to take the place (just for once) of the regular 10am Village Service in St Margaret’s. A ‘first’ for Syleham, the plan was for tea and cake followed by favourite hymns and an opportunity to raise issues of concern or interest.

A **Soup Lunch** fundraising event will take place at the Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall on Saturday 25th February from 11am to 3:30pm, with everyone welcome. Footpath maps will be available to help visitors make the most of their day. **Art workshop** We are hoping to arrange an art workshop in the Village Hall during the year. It might be in March or April but at the time of going to press we were unable to confirm this. There will be local publicity if the event is arranged. These are the first of a number of events planned for the year, so do watch this space!

St Andrew, Wingfield

Our celebrations for the 650th anniversary of the death of Sir John de Wingfield and the foundation of St Andrew’s Church began on 30 October with an inspirational special service. It included drama from the children focusing on the life of Sir John, and period music sung by the Amici Choir under Adrian Knott.

This was followed by **Christingle, our ‘Carols by Candlelight’** service, with the

biggest congregation for a long time – and mince pies and mulled wine afterwards at the College, thank you Jane and Peter – and two Christmas services, a midnight communion and a family service on Christmas morning, both of which were very well attended.

Carols were also sung in the pub in aid of the church – and after Christmas the church was used by the young people from the Wingfield Barns drama class to present a modern nativity play which was very well received.

There will be lots more activities for the 650th anniversary, starting in March, and a Festival week beginning 8 June. The Wingfield Local History Society will be organising these, and *Village Voice* readers will be kept informed.

One other special feature for the church will be the return of the Wingfield organ to St Andrew’s for several months. The organ is based on a 16th century sounding board found in the church and now belongs to the Royal College of Organists. There will be concerts and opportunities for local organists to play on it. Speakers at our **Lent Suppers** this year will be the Regional Representative of Christian Aid, and the Deputy Principal of the Eastern Region Ministry Course, who specialist subject is Noah. We may have had a very dry winter, but you never know...

CONFIRMATION SPRING 2012

There will be a group of people meeting for preparation for Confirmation. Please contact either Ron 798901 or Fiona 798266 if you are interested. The group will probably meet for an hour on Saturday mornings.

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Obituary

RAY KINROSS

1934 - 2011

Ray's sudden death just before Christmas and so soon after his companion, Vanda, was a great shock to many. He was, in essence, a very private man who carried more than his share of earthly burdens and we knew little of his background other than he lived in Nuttery Vale, greatly enjoyed walking and, for a number of years, delivered the *Village Voice* to a hundred households. Before moving to Hoxne, Ray worked as a journalist including some time with the London Evening Standard.

Julian Kinross, Ray's nephew, gave the following brief valedictory at his funeral service at the West Suffolk Crematorium, Risby:

"Ray was the youngest of four children and younger than my father by fifteen years. He was the last of his generation and of a different time born to older parents. Throughout his life, until the death of his sister, Lucy, in 1991, he had relied heavily on his older siblings for emotional support and guidance. Lucy's death was a major blow to him and created a gap in his life that was never really filled.

Ray was an intensely shy person who preferred communicating by letter. His typewriter was his trademark and you knew immediately that it was a letter from Ray just from the envelope. Ray was a quiet, thoughtful person and would often write out of the blue having come across something that he thought might interest you. He was not an emotionally outgoing man, perhaps moulded by his generation, but his letters showed that he cared and thought about you and that he followed

and had an interest in your life.

Ray could best be described as a quiet man who did not enjoy the pressures of modern life. The computer and the mobile phone were not his priority and indeed until his death we do not recall Ray ever having used a mobile – a rarity in today's world. Until Vanda's illness started to take hold with a severity that none of us really understood, Ray led a quiet and local life in Hoxne, especially with his love of gardening. He had an excellent sense of humour and was quick with a smile. He had a passion for books, both collecting, researching and reading them, especially detective novels and indeed he was also a secret author. Amongst Ray's papers we found the manuscripts to three unpublished novels which at first glance looked like a good read.

Unfortunately we can not claim to be especially close to Ray, partly because he never really opened up about his life and rarely communicated anything truly personal. Following Lucy's death, Ray's visits to London were very rare and we had no idea that he was suffering so badly as a carer for Vanda as her health deteriorated. The first thing we knew about the severity of his problems was his desperate and heart wrenching attempt to end his life. He had needed help but was too shy to ask for it. Ray's last few years have been extremely hard for him, although we have done our best to comfort and help him as much as has been possible. Ray's untimely and unexpected death following so soon on Vanda's death has been deeply upsetting and so sad. We can only pray that he is now at peace in a happier place."

Heartfelt sentiments indeed, we can only share that hope of peace at last for them both.

SYLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Chairman Mr Malcolm Flounders

Suffolk Acre – The Suffolk charity has introduced a new community-based oil buying syndicate to make the most of joint buying power and are looking to recruit a local co-ordinator for Syleham Parish. A tanker able to deliver to several customers in a locality means reduced fuel consumption and traffic in the village. Individual household membership is £20 for any number of deliveries per year and deliveries can be ordered monthly (Minimum order 500L). If you are interested in volunteering to be a co-ordinator or want further details of the scheme, please contact the Clerk (details below). Further information can also be found at www.communitybuying.org.uk.

