# DENHAM HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

VILLAGE VOICE

# **AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2016**

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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The Revd. Michael Womack is chair of each PCC.

# Editorial

I started scuba diving last year – Jane says that I can bore for England on the subject, so be warned. I was buying a bit of kit last week from someone on the internet and logged into my bank account and paid him; the money arriving in his account within hours.

A thought hit me – I had used my laptop computer to connect to the World Wide Web using a domestic Wi-Fi system, found something I needed, had a conversation with the seller and transferred cash from my bank account to his.

So what, you might think, anybody can do that. In a historical perspective this capability is almost brand new – the IBM PC arrived in the '80s and the internet ten years later; mobile phones with internet connection in the last ten years. Maybe, one day, fast broadband will arrive in Suffolk villages!

Urban legend has it that one of the three ancient Chinese curses is "May you live in interesting times" I think that my story above demonstrates one aspect of this. The speed of progress appears to be growing exponentially. From another angle, while there has been no world war for 70 years, the tribal struggles for power and influence continue. The ease of international travel and communication has brought the conflicts closer.

Of course, there is another local difficulty that is exercising the British, in particular, coming from the results of the referendum. The Voice does not "do" politics – I was told this very firmly when I took on the job. In any event, I could not add anything to the many and contradicting views that we are being bombarded with. I will defer to the advice of the 1940's government when the country was in great peril.

John Langley



## **Diary Dates**

Every Friday until 2nd September HPP Summer Play Café, p5

Thursday 4th August HPP, Hoxne PC, p25

Tuesday 9th August SEH Phoenix, Fishermen's Mission, p13

Friday 12th Aug to Thu 11th Sep WB, International Miniprint Exhibition, p29

Saturday 13th August New Reeding Woods AGM & BBQ, p31

Saturday 20th August Denham, Car Treasure Hunt, p20 Open Garden, Rushall in aid of Prostate Charity (and Sun/Mon), p5

Sunday 28th August Eye Family Fun Day;, p35

Thursday 1st September HPP, Hoxne PC, p25

Friday 2nd September SWH, Syleham PC, p25

Saturday 3rd September SEH HGSC Flower & Produce Show, p13 Diss Walk of Remembrance, p43 Sunday 4th September Oakley Park, Hoxne Clay Shoot, p11

Friday 9th September SEH Film Night, Florence Foster Jenkins

Saturday 10th September Suffolk Historic Churches cycle ride, p37

Tuesday 13th September SEH Phoenix, Take a Seat, p13

Wednesday 21st September SEH Stained Glass workshop starts

Sunday 18th September Hoxne Bowls fun-day BBQ, p14

Wednesday 28th September Red Feather Club, Denham PC

Thursday 29th September Brundish Hall, Wingfield Gardening Club, p5

Wednesday 5th October SEH Creative Writing course starts, p15

Parish Church services, see p18

SEH bookings, Jane Langley 07876 215 269 hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com
HPP bookings, Gail Jackson 668186.
SWH, Joyce Revell on 668102.

DVH - Denham Village Hall HGSC - Hoxne Gardening & Social Club SEH - St Edmunds Hall, Hoxne SWH - Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall WB - Wingfield Barns ■ Hoxne Playing Field Summer Play Café is open 2.30pm to 5pm every Friday during the school holidays – from 22nd July to 2nd September. Whilst your children play, come and have a cup of tea or coffee with a slice of cake (squash and ice cream squash and ice cream also available).

#### From Phil Greenacre, Rushall

Chris and I would like to thank everyone who visited our open garden in June or have visited as part of private groups. We have welcomed over 600 guests; raising £6,000 and rising in aid of the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital charity trust for Radiotherapy and Prostate Cancer care, exceeding all our expectations. £5,000 has already been invested in a template for prostate biopsies, showing the urgent need for funds.

With a further Open Garden weekend to take place over the weekend of Sat-Mon, 20-22 August, 10-5, we hope to reach our revised fund target of  $\pm 10,000$  towards this worthy cause. We are still taking bookings for private group visits. Ring 852375 or philipgreenacre@hotmail.co.uk.

#### From Sallie Chester, Hoxne

A big thankyou to everyone who baked so many wonderful cakes for the stall at Hoxne's Village Fete. With the benefit of Alan Garnham's gazebo and the selling skills of Hannah Mayhew, Polly Potter and Rhona Bertie we cleared our tables and reached our target of just over £300.

### Here and there....

■ Wingfield and District Gardening Club's Autumn Season begins on Thursday, 29th September at 7.30 in Brundish Village Hall with a talk by a speaker from Woottens of Wenhaston on the subject of Irises. Non-members welcome £3 at the door.

### Letters to the Editor

#### From The Team at Wingfield

The Wingfield Summer fete was a great success this year (despite the inevitable rain !) and raised over £600 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance & St Andrews church . We send our sincere thanks to all visitors & exhibitors for their participation, a huge thank you to all of our wonderful helpers, and to Roy Goodwin & friends for providing the soundtrack for the day. Also a special thank you to Nicki and all at GWC for letting us run the event at their great facilities.

#### From the Hoxne Support Group,

In spite of the rather damp weather, the 'Strawberry Extravaganza Tea' held at the home of Vicky and Allan Batley in Nuttery Vale, Hoxne, was well supported and raised over £445 for 'Save the Children' charity. There was a variety of delicious strawberry dishes to taste including pavlovas, cakes, scones and trifles all washed down with wine. Thanks to all of you who supported this event so generously and to Vicky and Alan for hosting the event.

# THE SOMME OFFENSIVE

At precisely 7.30am on 1st July 14 Divisions of the British Expeditionary Force attacked the German lines between the French villages of Gommecourt and Montauban, a distance of some 14 miles. By lunchtime the British Army had suffered just over 57,000 casualties which included over 19,000 fatalities, by the time the final phase of the offensive was concluded on the 18th November 1916 the British had suffered 420,000 causalities, the French 200,000 and the Germans 500,000. Hoxne lost five men during the course of the battle.

#### Samuel George Shemming

Samuel George Shemming lived in Church Street and was the first Hoxne man to fall during the battle of the Somme, he had enlisted in the Suffolk Regiment on the 21st January 2016 and was posted to the 7th (Service) Battalion. Originally kept in reserve to exploit the expected breakthrough at the start of the Somme offensive the 7th Battalion were ordered forward to take the German trenches around the village of Ovillers-las-Boiselle.

At 3.15am on the 3rd July 1916 Samuel and his comrades clambered out of their trenches and, under the cover of an artillery bombardment and the pre dawn darkness, the Battalion advanced in eight successive waves. The first waves penetrated as far as the German third line and some elements even entered the village itself but the darkness, which had aided the speed of their attack, was now their nemesis as succeeding waves were unable to close up fast enough. This allowed the Germans, in the words of the Battalions War diary, "to get in between the waves and cut off the leading ones at the 3rd line of resistance, it was at the 3rd German line that the chief casualties occurred". We do not know what company Samuel served in but the fact that his body was never recovered indicates that he could have been in the first waves, the Battalions casualties numbered 21 Officers and 455 Other Ranks. Samuel is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, he was 21 years old.

#### Harry Charles Oakes

Harry Charles Oakes lived in Watering Road Denham; he enlisted into the Suffolk Regiment on the 22nd October 2015 and joined the 2nd Battalion. Not involved in the initial attack on the 1st July the Battalion moved into the trenches in front the village of Carnoy on the 10th July and whilst they were not involved in any attacks casualties soon mounted. Between their arrival and the 19th July 11 men were killed and a further 36 wounded, it is probable that Harry Oakes was one of the wounded during this period, evacuated to the Regimental Aid Post then a casualty clearing station. Harry was admitted to one of the Base Hospitals in Rouen some 100 miles from the front. His wounds were clearly serious as he died on the 22nd July and was subsequently buried at the St Server Cemetery in Rouen, he was 24 years old.