Planning – Application 1603/11 Syleham House, Wingfield Road, Syleham Demolition of attached garage; erection of single-storey rear extension; installation of underground LPG tank; installation of solar panels to roof etc. PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED in accordance with the application particulars and plans submitted, subject to certain conditions.

Budget Consultation – Following stage one of Suffolk County Council's budget consultation a copy of *We Are Listening – Meeting the Budget Challenge* is available on their website www.suffolk.gov.uk/WeAreListening. Parishioners are able to make comments about the budget proposals Suffolk County Council are considering for 2012/13 and 2013/14 via e-mail: consultation@suffolk.gov.uk.

Re-cycling Centre Brome – The centre is well attended but there has been a change in chargeable items. The £5 + VAT per car charged for non-recyclable and mixed waste items will now include garden waste.

Citizens Advice Bureau – The Diss office at Shelfanger Road is contactable on their advice line – 08444 111444 - for advice and information on Debt, Benefits and Social Services, Housing, Employment, and many other things.

Police – Police remind us that the winter sees an increase in burglaries and ask us to keep an eye out for strangers and tell police of anything unusual. Police advise keeping garages and sheds locked and suggest security marking desirable items and the use of timer plugs to give the impression property is inhabited when empty.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 14th March 2012 at 7.30pm.
Clerk: Linda Bruce 01379 669018
pc@syleham.suffolk.gov.uk

Cold outside; but hot in the jungle

Following an Ice and Snow project at the beginning of the year, when Sweet Briar Nursery School made bird feeders for all those hungry birds out in the cold, we have had lots of visits and have learnt the names of several different types of birds. Even though the weather has been chilly we have still had lots of outdoor play taking full advantage of our Pirate Ship climbing frame and our new undercover and sheltered outside areas'

In contrast to our 'cold' theme we, made one end of the nursery a 'hot' area and filled it with a home-made jungle which we have populated with different animals like monkeys and parrots. We have also been collecting all types of 'hot' things and things that make heat together.

Our February half term playscheme was spent making heart-shaped biscuits and valentine cards for our mummies, daddies and carers among lots of other fun activities.

For March our theme is transport and we will learn about all the different types of vehicles and even built

our own outdoor road with signs and a set of roadworks to drive our ride-ons through.

The Sweet Briar Blog on our website, www.sweetbriarnursery.co.uk is updated every week with all the things we are doing in the nursery so have a look when you are next online.

We are open five days a week with hours available from 8am – 5pm for children from three months to five years. We aim to be as flexible as possible with hours to suit you and your child's need. You can add hours at very short notice, add on hours at seasonal times, work around shift patterns and take advantage of term-time only arrangements. We also run holiday playschemes which means we are open 48 weeks a year.

If you would like to come for a taster session then we would be more than happy to involve you and your child in one of our sessions. If you would like to book a taster session then please contact Sarah Buckley on either: Tel: 01379 668480

Email: sarah@sweetbriarnursery.co.uk



■ **Members of the Lions** organisation help local communities in many ways, from re-roofing a pre-school storage shed, laying a rug for an elderly resident, providing a garden fence to keep young children safe. Nationally they contribute to the new shelter at the National Memorial Arboretum and to the rehabilitation centre for servicemen at St Dunstan's. Internationally Lions help on the ground at major disasters, and for many years after. We are now launching a nation-wide recognition programme for 11 to 18 year olds, as we know there are many community-minded teenagers who need to be honoured.

If you feel this is something you would enjoy and you want to make a difference, please give Lion Mandy Hawksley a ring on 01986 872710, or e-mail me on mandp.mart@virgin.net

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Christmas Box was sell-out success

A sell out audience enjoyed the Hoxne Music Festival presentation of a Christmas Box at St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne on the evening after Boxing Day.

The Keeper's Daughter theatre duo delivered an engaging and amusing version of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* to open proceedings. It was followed by performances from two combined local choirs, *Village Voices* and *Crossing the Border*, and was beautifully led by Janet Koralambe who organised the event. Eileen Ryan also arranged a humourous series of readings interspersed with the singing.

A collection was made for two charities, Amnesty and St Martin in the Fields, which provides small grants to people in difficulties. Together with a donation from door takings each of the charities will receive £100, and contributions have also been made to the funds of the each of the choirs.



"It was a fun way to round off the festive season and we received lots of pleasing comments," said Janet, "and thanks to the generosity of those who attended the two charities, two choirs and the music festival all benefited."

The next fund raising event for the Hoxne Music Festival – which takes place over the last weekend in May – will be a quiz in St Edmund's Hall this spring.

A date of the quiz has yet to be confirmed but will be publicised on the Hoxne website (www.hoxne.net), in the Hoxne Post Office and Store, and with flyers to be distributed around the village.

Stuart Jarrold - chairman

.....

It's here! Wingfield's year-long celebration of the 650th anniversary of its church and college has begun! We have events planned in the run-up to the Festival



1362

Celebrating 650 years of Wingfield Church and College

itself, a packed programme of historical, academic, musical, literary and family fun activities for the week of 8 - 17 June and then further concerts over the rest of the summer. Don't miss out - keep up to date with all the plans, news and information on how to book at <http://1362festival.wordpress.com> or follow @WingfieldChurch on Twitter.