#### Harold Edwin Ward

Harold Edwin Ward enlisted into the Suffolk Regiment at the end of November 1915 eventually joining the 11th Battalion. Committed to the attack on the 1st July the battalion suffered over 600 casualties and was subsequently withdrawn but by the end of the month were in the line in front of the village of Bazentin le Petit.

On the 2nd August the Battalion was involved in an attack on the German line in which five Officers and 25 other ranks were killed or wounded. A further attack was made on the 4th August, which broke down in the face of heavy machine gun fire, the cost this time was three officers and 60 other ranks killed, wounded or missing. Although Harold's death is recorded as the 3rd August it is probable that he was killed either in the attacks on the 2nd or 4th, he was 18 years old and is buried at The Caterpillar Cemetery, Longueval.

#### George Wilby

George Wilby was born at Stoke Ash but by 1911 was living at Hole Farm Hoxne where his father was the Yardman. Enlisting into the Suffolk Regiment in November 1915 George was posted to the 1/4th Battalion which, during the course of the Somme Offensive, saw continuous action and suffered severe causalities as a result. On 28th October the Battalion took over part of the front line near the village of Lesboeufs and over the next three days made a number of unsuccessful attacks on the German trench known as Dew Drop. George was killed during the course of these attacks, his body was never recovered and he is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, he was 20 years old.

#### Sidney Kirby

Sidney was the only Somme casualty that did not serve in the Suffolk Regiment and although born in Wortham he appears to have been a resident of Hoxne at the outbreak of war. Initially joining the Middlesex Regiment, Sidney was transferred to the 24th (2nd Sportsmans) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) which was one of the famous "pals" battalions, although in this instance the recruits were keen sportsmen or worked in the media industry rather than coming from a particular geographical area or profession. Engaged throughout the Somme Offensive on the 13th November, the battalion took part in an attack of the German lines between Serre and Beaumont Hamel. Advancing a mere 20 yards behind their own artillery barrage the Battalion occupied the German front line but vicious trench fighting ensued and it is probable that Sydney died during this period of the attack. Sidney has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, he was 23 years old.

Full obituaries will be posted on the Hoxne Heritage Group website during the course of the year.

#### **Graham Thornett**

## Hoxne Music Festival - The Future?

Judging from the feedback forms, and comments from those who attended, the fifth Hoxne Music Festival was reckoned to be the best yet.

But will there be another three-day long festival again in 2018? That depends on who comes forward to help with the organisation and running of the event, which began with the first festival in 2008, after more than a year of planning and setting up a constitution.

The entire eight person committee have given notice that they would like to step down and hand over to a new committee. Chairman Stuart Jarrold commented:"The same volunteers have worked extremely diligently over the past decade to create and support the festival, for the benefit of the local community and visitors from further afield. Now they would like to have a break and see new people come in, perhaps with fresh ideas, to take the festival forward.From the evaluation forms submitted a number of people have indicated a willingness to become involved so we all hope the festival will continue to thrive in the future."

The existing committee will remain in place until the next annual general meeting that takes place at the Playing Field pavilion on Tuesday 11th October at 7pm. Prospective new committee members will be most welcome.

Mr Jarrold added:" We are proposing that to mark the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Hoxne Music Festival we should have a special one off day of music in the village on the Saturday of the late May Bank holiday weekend next year. Already Darren and Angela at the Swan have indicated a willingness to become involved with day time concerts and we have approached the Jive Aces to perform again in the village hall in the evening. The current committee will undertake to be available to help and guide new committee members with planning and arrangements."

Hoxne Music Festival committee would like to thank everyone who attended the 2016 festival and those volunteers who helped with arrangements and provided facilities, goods and services to make the event a success.

Anyone who would like to be involved in future may contact the Hoxne Music Festival via the website www.hoxnemusicfestival.com or email hoxnemusicfestival@hotmail.co.uk



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# Fire Away for Charity

Hoxne Charities annual Clay Shoot will take place at Oakley Park, by kind permission of landowner Peter Saunders, on Sunday 4th September. Please do come along to this event which is firmly set in the calendars of hundreds of those who love the setting, love the community spirit and are happy to come along to support this fundraising venture. This year, as previously, there will be a Have-a-go stand, if you are not an experienced shot. Many will also come to perfect their aim and may win a cash prize. The event runs from 11am through to 4pm, with a barbeque cooking all day and tea and coffee available. It would be great to have a fine day on 4th September, but the participants will come along whatever the weather, so we know the day will be successful.

We would still like to hear from anyone who may have an hour or so to help on the day. Contact Julie on j.thompson@wvpschools.org or text 07929 794636 This event has raised over £1000 each for Hoxne Playing Fields and Hoxne School Association for the last few years. The financial generosity of those coming to the event and those companies who offer sponsorship, is more than matched by the time and commitment shown by the many people who kindly give up their time to help on the day and help with preparation.

Thank you, Julie Thompson





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Contact Sarah on 01379 668480 or www.sweetbriarnursery.co.uk

## Dodging the rain

Garden Club members attending the May meeting were regaled with amusing anecdotes from Brian Heard, at one time a forensic scientist with the Metropolitan Police, about his time with the forensic service there. Although he is now retired, he undertook a similar role with the Hong Kong Police before that which forms the subject of another of his talks which I feel sure would be well received by our members.

In June about 34 members went on the annual outing to Pensthorpe Natural Park and enjoyed a guided tour of the wonderful gardens by the Head Gardener in addition to their own leisurely wanderings around the park. The not too impressive weather forecast improved a bit as the day got nearer and fortunately in the end the weather gods smiled upon us, well up to the last hour at least, but upon our departure there was a deluge. The feedback I have received since was that members greatly enjoyed the trip.

By the time you read this we will have had the annual garden party and the committee, and no doubt many members, are crossing their fingers at the moment that the weather changes for the better and the 21st July brings a warm, dry, balmy evening. I hope that the recent weather conditions don't make members reticent about committing to attending. If the worst happens we can take to the Village Hall provided we can notify people in time!! You, the reader will now have the answers.

I hope that we are going to have a large number of entries to the Annual Flower & Produce Show show on the 3rd September plus lots of support by non-members by your attendance on the day.

In the meantime I have to stop writing and get out into the garden whilst the sun shines and replace the bedding plants that have been drowned by the recent rains.

#### Gordon Lacey, Chair, Hoxne Garden & Social Club

# HOXNE PHOENIX LADIES' GROUP

We meet in St. Edmund's Hall at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Visitors Welcome ( $\pounds$ 2).

On 9th August 2016 – We will have a talk by Andy Malcolm on the Fishermen's Mission. On 13th September it will be "Take a Seat" by Mellissa Sheldrake.

Our charity event this year will be a Pudding Evening on 11th October in aid of the Eye Opportunity Group. This is a local charity in Eye for the support of pre-school children with additional needs. Tickets £5 in advance from Vivienne Bradford 668551.

### Half Way to Bowls Success

At the half-way stage of the season, Hoxne are riding high. Strong performances from all players, old and new, have taken the club to the top of the Norfolk and Suffolk Border League. Spirited showings in the cup competitions have led to the club's best run for many years. At the time of writing, a Waveney League Cup quarter-final against Shotford is imminent, and a Border League Cup semi-final with Scole is only a fortnight away. In county competitions, Maurice Hurry and Alan Garnham have reached the area semi-finals of the Men's Pairs while Maurice has reached the same stage in the Veteran's Singles. A number of members have progressed through the early rounds of the various Waveney competitions and hope to reach the end of season Finals Weekend.

Yet bonhomie, fair play and enjoyment remain the priorities, so if anyone would like to share those with us, please come and try the game. We have a club night on Wednesdays, when anyone can come and roll a few woods, get some coaching and meet the members.

On Sunday 18th September, the club are holding a fun-day BBQ. An ideal opportunity for new players to get involved.

For more details, talk to any of the many players throughout Hoxne, Denham, Syleham & Brockdish, or phone the secretary: Roger Knight on 668403



### New Classes to start in the Autumn

At the July Film Night, forms were distributed to allow the audience to choose the next films, from September onwards, no film in August. At the time of writing, the results have not been collated; look out for the next films on our website\*. We also showed subtitles as an experiment. I had thought that they would be a written version of the dialogue, as with foreign films. For those who are hard of hearing, they go further with all sorts of noises described; a love scene between the heroine and hero caused the audience great amusement!

Last Sunday afternoon saw a Tea Dance with the Jitterbugs to 50s and 60s music, with many of the dancers in period dress. Jitterbugs are returning later in the year if you would like to try the dances of a past era (or revisit them!).

We have two new regular classes starting in the autumn, both on Wednesday mornings fortnightly:

Teri Lockton will run a **Stained Glass** workshop starting 21st September, for complete beginners, as well as anyone wanting to improve. Students will learn both practice and theory and be able to embark on their own projects. More details from Teri 740117, terilockton@yahoo.co.uk.

**Creative Writing** course starting on 5th October. Do you suffer from writers' block? Does your narrative languish? If so, Nikki McDonagh will help you overcome the blank page demons and revive your stagnant stories. Have fun honing your writing skills with targeted exercises to spark ideas and liven up your prose.

The AGM in June seems a long time ago now. Thank you to those that came and supported us. We gave a presentation of the activity and finance, both for the previous financial year and our plans for the current year. The Hall is in good health, both for the number of uses and financially. The slides can be downloaded from the website on the "Links & Documents" page.

The Committee "members of the public" are appointed at the AGM. Mary O'Herlihy Nixon stood down and was thanked for her contribution in the past. Ioannis Charvalias joined the Committee, - you may know him from the Friday café and market. The other change was to the independent examiner of the accounts, where Nigel Bradford had stepped down and John Musgrave taken up the role. Richard Jenkins, the Treasurer thanked Nigel for his help for more than 12 years.

#### John Langley

\* Late News – The film on 9th September will be Florence Foster Jenkins. Films for the rest of the year are on the website – www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk



### **REFLECTIONS** - Slogans

There have been a lot of slogans flying around recently, as the pop-group Buffalo Springfield sung in the mid 60s...

#### A thousand people in the street/ Singing songs and carrying signs/ Mostly say, hooray for our side

Ironically, Buffalo Springfield had taken their name from a steamroller company, and that sums up the problem with slogans; frequently they are used to steamroller people into compliance. This is not only true for campaign slogans, it also applies to advertising slogans; the Rolling Stones soon realised that...

When I'm watchin' my TV / And a man comes on and tells me / How white my shirts can be / But he can't be a man 'cause he doesn't smoke / The same cigarettes as me

Can slogans ever be of any use? Any help at all? Opinions differ as to how effective it was, but Nancy Reagan's 'Just Say No' slogan from the 1970s certainly raised awareness of drug use in teenagers and was the inspiration for the Katharine Hamnett's baggy T-shirts bearing the slogan, 'Choose Life', made famous by Wham. More recent slogans have got shorter and pithier. You can buy so many things with Live, Love, Laugh on them that it is hard to get them to match.

Live, Love, Laugh might have taken its inspiration from 'Eat, Pray, Love'; the 2006 book by Elizabeth Gilbert. In this she gives up her career and embarks on a journey of self-discovery during which she Eats in Italy where she learns to enjoy life, Prays in India as she finds her spirituality and falls in Love in Indonesia. From this she is able to distil her way of life into the three words Eat, Pray, Love.

In religious or spiritual terms, Eat, Pray, Love is not a slogan but a rule of life. In the west that phrase is often associated with monasteries and convents, where they set out how to live in community and the duties and responsibilities of each member. But at its heart a rule of life is not a complex 'rule book' of how to live, but a simple statement of how we intend to live. Alan Hargrave has written on this in his book, 'Living Well', his purpose is to help the reader find a rule for their own life.

I think a very appropriate rule of life would be 'Live as 'J' Leader lived'. It's almost short enough to fit on a T-shirt- to be a slogan. Having a rule of life, a slogan to live by can be very helpful, but the final thought should go to Katerine Hamnent who came to suspect that for some, the slogans are a substitute for action.

Michael Womack, 01379-388889 hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

# CHURCH NEWS

### Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Wingfield

If you need to get in touch with the Rector, Michael Womack, ring 01379 388889. Village contacts are:

Hoxne – Brian Chester, Flaxfield, Witton's Lane tel: 01379 669157 Denham – Michael Reeves, The Brambles, Church Road tel: 01379 668179 Syleham – Mary Lewis, Little Hemplands tel: 01379 669258 Wingfield – John McCracken, Catelyns tel: 01379 384181

# Times of worship

Wednesday 3rd August 6pm Hoxne Lammas celebration with Bishop Martin Seeley

#### Sunday 7th August

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer 11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion 4pm Syleham Messy Church

#### Sunday 14th August

11am Wingfield Holy Communion 11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

#### Sunday 21st August

8.30am Hoxne BCP HolyCommunion10am Syleham Village Praise10am Wingfield Family Service11.15am Hoxne – to be decided

#### Sunday 28th August

9.30am Syleham BCP HolyCommunion10am Hoxne Family Service11.15am Denham Family Service6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

#### Sunday 4th September

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion 11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion and Baptism 4pm Syleham Messy Church

#### Sunday 11th September

11am Wingfield Holy Communion 11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

#### Sunday 18th September

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion 10am Syleham Village Praise 10am Wingfield Family Service 11.15am No service – Hoxne Harvest Breakfast

#### Sunday 25th September

9.30am Syleham Holy Communion10am Hoxne Family Service11.15am Denham Family Service6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

The Benefice Newsletter includes details of services in the three parishes outside the Voice distribution. Copies can be picked up in churches or electronically by request from hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

### St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Although held in wind and occasional rain, Hoxne's Village Fete brought out the 'never-mind-theweather spirit' and raised a record total of more than £2,600 for the Parish Church. Very many thanks to the many helpers who worked before and during the event and special thanks to Ben Benton who led the organisation for the first time and to Wilf White, the new owner of Abbey Farm, for agreeing to host the event so soon after moving in. The date for next year's fete has already been fixed – Saturday 24th June!

**Thinking of dates**, this year's Christmas Bazaar is planned for Saturday 26th November starting at 12noon,

A draft budget for 2017 presented to the diocesan synod in June shows only a small increase in the amount required to be met by the centenary share next year. Significant savings are promised which should balance income with expenditure by 2018. The diocese incurred a loss of more than £900,000 last year. Changes are also to be made in the way the centenary share is calculated with the charge made on electoral roll numbers being replaced by an average attendance figure.