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Pre-school have fun at the theatre

The children at St Edmund's Pre-school, Hoxne had a fabulous build up to Christmas beginning with a theatre trip to The Norwich Playhouse to see *Charlie & Lola*. They sat beautifully and were a credit to the parents and pre-school. The highlights for most of the children were the real bubbles and the monster! Many thanks to all the parents who came along also, it was a lovely family event (*picture below*).

We then made Christmas puddings (not forgetting to make a wish!) and personalised tree decorations which also acted as our advent on our home-made Advent tree.

The three weeks of Christmas crafts, decorating, singing and dancing culminated with our Christmas party. We all had a wonderful morning full of games such as 'pass the parcel' and 'pass the Christmas hat' and we had a very special visit from Father Christmas and his glamorous reindeer who, to the children's delight, gave

each child a present. We then had a slap up Christmas buffet courtesy of our wonderful parents so thanks again to them.

Our last day before Christmas was very special with our performance of *Nursery Rhyme Nativity*. The children were wonderful and really looked the part, congratulations to them all.

After refreshments of non-alcoholic mulled 'wine' and mince pies courtesy of Sarah and Rachel, our raffle was drawn. Well done to Greta who won the hamper and many thanks to all those who gave prizes and/or bought raffle tickets – we raised £184.73 in aid of the pre-school!

The snow began to fall as this lovely event drew to a close and we look forward to linking up with the church in the Spring with some events for Easter.

Little Treasures Toddler Group

Would you like to volunteer for just a couple of hours a week to assist

with our baby and toddler group?

You don't need to have young children or any training, as short information sessions on what to do can be arranged. We meet between 10am and 12noon on Wednesday in the school term and are looking for willing helpers. If you could help, pop in during these hours for a chat. ►►



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► Dinner Dance

As part of our fund raising efforts, we are hoping to hold a dinner-dance evening in March. Watch out for further information!

Pre-School Free, Funded Places

We still have places to take children from two years old at £2.80 per hour and your child could be eligible for free sessions from 2, depending on certain criteria. All children are eligible for 15 hours of free sessions some or all of which can be taken at St Edmund's Pre-school the term after they turn 3. If you would like more details or to have a look round our pre-school at St. Edmund's Village Hall Hoxne, call Amanda on 07768 872135.

Borderhoppa goings on!

December was a busy month for us. We had an outing for our members to see the Christmas trees in Dickleburgh church, which was followed by lunch at the Half Moon at Rushall. Our Christmas lunch was at the Apollo in Harleston, where we raised £105 in our raffle for Borderhoppa funds. Our next outings are:
Mon 20th Feb to Bury St Edmunds
Mon 5th March to The Black Horse at Thorndon for lunch
Mon 19th March to Notcutts Garden Centre. If you'd like to book a place, become a member or privately hire one of our mini buses, please call us on : 01379 854800.

Top changes for school association

The Hoxne School Association has seen some new faces for 2012 including Cath Lawrie as treasurer and myself as chairman joining the long-serving loyal crew that has staged some marvellous events over the last few years raising much-needed funds for the school.

Events planned for this year already include a 50/50 sale to be held on the 21st April at the school (2pm-4pm), the ever-popular clay shoot in September with a proposal for profits to be split between three village charities (date to be arranged) and the summer fayre in June.

The first meeting of the HSA's year has seen an array of new and innovative fund-raising ideas which no doubt will lighten up the social calendar for all those wishing to have an exciting 2012! Details to follow.

Alan Bryant

HSA lottery winners:

December: £20 - K. Reeve, £15 - S. Knights; £10 - V. Fulcher.

January: £20 - T. Feavearyear; £15 - J. Stokes; £10 - M. Knight.

Thank you for your continued support.

New members are always welcome. Contact Debbie Davies on 668812.

■2012 events at the Red Feather Club, Horham include: Sunday 13th May: Grand Open Day (10am-5pm). In addition to the normal attractions there will be military vehicles, trade stands, exhibits from other aviation societies and a refreshment stand. Several overseas visitors should be attending. Admission £1.

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Fax: 01379 871182

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Evenings:	Monday	All doctors	15.30 - 19.30
	Tuesday	Dr Lewis	16.00 - 18.00
	Wednesday	Dr Partridge	16.00 - 18.00
	Thursday	Dr Ahmed	16.00 - 18.00
	Friday	All doctors	15.30 - 18.00
Nursing Clinics:	Cervical Smears	Monday to Friday	08.30 onwards
	Smoking Cessation	Monday to Friday	08.30 onwards
	NHS Health Checks	Monday	12.00 - 15.00
	Travel	Monday	17.00 - 18.00
	Over 75 checks	Mon, Wed & Thursday	08.30 onwards
	COPD	Tuesday	15.30 - 16.30
	Diabetes	Tuesday	12.00 - 15.00
	Asthma	Tuesday	12.00 - 15.00
	Childhood Immunisations	Tuesday	12.00 - 15.00
	Diabetes Pre Clinic Check	Wednesday	12.00 - 15.00
	Heart/Blood Pressure	Wednesday & Thursday	12.00 - 15.30
	Coil fitting/Implants	Friday	12.00 - 14.30

<u>DISPENSARY OPENING TIMES</u>	Monday to Friday	08.30 - 18.00
	For telephone enquiries	09.30 - 18.00

***PLEASE ALLOW AT LEAST TWO CLEAR WORKING DAYS
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<u>RECEPTION OPENING TIMES</u>	Monday to Friday	08.30 - 18.00
URGENT appointment to see a DOCTOR or NURSE (<i>Same Day</i>)		08.30 - 09.30
ROUTINE appointment to see a DOCTOR or NURSE (<i>2-4 Days</i>)		09.30 - 18.00
ADVANCE BOOKING for a DOCTOR or NURSE (<i>up to 3 months</i>)		09.30 - 18.00
HOME VISIT REQUESTS		08.30 - 09.30
For general enquiries and test results:		09.30 - 18.00

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New year kicks off with winning ways

AFC Hoxne 1st XI finished the 2011 part of the season undefeated in Division 3 of the Ipswich Saturday league. In the last two months of the calendar year they won three of their four league games, being held to a 1:1 draw away to Tacket Street Boys Brigade Old Boys of Ipswich.

There were big wins at home to John Bull of Ipswich, 6:1 and Coddendam 5:1 and away to Tattinstone 6:1. We gave leading Division 2 side, Sporting 87 of Bury St Edmunds, a good run for their money in the second round of the Touchline Sports Cup at home before losing 0:1.

The first XI's, first match of 2012, was at home to St Clements Hospital of Ipswich, who had lost 23:0 away to Waterside of Ipswich in their previous match. We won 12:0. Good to report that under manager Jamie Scales. (As with the 2nd XI and Mark Abbott) that discipline has improved.

The 2nd XI are once again competing to gain promotion from Division 4, while at the same time being in the last 16 of the Suffolk Primary Cup. For the second year running they reached

.....
■**Syleham and Wingfield Sports and Social Club** would like to thank all those who attend our monthly Charity Bingo evenings and support us by donations and raffle prizes. In the last year with your support we have raised around £980 for local charities. Those to benefit include Sparks 4 Hearts, All Hallows, Gateway Club, Borderhoppa and Syleham and Wingfield Senior Citizens. Bingo sessions are held on the last Friday of each month 7.30pm for 8pm. Bar open. All Welcome.

this stage by beating Division 5 Shotley 5:3 at home. We were on the wrong end of a 5:3 score line in going out of the Club Colours Cup at home to AFC Crawley Reserves of Needham Market.

The only league game played during this period was a 4:3 home win over struggling Stowupland Falcons Reserves. The year finished on New Year's Eve with a home game against bottom of the table Woolverstone United Reserves, we won 6:1; 2012 began on January 7 with a Primary Cup fourth round trip to Kirkley and Packefield (B) near Lowerstoff; we won 3:2. This is the competition AFC Hoxne won in April 2002, the top award in the club's history.

Clive Baxter

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Gardeners know their weeds...

Wingfield and District Gardening Club's Christmas Social was held on 15th December at the De la Pole Arms pub (our regular venue). An excellent buffet was provided by the management, and enjoyed by a merry throng of members and their guests, with first drinks 'on the house'.

Thinking-caps were put on for a picture-quiz entitled *Know your weeds?* Unsurprisingly most of the weeds pictured were recognised, (the gardeners battle with them throughout the year!) but their names were largely unknown. Most gardeners have their own (unprintable) names for them, of course! The evening concluded with a raffle. Among the various prizes were two meal vouchers donated by the pub. There were also two bags of leaf mould, and two bags of well rotted compost.

The 25th January event is the annual 'Gardens at their Worst' visits: three members' gardens in Wingfield, Stradbroke and Brundish with very few flowers and lots of mud. Then on 30th June we see the same gardens, now in all their summer glory.

The meeting on 23rd February will consist of a talk about composting, followed by our usual 'seed swap'. Bring along your unwanted seeds - bought or harvested - and exchange them for others which seem worth a try. Starts at 7.30pm at the De la Pole Arms.

Our March and April events are still in the planning stage at present; look out for our posters nearer the time, usually the last week of the month, or contact Graham on 01379 384259. email: g.redelsperger@btinternet.com for details.

.....

Wayne's ■gardening tips ■February to March

February: Spread a layer of gravel beneath the leaf rosettes of your house leeks to prevent rot caused by damp weather.

Continue to sow seeds of globe flowers *Trollius* in boxes of commercial compost and keep them under cover. Keep digging over empty beds and add plenty of organic matter. Now is also a good time to plant new hedges. Protect your hellebores and alpines from heavy rain with cloches or something similar.

March: On porous soils protect with a covering of organic matter and a general fertiliser. Prune your winter jasmine after flowering to control growth. Now is the time to sow leeks and onions in heated propagators. Bring strawberries in pots undercover for early crops. It is now safe to trim down ornamental grasses that have died off in the winter.

Happy New Year
Wayne Page

Welcome to Mick Glynn's Health and Fitness Column

New year's health and fitness resolutions always fizzle out by March. They won't this year if you set yourself a year-long plan, or change habits long term to keep you on track. This month shrug off winter excess, and start on the road to achieving, and even surpassing your goals.