**Bishop Martin Seeley** will be taking part in the Lammas Service – the celebration of the first loaf from the first grain of the harvest – at St Peter and St Paul, on Wednesday 3rd

# **CHURCH NEWS**

August. Held at Hoxne for the third consecutive year and in support of the Addington Fund which helps farming families in times of distress, the service attracts representatives of the farming community from across the county. It will be followed by a hog roast.

A party of trainee cathedral guides spent time in the church searching for answers to a list of prepared questions. It was good to hear their complimentary comments about the building and how well it was being 'looked after'.

The Father's Day service had a successful different twist with members of the congregation bringing pictures of their fathers to create a 'who's who' challenge. Much deliberation but little conclusion resulted!

**Reference to** the Historic Churches Bike Ride is elsewhere in Village Voice but a reminded that two seats are in the organiser's saddle for Hoxne this year – Rhona Bertie (871850) and Anne Swann (669322). The ride is on Saturday 10th September.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

#### Flower rota

7th & 14th August: Altar - Jenny Loome. 21st & 28th August: Altar - Cathie McGregor. 4th & 11th September: Altar - Caroline Ball. 18th & 25th September: Altar - Suzanne Lewis.

> Cathie McGregor flower rota organiser 668434

#### Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mothers Union meets on the third Monday of the month at 2.15pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne. New members are always welcome. 15th August - 2.15 meeting. 26th September - 2.15pm. News from the Annual Meeting and Service in Winchester cathedral. All welcome.

#### Branch Leader Cathie McGregor. 668434

### St John, Denham

**The regular pattern** of services at St John's in Denham continues with Benefice Communions on Tuesdays 9th August and 13th September at 7:30 pm. The Sunday family services for this period are on the 28th August and the 25th September at 11:15 am with refreshments and fellowship beforehand. A **Car Treasure Hunt** is planned for 20th August starting from the field by the footpath opposite Elm House in Green Street at 3pm. Following the treasure hunt there will be a barbecue in the woodland while score sheets are marked and a winner is found. Entry to the event is £5 for adults and £3 for children which includes a burger or sausage. For more details of this event please contact Mike Reeves on 01379 668179 or Barbara Irwin on 01379 870500.

### St Margaret, Syleham

The Thanksgiving Service for the life of John 'J' Leader on Friday 3rd June was attended by about 350 and was widely appreciated as 'capturing his spirit'. Donations were invited for St Margaret's Church and a decision on the use of the fund will be made in due course. 'J' is still missed at every turn and the book of memories is still being added to: it will remain in the church for a little longer.

Messy Church continues to be strong, even though we cancelled July's session to accommodate families supporting Pink Ladies Tractor Run and the Fun Afternoon in Hoxne: all families are welcome to share in our Bible-based fun activities, story and song - followed by our scrummy tea: our next sessions at the Village Hall in Syleham at 4pm are on 7th August (linking with the Olympic Games) and 4th September (new beginnings). **SHCT Cycle Ride** 10th September -St Margaret's will be open as always. Offers to 'sit' in the church to record visiting cyclists would be most welcome: there can be some interesting conversations!

Harvest Service will be at 10am on Sunday 18th September. Revd Michael will be with us for this important event in the life of our rural community and, as always, we look forward to seeing the displays by our talented and imaginative flower arrangers!

Harvest Supper - Saturday evening 24th September at the Village Hall in Syleham. 7pm for 7.30pm. More publicity nearer the time but do come and share in this further celebration of the ingathering of harvest, so vital to our rural area.

**Reminder** that there is (normally) a 10/15-minute reflection and prayer time in St Margaret's at 12 noon on Tuesdays: the church is, of course, open for prayer at any time.

**Contact** for any of the above -Churchwarden Mary Lewis (669258) mary.lewis43@icloud.com

### St Andrew, Wingfield

We are very grateful to everyone who helped organise and take part in Wingfield's Summer Fete, and to GWC for kindly hosting the event. Many people enjoyed the variety of stalls at the fete until it was, unfortunately, cut short by monsoontype rains.

Voice readers will recall that almost exactly three months earlier there was a different type of extreme weather in the form of Storm Katie, which blew out the window in the tower of St Andrew's Church. We are fortunate that our regular team from MC Lead Glaziers was able to attend promptly to make the tower weatherproof, and to repair the window which has recently been re-installed.

It was a pleasure to welcome Canon David Finch back to preach at St Andrew's, along with the Revd Ron Orams who celebrated, on the occasion when the Revd Michael Womack baptised Peter and France's new grandson, Samuel.

We will celebrate Harvest Festival at Wingfield at 6.30pm on Sunday 25th September. If you would like to help decorate the church with flowers, fruit and vegetables, please have a word with Sue Harvey on 586355. We will hold our annual Harvest Supper the previous evening on Saturday 24th September. Tickets for this popular meal are available from Sharon Alldis on 384854.

# 'J' Leader

John Leader known to his friends, and to almost everybody else, as J, died at his home, Monks Hall, Syleham, on 7th April. He was the last resident member of a legendary Monks Hall family, his American mother and Irish/Canadian father having bought the property in 1935. All were resolutely British in outlook, none more so than J who devoted himself to the home he'd always known throughout the 77 years of his life. The village of Syleham and neighbouring parishes were central to his existence; his love of trees, the river Waveney, the land and the character of old England were dearest to him, as evidenced by the tall hedges and unspoilt countryside he preserved in harmony with his farming activities.

Thus it was that Monks Hall became a mecca for casual visitors, marvelling at the way J, and his parents before him, had resisted the usual temptations to modernise and had kept the house and farm as a refuge of peace and seclusion. J loved his sporadic gatherings, invitations to drop in for "a snort" or "come to a gloomy little party", spontaneous occasions imbued with a natural warmth and welcome. J took a genuine delight in entertaining his friends. He feigned reluctance to show new guests round his house with its sloping floors and rickety staircases, until pressed into doing so, which he then did with his understated charm and humour. He flew the national flag of any foreign visitor.

In the 1970s J, who was proud of his joint Canadian citizenship, acquired arable land in Manitoba, Canada, which he farmed alone for some months in the year, leaving his father to take care of the farm at home until he returned. His land in Canada in the flat landscape of the Assiniboine valley bore many of the characteristics of his land at Monks Hall through its unspoilt nature and the nearby river. In recent years he acquired an interest in a safari lodge and land in Zambia on the banks of the Zambezi, enjoying his natural affinity with the local people, the game parks, and the African wildlife.

With his international connections J covered a wide circle of friends, but it was still his life in Syleham and Suffolk which he loved the most. His original mind, which still clung to dreams of Imperial Britain, argued for the highest standards of decency in daily life and in the politics of his nation. His delightful old-fashioned manners and his gentle approach to everybody on an equal basis set him apart. He helped anyone in trouble. It comes as a surprise to realise that the spirit of adventure latent within him drove him to parachute and to bungee-jump off the Victoria Falls bridge.

J never married but will be mourned by a long list of devoted godchildren and children from all parts whom he allowed to play in his woods, on the river or walk on his land. He spoke every week to his brother Bill in Texas who survives him. We all who are members of the community here in rural Suffolk and in the Waveney Valley have lost a true friend and supporter and a precious representative of a gracious age.



# **Report from Denham Parish Council**

At the Annual General Meeting held in May, Councillor Nick Urwin was re-elected as Chairman and Councillors Margaret Reeves and Carol Rose continued to serve on the Council. Councillor Rose was re-elected as Vice Chairman. It was agreed, following the success of the 'Your Denham Day' where Councillors were present at various locations in the parish, to hold the remainder of the 2016 meetings at the Red Feather Club instead of Denham Village Hall. At the meeting the Council's accounts were approved, the Annual Return was signed ready for external audit and it was agreed to gift the Phone Kiosk to the Old Hospital Museum.