Changing the 'what and when' you eat could make a great difference to your energy levels that may help to improve your overall health.

Everyone is talking about carbohydrates, good or bad?

I was sceptical at first and worried that my energy would suffer as a result of cutting down on the carbohydrates, but quite the opposite. Like most people I don't get home till late and after an active day my energy supply is on reserve.

It's so easy at this stage to overload on pasta, rice or bread as a cheap easy filler, thinking that my energy would return, but quite the opposite happened.

Overloading on this food so late in the day left me bloated and sluggish the next morning. If you are like me and you enjoy feeling fresh and bright in the mornings, then something has to change.

A new eating philosophy was needed. I needed energy food (complex carbohydrates) but I needed it when I was on the move and active, and at the end of the day I certainly wasn't active enough to justify a large plate of pasta or bowl of rice. Just changing what and when you eat can make all the difference, whether you are looking to lose weight or just feel better. Carbohydrates at breakfast, a combination of carbohydrates and protein at lunch and just protein with salad or vegetables at dinner. Use fruit snacks through the day to help stabilise sugar levels....and if you really want to feel better and less tired during the week, keep away from the alcohol until the weekend!.

If you would like more info on Gym Membership, Exercise classes, Personal Training-Goal Setting please do not hesitate to contact Mick Glynn qualified and fully insured personal trainer at MG Fitness Studio, Shelfanger Hall, Hall Lane, Shelfanger, Diss. Contact: 07879 455966 or visit the web sites on www.mgfitnessstudio.co.uk or www.mickglynn.co.uk

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DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Ray Keeble

Community Speedwatch

Denham was represented at a meeting held in Hoxne on 16th November at which neighbouring parishes came together to learn more about the community Speedwatch scheme and to consider a joint approach sharing the costs of the speed gun and ancillary equipment which would be used in each of the participating villages. County Councillor Guy McGregor has offered to contribute half the cost from his budget which would mean that the net cost per parish should be under £200. Volunteers who work in teams of three normally outside their home village receive training from the police and would be expected to make a sustained commitment. A further meeting was due to be held in January/February and a report will appear in the next edition.

Police Direct

A reminder that the telephone number to call to benefit from this valuable information service is 01473 613997. For crime reporting and general non emergency calls to Suffolk Police dial 101 or for emergency calls only, dial 999.

Village Review

An analysis of the questionnaire results has been completed and Denham residents will find a copy of the results enclosed with this edition.

Parish Council Meeting November

Councillor McGregor's report highlighted:

- Suffolk County Council's response to the need for major cuts in revenue budgets in each of the next two years. Central will be a reappraisal of care for the elderly in co-operation with the NHS. A consultation was in hand about a new heritage centre linked to the Museum of East Anglian Life and run as a charity. This would be a centre of excellence for the region subsuming the existing county record offices at Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds. The library service would be required to make savings but without affecting frontline service. A joint approach was proposed for Stradbroke, Eye and Debenham.
- Highways: plans remain in place for improvements through Denham but this will not be next year. Maintenance work is fully funded and will continue as required.
- Buses: efforts were continuing to get better contract prices while maintaining a quality six day serve and encouraging increased use by younger people.

Planning

New application: 2932/11 Old Hospital Shingle Hill (one 50kw wind turbine 35.4 metres to hub, 9.6 m radius blades). Withdrawn by applicant (The Parish Council recommended refusal).

Other application: Town Farm, Denham Road (Hoxne). (3X 3KW wind turbines 15 metres to hub with 5.5metre blades: situated to east of farm buildings).

Granted. (The Parish Council recommended approval.)

Next Meeting

**The next meeting of the Council will be on
Wednesday 28th March in the Village Hall.**

For further information please contact David Jenvey, Clerk (01379 388184)

There's no place like home...

A recent report on Radio4 said that there were 25 million empty bedrooms in England and suggested that the elderly should downsize to ease the current housing shortage. There was a big kerfuffle from listeners for a couple of days, then as ever, silence. The discussion was emotional and unproductive. This week-end there was a similar ear-catching announcement about the years taken to secure the adoption of a child with so many waiting in care. This kerfuffle coincided with the publication of Jeanette Winterson's autobiography looking back on her loveless upbringing by adoption, an horrific tale. The media are awash with political footballs which often sink without trace. Politicians, planners, developers and builders talk endlessly about housing (rather than homes).

But the post-war achievements of housing ministers is not good because they are pressured by NIMBYs, outraged countryside campaigners, and bureaucracy where negative planning thrives, threatened now to be Pickled. A housing shortage is good for house prices.

I am the lone occupant of a large house. I hope to spend my life there rather than in a residential or sheltered home; blocking a hospital bed; or in a granny flat (are there grandpa flats?). In days of yore, surviving parents ended their days quietly in the family bosom in a comfy chair with feet up, by the fire with the daily paper and a pipe. In Africa a wizened granny kept a fire going and a pot boiling in the goat house. Grandma played a key role in child-rearing as some do here still. I wish to retain my independence, to be part of a community grappling with life's problems even as they increase, confronting incapacity and life's increasing complexity.

Our society makes plans for a massive rise in numbers of the aged. But pensions, never mind cars and medicare will cost more than voters are willing to pay, never mind Osborne's crunch. Now we have Brexit too. That could cost. If freedom from inheritance tax were extended to the elderly, then more homes would survive within families, children could take over and make a corner for ageing parents. What happened to the Opposition's promise of a £1 million threshold exemption in the new era of greater enrichment? IHT changes could help deal with the under occupation of 25 million bedrooms. Another radio statistic speaks of one million empty houses. One little publicised measure which generates almost no tax revenue is the seven-year taper. Under this you can gift your property but it only kicks in if you live for another four years, after which the IHT is reduced pro rata over the seven years. Now, there's a challenge.

My father at 92 tried to keep his home going, but was finally defeated when he dropped the butter and a bottle of milk on the kitchen floor and found himself hemmed in unable to get to the phone for help. His sight was poor, and WW1 injuries restricted his mobility. So reluctantly he agreed to leave his local friends and to move south and live with us, but decided to shift to a nearby residential home. I drank a sherry with him every night after university, but he died soon after we went off to PNG. He always encouraged his children to be part of the

A word from Wingfield

WINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Michael Harvey

Wingfield Green

•In the previous edition it was reported that applications for both planning consent and for section 38 approval under the Commons Act 2006 were necessary and were in preparation in respect of the existing and proposed perimeter ditching of the Green, intended to inhibit or prevent a recurrence of unauthorised encampments such as those experienced in 2011 and in previous years. Early informal pre-application consultation with planning had been positive and it was hoped that these consents, to be submitted in parallel, would be in place in time for the completion of the ditches and installation of any necessary gates by the early summer of 2012. It was recognised however that were there to be objections this timescale might be significantly extended.

•However following the intervention of the County Council in respect of the unauthorised digging, representatives of the Council attended a meeting with our County and District Councillors and senior officers of the County (archeology) and District (planning) at which the Parish was advised that a planning application for the unauthorised work and for any further work to complete perimeter ditching would be considered inappropriate and unacceptable in the context of an obligation to protect and preserve historic commons and Greens.

•At the Parish Council meeting on 7th December, County Councillor Mr Guy McGregor explained that while ditching was considered unacceptable it was recognised by the County and District that effective arrangements must be in place to prevent a recurrence of the mess, and disturbance to the settled community caused by the recent encampments. Senior level meetings would be held with the police and other relevant bodies to ensure rapid intervention to enforce byelaws and other relevant legislation in the event of any recurrence in 2012.

•At this meeting councillors considered that in the light of the advice now received from the County and the District it was no longer practicable to proceed as planned. Accordingly the Council decided that work on both the planning application and the Section 38 application (which was dependent upon it) would be suspended.

•A further report on the preparation of alternative arrangements as proposed by the County will be included in the next edition.

Planning

New application

•4338/11 Corner Green Farm, Wingfield Green (one 5kw wind turbine (14.97m to hub, 5.5m diameter blades)

Other Applications

•3696/11 Wingfield Castle (20 solar panels with capacity of 3.9KWp on roof of outbuilding). Granted.

•3834/11 Land at Vicarage Road (Non material amendment following granting of consent 0295/00). Granted.

•1490/11 Hill Farm, Bleach Green (single, 15 metres to hub, wind turbine serving farm). The Parish Council recommended approval. (Decision pending at time of writing)



Vicarage road development

We were pleased to welcome Mr. Richard Syrett of Gipping Homes to the December meeting. Mr Syrett displayed artist's impressions and plans for the new development now under construction of five new houses on the site (four, four bedroom and one, three bedroom) and answered questions from the public and councillors.

Speedwatch

The Council hopes to be represented at a second meeting of interested parishes in January and a further report will appear in the next edition. Wingfield's involvement would ultimately depend as for other villages, on there being sufficient volunteers willing to be trained and able to commit to active participation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in March (date to be confirmed). For further information: please contact David Jenvey, Clerk (01379 388184)

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Church organist

Is there anyone who would be willing to play the organ for Sunday Services at St Margaret's Church, Syleham?

A small but friendly church, we have three morning services a month and a volunteer for any of them would be most welcome. If anyone is interested, please contact either of the Churchwardens (668205/669258) or email mary.lewis@tecova.com

THE HOXNE STORY

The Introduction – April 1996

Hoxne has a story to tell which is full of interest and fascination. The story begins many thousands of years ago and continues down the centuries to the present time. It is only a handful of years since that famous hoard of Roman treasure was found in one of our fields. That treasure was buried for hundreds of years. Who buried it and why, we don't know. But such a hoard does imply that someone important and wealthy was in this area.

The story of Edmund, the Saxon King and Martyr, has long been linked with Hoxne. Two chapels were dedicated to St Edmund and Hoxne became a place to which pilgrimage was made. There was a cell of monks here before William of Normandy crossed the Channel and remained until Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries around 1535.

The Domesday Book in 1086 records that Hoxne was the seat of the Bishopric in Suffolk during the reign of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066) and there were bishops of Hoxne before then. The bishops of Norwich held the Manor of Hoxne from their very first bishop, Herbert de Losinga in 1091, until 1535 and they were frequently in residence here. Edward II and Edward III issued Rolls from Hoxne and Edward VII certainly knew our village.