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – We currently have vacancies for Parish Councillors. If you would like to do make a positive difference to your village and have the opportunity to influence decisions that affect your community, please contact the Parish Clerk for more details of the co-option process. FOOTPATHS – any concerns with footpaths in the village should be reported to the County Council. The landowners have limited responsibilities regarding the maintenance of footpaths and the County Council are the authority to deal with all issues relating to footpaths especially upgrowth and field edge paths. www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-ofway-in-suffolk

MEETING DATES –Wednesday 28th September and Wednesday 30th November. All meetings will commence at 7.30 pm at the Red Feather Club. Members of the public are welcome at all meetings. Notices of meetings and detailed agendas are displayed on the four notice boards in Denham. Please check these or the website – www.denham.onesuffolk.net - for further details.

Sarah Foote, Clerk, Telephone: 07554 733621. Email denhamparishclerk@gmail.com

## **Syleham Parish Council Update**

Parish Council Meeting– there have been no meetings since our last report of May 2016. The next meeting is scheduled for 2nd September.
Vacancy – Syleham Parish Council is seeking a new Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to support the parish councillors. Expressions of interest and a request for a job description in the first instance should be made to the current clerk at the below address.

Clerk: Linda Bruce Tel. 01379 669018 pc@syleham.suffolk.gov.uk

# **News from Hoxne Parish Council**

PARISHIONER'S VIEW POINT SURVEY – Thank you to the 56 households who completed the recent survey. From the results we can gather views on what a village sign could look like and where it should be located, feelings on housing development and if there is a need for allotments in the village. We will also be in touch with those who have volunteered to join a Working Party to revisit the Parish Plan. If you have not completed the survey, but would like to be involved with a new plan for the future of the village, please contact the Clerk as detailed below.

STEPS TO ST EDMUND'S MONUMENT- the Parish Council is grateful to Mick Procner and Mike Dudley for their excellent work in refurbishing the steps to the Monument.

EVENTS ON LOW STREET GREEN- Hoxne Parish Council owns the Village Green in Low Street on behalf of the Parish. The Parish Council welcomes events to be held on the Green and values the benefit these events bring to village life. However, the Parish Council as landowners have a duty of care to anybody on land for which they are responsible and as such has introduced a hire policy for any advertised public event (No fees will be charged), A copy of this policy is available from the Clerk and on the Parish Council website. Anyone wishing to use the Green for such an event must comply with the conditions of the hire policy.

SPEEDING TRAFFIC - the vehicle activated sign continues to be deployed in Abbey Hill and Green Street. Data from the sign is published on the website. Councillors are concerned to note the number of vehicles breaking the speed limit and some of the excessive speeds which are recorded. If you witness vehicles driving through the village with excessive speed, registration numbers can be reported to Suffolk Police by dialling 101.

DEVOLUTION - parishioners may be aware of the plans for Devolution in Suffolk and neighbouring counties. If you would like to respond to the consultation which is running until 23rd August, further information can be found at https://www.eastangliadevo.co.uk/consultation/

The Parish Council meets on the first Thursday of the month. The next meetings will be held on Thursday 4th August, Thursday 1st September and Thursday 6th October at the Playingfield Pavilion and commence at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

#### Sarah Foote, Clerk, Telephone: 07554 733621 Email pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk www.hoxne.onesuffolk.net

# **News from Wingfield Parish Council**

#### Chairman: Mike Allmey

Since our last report in January we have held our Annual General Meeting that covered all the major issues that have been addressed in the interim: **Broadband:** The PC made a submission to Suffolk Better Broadband public consultation to make our views known about our poor service and the future threat of the village being divided into "have" and "have not" recipients of a superfast service. Our thanks to Rosemary Elliott in the preparation of this documentation. A copy of which is available to view.

**Wingfield Green:** The storm damage to trees and the threat to adjacent properties has been dealt with. Further work on the clearance of undergrowth will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

**De La Pole Arms:** The PC in association with CAMRA has successfully registered the pub as a community asset. It is safe from private development for the time being.

**Village improvements:** Thanks to an award from Mid Suffolk District Council we have been able to buy a park bench to be installed at the "bus stop" by the village notice board and make a financial contribution to the Queen's recent birthday celebrations that included the gift of commemorative coins to all village school children who attended.

In addition, flower beds at Castle Crescent Green will be installed thanks to Lee Smith's contribution of railway sleepers to construct the planters. Could all budding gardeners willing to contribute plants or time to this project please contact the Parish Clerk.

**Parish Council Website:** Your PC has decided to join the 21st century and have its own website. This, in its nascent form, can be viewed on www.wingfield-pc.org.uk Please understand that this site is for the parish council's communication with its electorate and vice versa. It is not intended to be Wingfield's answer to Google.

**Michael Harvey:** Finally, but most importantly, we give our thanks to the man who has served this village as Chairman of the Parish Council for the past 11 years. Nobody can have been untouched by his generosity and wise counsel in all these years of service to the community.

Michael is standing down as Chairman but remains as a councillor. Mike Allmey was unanimously elected as his successor and Lee Smith will continue as Vice Chairman.

#### David Young, Parish Clerk (668556)



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Village Voice 27

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# Happy Birthday, Your Majesty

Following our London theme in June we hosted a very successful Birthday party in honour of The Queen which was enjoyed by all. We would just like to say a big thank you for all the help with the delicious food and the fabulous cake made by Tina.

We finished off term with a beach and sea project with a range of science based activities specially looking at the differences between sea, pond and drinking water. It was a wet but fun theme! We also made lots of different types of picnic for our imaginary trips to the beach as we read Lucy and Tom at the Seaside.



Our play scheme will be running over the Summer holidays. We take children up to the age of 8 and have a range of age appropriate activities on offer for the children to choose from. There are only a few places left so please contact us soon if you are interested.

We wish all our leavers the best of luck at "big school", we will miss you! We are looking forward to welcoming our newcomers in September and are starting off with a project on babies when we will be having some visits from a few new brothers or sisters that are due to arrive soon!

For more information about us visit us online at ww.sweetbriarnursery.co.uk where we have a blog about all our latest activities, a gallery of our work, details about the extremely flexible provision, government funding, the curriculum and what our parents say about us. We welcome any prospective parents to come and try a taster session, just contact Sarah Buckley on 01379668480 or email sarah@sweetbriarnursery.co.uk.

### Borderhoppa Dial-a-Ride Service in Suffolk

As from 25th July we will no longer be operating a daily service in Suffolk. We will continue to bring Suffolk passengers into Harleston on a Wednesday & into Diss on a Friday, no other journeys will operate. This will be reviewed if passenger numbers are too low.

The mid Suffolk area has been taken over by Connecting Community & our Suffolk County Council funding stopped on 13th June. We are operating independently at the moment, but cannot afford to continue.

We are very sorry for any inconvenience that this will cause, but Connecting Community will be able to cover your transport needs if you live in Suffolk. They can be contacted on 01449 614271.

If you have any further questions, please contact our office on 854800

## **Events at Wingfield Barns**

#### Highlights of June/July

Saturday 25th June saw the return of the multi-talented Richard Digance to the Barns. Richard was supported by The Broadside Boys, a local folk duo who play gigs in and around the region and have released a must-listen CD, and the amazing Tom on violin. Unmissable! On Sunday 10th July, Peter Knights Gigspanner brought the audience to its feet with their unique brand of folk-rock. Violin, guitar and percussion blending together in emotional, self-penned songs. A brilliant evening.