Hoxne was the site of a market in Saxon times - and long after - with a large cattle market which eventually closed towards the end of the eighteenth century. Fairs were held on November

20th, St Edmund's Day, and December 1st. Stories go the rounds linking Hoxne with witches during the seventeenth century. One of our vicars of that period, Dr Hutchinson, was reckoned to be an authority on the subject.

So the story goes on. Archives, books and dusty papers have much more to tell us and there is so much more we could know. Over the years, I have gathered some details of our history and these I would like to share with you in the coming months.

John Draper

The Stone Age Settlement – July 1996

A long time ago . . .

It was April 1975 when we first moved into Hoxne. We had only been here a few weeks when I was asked where the archaeological site could be found. The man who was enquiring was from Denmark, a student of geology and archaeology. He wanted to see this world famous site before he returned home. I had to confess that I was new in the village and pointed him towards the Post Office. But, having had a link with Hoxne for over twenty years now, I can not only put visitors on the right road, I can also tell them a bit about the site's history.

Not many cities, towns or villages have a period in the world's history named after them. Hoxne does. Way back, from 250 thousand BC to 200 thousand BC, between two Ice Ages, there was a period known today as the Hoxne Interglacial Period and it was sometime during this timespan that a lakeside encampment existed on what we now know as the site of Banham's

brickworks on the road leading to Eye.

Around 1795, the importance of this site was realised and recorded. A man called J. Frere, a fellow of the Royal Society, visited and brought fame to the place. It is generally believed that Mr Frere belonged to a well-known Norfolk family from Roydon. White's 1844 Directory of Suffolk speaks of a Rt Hon J H Frere of Malta being a landowner in Hoxne. Frere wrote of the flints he found as being 'fabricated and used by a people who had not the use of metals' and 'the situation in which these weapons were found may tempt us to refer them to a very remote period indeed, even beyond that of the present world . . .' The Hoxne site is notable for being the first place where hand- axes were found and also for being the type-site of the Hoxnian Interglacial phase of the British Pleistocene Chronology.

Further investigations were made in the nineteenth century by J Prestwick, a famous geologist; by T Belt in 1876, by H B Woodward in 1878 and by Clement Reid in 1895/6. In the twentieth century, excavations were made by a team led by Reid Moir in 1924/26; by R G West of Cambridge University and, more recently, by students from Chicago University, USA. Each made their reports on their finds and observations on the site's story.

Human remains have never been found, only artefacts and those almost entirely of hand axes, the tools and weapons of our pre-historic ancestors. Evidence of mammoth and reindeer, associated with arctic fauna, was found some eight to ten feet from the surface in a gravel seam during the Reid Moir excavation. Fossil bones of elephant, horse, deer and ox have also been reported. A great deal of research con- ►►

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► cerns pollen, flora and vegetation, the finds of recent digs. When another dig will take place, I do not know.

The story of our pre-historic past is all linked to a spur of land between the river Dove and the Goldbrook, waterways which are the remnants of what was once a large lake, and to a lakeside encampment occupied by the Stone Age people of countless thousands of years ago. These people were also Hoxonians, although they didn't know it. What a past we have. Flint hand-axes, photographs taken during the digs, a diagram and one or two other items from the site are on display in a cabinet in the Parish Church.

I would like to finish this first article on a personal note. A year or two before we retired in 1985, a group of students from Chicago University, led by John Wymer of Suffolk, came to do a dig. They were sponsored by money from America. Isabel and I were asked if some of the sponsors who had come to see the site could use the Vicarage garden for their lunch/tea break. We readily agreed. However, before the day came, we had to be vetted by the CIA!

When they arrived in a luxurious coach laden with sumptuous fare and six waiters and waitresses from the Savoy, we could tell that they were really roughing it!

The first person to step down from the coach was Lady Bird Johnson, widow of President Lyndon B Johnson, followed by General Curtis Lemay, other high ranking military personnel, European ambassadors and major businessmen, some thirty in all.

It was a memorable day. We were also hosting a village wedding party and, for the one and only time in my life, I was asked to sign autograph books.

And all this was happening because two hundred thousand years ago there were some people living up there on the road to Eye. I doubt that the occasion of the wife of the President of the United States of America dropping in for tea would have meant much to our stone-age pals, but their humble doings meant the world to her.

JWD

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Springtime at The Depperhaugh

The woods and parkland around The Depperhaugh, are a delight during the spring months and as a youngster, I spent much time walking around the fields and parkland adjoining this large grey brick mansion. The mature trees, especially the chestnut and oak trees stood amongst carpets of celandines, aconites, snowdrops and primroses. I was always made to feel welcome by Mr and Mrs Michell, who had purchased The Depperhaugh in 1946. A cup of tea or squash was handed to me in the kitchen, when I had either walked or cycled to The Depperhaugh.

Alfred Henry Michell [1882-1965] was a property dealer who had been born at Paddington, but as an adult lived in Marylebone. Alfred was the son of James Alfred Michell [b.1844] of Marazion, Cornwall and Lambeth, London and his wife Mary Evans [b.1854] who was from Newport, Monmouthshire.

Alfred was married on the 8th November 1928 to Enid Evelyn Carden [b.1902] in Hampshire. Enid was the daughter of Major Sir Frederick Carden [1873-1966] 3rd Baronet and his wife Winifred Mary Wroughton [d.1974]. Alfred and Enid had three children John, Clare and Charles and the Michell family lived at The Depperhaugh until the death of Alfred.

The Hoxne Cricket Team also used to play here until 1965 and this was probably due to the generosity of the former owner Harry Palgrave Raven, who was a keen sportsman. Everything changed with Mr Michell's death and it was a sad day, when Alfred passed away. The Depperhaugh was put up for sale and some of its contents were sold, with villagers purchasing items, as mementoes.

The house itself was built in circa 1867

by Admiral Sir Baldwin Wake Walker, 1st Baronet, on the plan of a ship, with a large terrace to the rear, which was like the deck of a ship. Here the admiral would walk up and down and use his telescope.

The former tall timber framed farmhouse which occupied the site had been owned by John Worth [apothecary and surgeon] of Diss, Norfolk. John Worth [1749-1775] was married in 1774 to Martha Betts [1749-1779] of Oakley House and Wortham Manor. Martha was the daughter of Edmund Betts [1719-1788] of Oakley and his wife Martha Deye of Eye.

Their son Captain John Worth [b.1776] was married to Catherine Sinclair [b.1780] in 1834. Catherine Sinclair was the daughter and heiress of Captain Patrick Sinclair and his wife Anne Sutherland. Mary Catherine Sinclair Worth [1806-1889] the daughter of John and Catherine Worth was married to Sir Baldwin Wake Walker [1802-1876], who was a high ranking naval officer, who was created a baronet in 1856.

It is strange but at times not surprising that the inter-connections relating to various local families come to the fore. In researching this article, I thumbed the pages of Katherine Doughty's book *The Betts of Wortham in Suffolk 1480-1905*, which was published in 1912 by Bodley Head. Katherine Frances Doughty was related to the Doughty family of Theberton Hall and Hoxne Vicarage and the Doughty/ Revett memorial can be found in the sanctuary of Hoxne church, but that's another story.

Stephen Govier

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Charles Michell and Ann Whitworth.**

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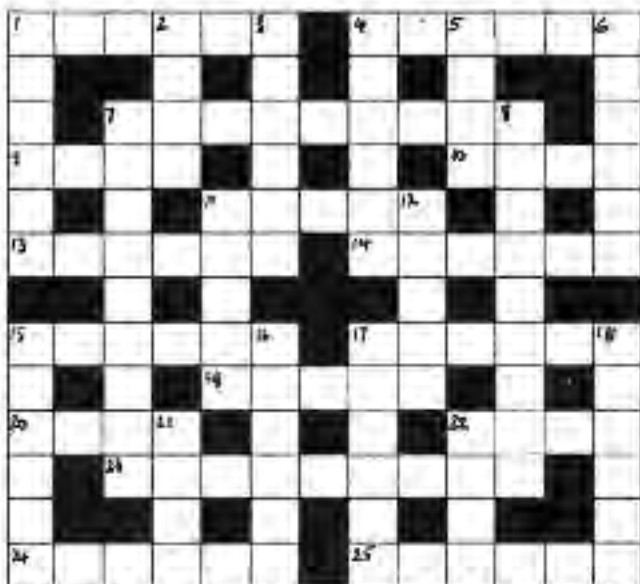
Handöl Contura

JÖTUL



CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 86

The prize for the first correct solution opened to crossword puzzle No. 85 went to Mrs G Inglis of Church Hill, Hoxton. The solution appears below.



ACROSS

DOWN

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | High point of trip to Paris (6) | 1 | Couple linked to Green Green (6) |
| 4 | Shower found in detergent stores (6) | 2 | The -- of Inna You'dk Night (4) |
| 7 | Retreat for shaken system (9) | 3 | Discovered a twisted sister (6) |
| 9 | Copper's weary trudge (4) | 4 | The fall of America (6) |
| 10 | Cat-station the harbour (4) | 5 | Audible praise for nobleman (4) |
| 11 | Small resident of Zurich (5) | 6 | Stoppel' car for singer sake (6) |
| 13 | Tyrant pested away (5) | 7 | A mass to wrong (9) |
| 14 | Worn by baby at bedtime (6) | 8 | Fertile area for white man (9) |
| 15 | One in business holding forth (6) | 11 | Deities held nothing in stock (5) |
| 17 | All the ready mixture (6) | 12 | Sort of agree to be loam (5) |
| 19 | Drive round the bullock (5) | 15 | Ploughman at the helm (6) |
| 20 | So out in for luncheon (4) | 16 | Bobbi Nicksal's origin (6) |
| 22 | Boring maintenance (4) | 17 | Communication from husband (6) |
| 23 | Sure giant's li) in cheque (9) | 18 | A hand-machine? (6) |
| 24 | Moulded citrus for the countryside (6) | 21 | Shade one found in explosive (4) |
| 25 | Extreme dyspepsia provides cure (6) | 22 | Played by ear' (4) |

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE NO. 85



If you would like to enter the crossword competition, send your solution to the editor by 1st March, 2012. The first correct solution to be opened will receive a cash prize of £10.



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