#### Coming up in August/September.... Summer Exhibitions

One of the highlights of the summer season in East Anglia is the International Miniprint exhibition at Wingfield Barns. The exhibition which has been running annually since 1995 in Wingfield is curated by Ian Chance who is currently course director for the MA Creative Entrepreneurship course at the University of East Anglia. There are over 650 prints from 50 countries worldwide. This year's collection is bound to delight both visitors and collectors alike as it provides the opportunity to buy and own original works of art created by contemporary artists at very affordable prices.

In Gallery 1 this year the Harleston & Waveney Art Trail Collective will be exhibiting 'Little Gems - the affordable art show' with a selection of small scale drawings, paintings, prints, mosaics and textiles. The thirty professional artists who open their studios annually all live within a ten-mile radius of Harleston and regularly collaborate in additional group exhibitions with some having solo shows throughout the year.

Admission is free to both exhibitions from Friday 12th August to Sunday 11th September 11-4pm, Wednesdays to Sundays. The private view for the two exhibitions is open to the public from 6-8pm on Thursday 11 August in Gallery 2. There is free parking adjacent to the site next to Low Road and parking for Blue Badge holders on site next to the galleries.

Wingfield Barns, Church Road, Wingfield, Suffolk IP21 5RA Tel: 384505 Email: office.manager@wingfieldbarns.co.uk www.wingfieldbarns.co.uk



### The Grocer's Tale - Pt 2.

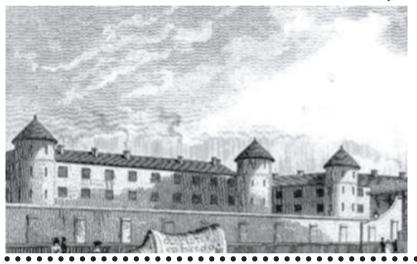
For our unfortunate draper, Alfred Tallent, a spell aboard the prison hulk Leviathan must have been about as far removed from life in sleepy Hoxne as he could possibly imagine. On going aboard, a 14lb iron would have been riveted to his right leg to discourage a leap overboard and swim to shore. Practically everything he had of value would have been stolen and, kitted out in coarse canvas shirt and trousers, he joined his fellow convicts in the sopping wet and foul smelling bowels of the hulk. His only contact with the outside world was a daily stint working in fetters in the dockyard. Between June 1840 and November 1841, his wife, Susannah petitioned Lord Normanby, the Home Secretary, for her husband's release on three occasions, claiming that he had behaved well in confinement, and that one or two fellow convicts had been pardoned for similar offences. Her entreaties, though, fell on deaf ears. She had by now left the family home in Hoxne, and moved to Scole with some of her children, where she is shown on the Census as a grocer. She may have had some assistance in acquiring a small shop there from her brother, John Taylor, who was also in the grocery business in Cross Street, Hoxne.

Alfred himself also penned a lengthy plea, full of several untruths and tedious details of his business dealings and trial, once again to no effect. And then out of the blue in May, 1842, his pardon arrived. He moved to settle in Ipswich, where his sons, Alfred and William had rented a shop at 2, St. Clement's, Fore Street, where they traded as grocers and drapers. The business ticked over for a few years, until, on the first of June, 1845, constables once more paid him a visit, and arrested him with his son. He had been ordering goods for the shop, this time over £70 worth of sugar with no intention of paying as he had no money and had even been declared bankrupt again. He was charged and bailed to re-appear in August, the business being put up for sale by auction in the July. At his trial, he was accused of obtaining goods by false pretences. The Recorder at the Sessions in Ipswich took a dim view of the crime, and as Tallent had been previously gaoled for a similar offence, sentenced him to seven years transportation. His, son received six months behind bars. After a brief spell in Ipswich Gaol, Tallent was carted off to the new Millbank Penitentiary on the Thames near Westminster.

This dismal fortress of a building occupied the site of a former large marsh and was cold, damp and squalid. It drew its water directly from the Thames and as a consequence, diseases such as typhoid, cholera and scurvy were rife. The prisoners were kept in almost complete isolation, which drove many of them to madness. From 1843, though, it was decided by the Government that only felons who had been sentenced to transportation be incarcerated there for a period of about three months, to chasten them, it was said, prior to their taking ship for the colonies.

On the 7th of January, 1846, Alfred Tallent left the prison for Woolwich, where he embarked with 198 other convicts; a military guard of 50 men, six women and five children under the orders of Captain Johnson & Lieutenant Turner of the 65th Regiment on board the convict ship, China. The Master was George Livesay, and the ship's Surgeon Superintendent, George Shaw Rutherford. They were bound for a penal settlement nearly a thousand miles from Sydney, Australia whose name struck terror into the hearts of even the most hardened convicts who had heard it spoken – Norfolk Island. For poor Alfred, things were decidedly going from bad to worse! (To be concluded!)

**Chris Johnson** 



# New Reeding Woods Group

The Brownies from Horham Baptist Church came to visit Pound Lane Wood in May to learn about trees for their "World Issues" badge. They were taken on a tour of the woodland with David Flowerdew explaining why the woodland was planted and David Mitchell identifying the variety of trees planted in the woodland and explaining the importance of each species. As part of this badge the brownies have to plant a tree, so a site for their tree was selected and they will return later in the year for a planting visit.

The Wood Group AGM will be held this year on Saturday 13th August from 3:00 pm followed as usual by the annual BBQ. This community project is ongoing, if you want to be actively involved please contact Mike Reeves on 668179 for more details.



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## What is Tai Chi?

Tai Chi is just about everything; the literal translation is "supreme ultimate". It is the name of the yin-yang symbol  $\widehat{\mathbf{o}}$  in daoist philosophy.

What people usually mean when say they are doing "tai chi" is a combination of Qi Gong exercises and Tai Chi Chuan martial art forms. These are gentle exercises involving flowing, easy movements that don't stress the joints or muscles to help improve balance & wellbeing.

♥Qi is the Chinese term for that sense of energy we have that makes us feel alive; in old English there is a similar word "Mœgen" meaning bodily vigour, power. Gong means time and effort, or work. So "Qi Gong" means working with your energy; these are stretches and movements that have developed over thousands of years to help the flow of "energy" and improve our wellbeing; similar to acupuncture, but without needles.

Tai Chi Chuan means "supreme ultimate fist", applying the philosophy of daoism, of yin-yang, to martial art. These are the slow flowing moves you may have seen in the park or in films like Calendar Girls or Despicable Me.

Whow is something so soft a martial art? The answer is being like water. Water wears through the hardest rock. Also, by practicing the moves slowly we make sure we are balanced and grounded; relaxed, but aware of the details; we can focus on moving in the most efficient least stressful way, working to our own personal abilities; flowing, yielding...

Sut why practice a martial art in Suffolk where there is little need for fighting skills? These skills can help you relax, improve your balance and reduce falls; and are recommended by the NHS. Or as the sage Lao Tzu wrote in the Tao Te Ching3 (verse 33) "overcoming others takes strength, overcoming yourself takes greatness".

♥ The first verse of the Tao Te Ching reminds us that words, (like this article), are not the real thing: "the name you can say is not the real name". So if you would like to experience tai chi for yourself please come along to one of the classes at St Edmunds Hall, Hoxne on Thursdays 2-2.45pm or 3-3.45pm. There are also classes at Withersdale St 10.30-11.15 and Harleston 12-12.45 pm on Thursdays. [Note: No tai chi on 4th August] For more information, please contact:

Nigel Brett 07777 695 656 e-mail: taichinb@gmail.com Instructor No. 1639

### St Edmund's Primary School

The summer term has been a very busy term with all classes going on an educational visit. Acorn class had a wonderful day at Banham looking at the different animals, while Oak and Beech classes went to Colchester Zoo to find out more about the Rainforest.

Rowan Class went a little further afield and had a fantastic day touring the Houses of Parliament and looking at famous London landmarks. As we explored the Houses of Commons we found out about the history of the building, how laws are made in Parliament and the role of her Majesty the Queen. Walking up towards Buckingham Palace, we saw the Changing of the Guard, the Cenotaph and 10 Downing Street before having lunch in the sunshine in St James Park – just as Prince William and Princess Katherine drove past. A perfect day.

Some of our Brass Band have had the opportunity to perform at Snape Maltings with BBC Scottish Orchestra and had a fantastic day of music. Preparations are well under way for our end of term performance with the Pirates of 'Treasure Island' rehearsing their pirate voices and Long John Silver working on his limp!

As the term comes to an end we prepare to say Goodbye to our Year sixes as they start the next part of their educational journey. We are very proud of what each of them has achieved and wish them well.



### Eye Family Fun Day - Sunday 28th August from 11.00am

Community Centre and Playing Fields, Magdalen Street, Eye IP23 7AJ The Family Fun Day will be bigger and better than ever with events, displays, and amusements for all the family. These include a Fun Fair with games and rides for children, the traditional Dog Show, flower, plants and vegetable competitions, stalls and displays, arena events, classic cars, stationary engines and farm machinery, model railway and engineering, local societies, a flower, plant and produce show, displays of pictures and other arts plus a photography and painting competition. Look out for children's entertainments, various fun sporting activities and craft stalls. There will be a Viking encampment with historical enactments, a car boot sale and a choice of food, tea, cakes and refreshments and a licensed bar in the Community Centre.

Park Radio who will soon be serving Eye, Diss, Harleston and surrounding villages will be on site entertaining with music and live interviews. We also plan to have a well recommended jazz band performing during the afternoon. If you and your organisation would like to be part of this year's event by having a stall, pitch or table, please contact Kevin Crispin to express an interest – 01379 870568 - kevcrispin65@gmail.com - there will be no charge for stalls unless you plan to raise money for your organisation, in which case there is a pitch fee of £5. We are also looking for helpers to give an hour of their time to run stalls and games during the day. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Eye Family Fun Day.



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## Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride



This year the Suffolk Historic Churches sponsored cycle ride is taking place on Saturday 10th September 2016.

The idea for Ride+Stride (as it is sometimes called) started in Suffolk, and Suffolk has consistently headed the table of funds raised. The Bike Ride is the main source of income to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (and to many of our benefice churches) enabling the trust to make grants to churches and chapels of all denominations towards repair and restoration costs. The money raised is split, with 50% going to your nominated church and 50% to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. As you would expect keeping our churches open costs more and more each year and we very much need the funds so please do get involved. It is an excellent chance to raise money for your local church and for you to get to see some of the lovely Suffolk countryside and our very historic churches. Families or a group of friends can make this a fun day out. You can cycle or walk to the various churches and the dog walkers amongst you could incorporate the church in your necessary daily exercise perhaps!

If you are not able to cycle or walk, then could you be one of the recorders? This involves sitting peacefully in the church or its grounds and welcoming in the riders and filling in a couple of bits of paper. Most of the churches have a rota of folk so please do speak to your local organiser.

Once the sponsorship forms are available then these will be delivered to the 'regulars' but if this is a new venture to you then please do contact your local organiser and they can give you a form and also a list of the participating churches in Suffolk and Norfolk.

Below is a list of the local organisers and please note the change for Hoxne. Welcome to Anne and Rhona and many thanks to Caroline for her work with the bike ride over the years.

St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne Anne Swan		669322	anneswann3@hotmail.com	
	Rhona Bertie	871850	rhonabertie@gmail.com	
St Johns, Denham	Sue Roberts	07713 1	5735 scr@netcom.co.uk	
St Margaret, Syleham	Mary Lewis	669258	mary.lewis43@icloud.com	
St Andrew's, Wingfield	John McCracke	en 38418	vj.mccracken@gmail.com	

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust has already helped to keep several of our local churches open; so in lots of ways this is a really worthwhile venture. Be part of it and join in the fun!

Sue Roberts 07713 157351 SCR@netcom.co.uk

## Lend me a Tenor

Harleston Choral Society, a local community choir, was founded in 2000. We meet on Monday evenings from 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm in St John's Church, Harleston, and we welcome everyone - especially Tenors! - whether experienced singers or not. There are no auditions, and music is provided free.

Subs are currently £35 per term (some concessions are available). So why not come and join us - our next term begins on Monday 7 September at 7.00 pm in St John's Church. We'll be singing Vivaldi's Gloria, Faure's Cantique de Jean Racine, 'The Shepherds' Farewell' from Berlioz' 'L'Enfance du Christ', and a selection of carols, all in preparation for our Christmas Concert on Saturday 10th December.

Further information in 'About Us' on the HCS website www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk , and from Jo Curry on 01986 875494 or jo.curry@sky.com'



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Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> October at Free		AM	8:45 am to 11 am			
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> October at Free		PM	2 pm to 3:30 pm			
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Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> October at Fress	inafield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am			
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> October at Fress	inafield	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm			
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> October at Fr	essingfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am			
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> October at Fr	essingfield	PM	2 pm to 3:30 pm			
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Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> October at Fres	singfield	AM	8:45 am to 11 am			
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> October at Fres	singfield	PM	4 pm to 5:30 pm			
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Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> October at Str	adbroke		4 pm to 5:30 pm			
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> October at Str	adbroke	AM	8:45 am to 11 am			
			ASONAL FLU JAB IF:			
TOO ARE LER			ROUNAL I LU JAD II .			
You have asthma or a chronic respiratory disease		hronic heart ease	You have chronic kidney disease			
You have chronic liver	You are	diabetic	You have a weak immune			
disease			system/Immunosuppression			
	Vorthere	a history of				
You are over 65 years of age or are 65 prior to the		a nistory of A or Multiple	New ere Browne f			
31/3/2017	Sclerosis or	a disease of				
	the central nervous system					
sys		lem				
Those who are in receipt of	carer's allowan	ce. Childre	en aged two, three & four years, but not			
or those who are the main c	arer of an older	or five on 31/8/2016. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL				
disabled person whose well	are may be at r Is ill.	sk CONTACT PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN TO INVITE THEM TO AN APPT				

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### Playing God. Are Robots the new Frankenstein?

In 1985, the Engineering Dept. of University of Technology in PNG received a bizarre gift. This puzzling item of overseas aid from Japan was a massive piece of redundant machinery which could be programmed to manufacture almost any item in metal which would normally have been produced by humans working on lathes and cutting machines. It was both robotic and exotic and programming it was beyond our Department of Engineering. It's arrival reminded me of an earlier event in the South Pacific when the UKs Overseas Development Ministry gave the small hospital in the tiny remote kingdom of Tonga a 20 foot wide ironing machine for bedsheets. Hospital laundry maids became redundant. Tongan jobs had been traded for work in the UK, a process reversed by Dyson making his bag-less vacuum cleaners in the Far East, a flow which has come to blight Western industry.

In the May London Corruption summit our PM was caught on camera telling HM that Nigeria was corrupt, so next day, the wily President of Nigeria asked for the millions invested by corrupt Nigerians in London to be returned to Nigeria.

The faster circulation of money is good for the economy. The Panama leaks have revealed how to avoid tax and to get rich on capitalism now out of control. Third World aid is misallocated, misused, misappropriated, and goes missing unless there are leaks, a most heinous crime.

Algorithms are used by banks to make money, and to design robots that replace labour with capital, and according to Robin Hanson in his book "The Age on Em" is affecting workers now and fast, much of it unnoticed, though, in my distant youth, Chaplin's "Modern Times" gave us a glimpse of the things to come. One of Prince Charles 's worries was an early warning that man-made nano-technology might take us over. But progress has been slow and he has not mentioned these non-biological molecular machines recently, but beware those of you who use make up etc., they are being used in pharmaceuticals and in super-lubricants. Employment statistics do not show the extent to which work goes to Eastern Europeans migrants, Eastern sweat shops or robots, but trends are emerging from productivity surveys, and widespread concern about global rising unemployment, and talk of better manpower planning to avoid the need to import foreign skills.

Will these concerns be overtaken by Hanson's "unnoticed takeover by robots"? The Labour market is studied intensively. The data are plentiful, and trends can be identified. Good progress has been made in the study of artificial intelligence (AI) by scientists using scanners to reveal just how the brain works (and where it fails us when dementia sets in). This work leads to the possibility of devising a programme for a working brain to be installed in a robot. Simple versions already exist that can answer questions, and perform tasks in response to verbal instructions. But, related to the brain is the mind.

A word How it works is much harder to understand or predict. Shall we ever be able to understand it? My mother from would say to her children "I know what you are thinking" and "I know what's in your mind". She made some good guesses, but she had no means of Wingfield penetrating our thoughts. We have their secrets, and the key to sharing them. US water-boarding has proved to be forced entry that does not always work, and Freudian analysis cannot enable a robot to think. We can contemplate that one day a surgeon will effect a brain transfer as achieved with most organs, but the mind is not matter, indeed it is another matter entirely. The performance of the mind can be influenced in many ways, by what the body and its brain sees, feels, hears, tastes, etc. Drugs especially, and cheese too is said to cause unpleasant dreams .But those "abstractions " such as beauty, love, compassion, thinking, creativity, genius, originality, fear, spirituality, which are in the mind, and then manifest in the brain and the body. The mind is mine, me, private and personal, and hopefully within my control. As I write this it is a manifestation of my mind and of no one else's. If we have eternal life, then it will be the mind that endures, not the body.

200 years ago Mary Shelley wrote what some regard as the first sci-if novel, about a young Swiss scientist one Victor Frankenstein who plays God and assembles human flesh parts which he animates into life with electricity. Subtitled the modern Prometheus, it reveals the classical thinking that inspired her, but nothing about how Frankenstein's creature acquired his life, and the capacity to think.

Hanson's concern about robots taking over from us humans would only have legitimacy if our minds were transferable or if they emerged in the process of Darwinian evolution and are a selfish survival. I sense that minds are of the eternal and indestructible spirit and that man will never be able to play God and install minds in robots.

But what about these driverless cars; could they get out of control when Top Gear tries them out?

In June, the Observer reviewed a new book about the dangers of super intelligence written by a very clever Oxford professor born in Sweden who says that we must act now to save our species from the major threat posed in this century of a takeover by robots. On my reading of it, the author seems to equate intelligence to the working of the brain, and says nothing about the mind which I see as something quite separate. Even if in 20 years' time the neurons in the brain are downloaded and the robots take control, I believe our minds will prove impregnable.

John asks for contributions, but does he know who writes them?

Tommy Gee (or, perhaps, a robot?)

## A Walk to remember a loved one

Rosedale Funeral Home is inviting families who have lost a loved one to join them again this year at their annual Walk of Remembrance in Diss on Saturday 3rd September.

"The walk is an opportunity to remember a loved one whilst enjoying the beautiful local scenery on what we hope will be a memorable autumnal day" says Christian Fairbrother, Funeral Director at Rosedale Diss. "Please feel free to bring along your family and friends including four legged friends, so we can all take the time together to remember those we have lost.

There will be a choice of two circular routes around the picturesque market town of Diss and the surrounding countryside in: - a three mile walk or a shorter route of one mile. This year, the local village of Palgrave has been incorporated into the longer route.

Following one minute of silence, a dove release will mark the start of the walks, which begin at 11.00 am from The Mere, Diss. During each walk, there is the opportunity to visit St Mary's Church, where a special 'Book of Remembrance' will be in place in which a message can be written and there will be an opportunity to light a candle.

The Walks of Remembrance are a way for the staff at Rosedale to give something back to our families, and to let you know that you are never far from our thoughts as well as supporting those who are bereaved in our local community.

To register please contact info@rosedalefuneralhome or 01379 640810 for a registration form.

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### The Maynard Educational Trust

The Maynard Trust provides small grants to children and adults, resident in Hoxne for educational or training purposes.

Its original title was the Charles Lord Maynard Educational Foundation – Hoxne, and it was founded in 1761, by will of Charles Maynard. The legacy was originally to fund the building of a school where children of the parish could be taught freely – Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, with Needlework for the girls. Children attended the school in Low Street, Hoxne until 1914.

Today the proceeds from the interest from the capital, and the accrued income from farming rents, are used to provide a grant to St Edmunds Primary School, Hoxne and to the Parochial Church Council for Sunday school. In addition, individuals resident in the village are encouraged to apply to the Trust, which meets four times a year, for help with funding an educational visit or for support with books for university or college studies or other training courses which will enhance their future opportunities.

There are five Trustees, all residents of Hoxne. Two are nominated by the Hoxne Parish Council, two by the primary school and one by the Parochial Church Council for a term of office of three years. The charity is administered by a volunteer secretary.

In order to continue to make grants available for the residents of Hoxne, the Trustees of the Maynard Trust are always keen to receive donations from benefactors or indeed legacies bequeathed in wills. For more information about how you can support us please contact us through our secretary, Sarah Foote, by emailing secretarymaynardtrusthoxne@hotmail.co.uk.

Felicity Golding (Trustee)

### Volunteers urgently needed for Home-Start

Home-Start in Mid & West Suffolk reaches out and supports parents who are struggling in their parenting role due to a variety of reasons. Volunteers are at the very heart of the service, connecting on a one to one basis with families, offering friendship and support.

Home-Start Volunteers offer their time and personal experience; most are parents or grandparents, foster parents, step parents etc. Full training and on-going support are given.

Do you have two hours to spare each week? Do you have parenting experience? Do you want to give back to your community? Do you like to learn new things and meet new people? We have preparation courses starting soon.

Find out more by contacting Maria on 01379 678552 or email office@homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk

Home-Start Mid Suffolk working in Mid & West Suffolk. Registered charity no. 1127760





Village Voice 45

#### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 113**

The prize for last issue's puzzle was won by George Thompson, Hoxne. The solution appears below.



1

#### ACROSS

- 1 Way of getting out at 21 across (6)
- 4 Come about as a result of pay increase (5)
- 8 Gather a large amount (5)
- 9 Free to let out property again (7)
- 10 Most serious burial place on the way (7)
- 11 Sounds like yielding to the top player (4)
- 12 Could be piping or red (3)
- 14 No more than a lake (4)
- 15 Above part of the action at 21 across (4)
- 18 Awful row from wedding party (3)
- 21 Trial held at Headingly maybe (4)
- 23 Voter from select organisation (7)
- 25 Copy the ape (7)
- 26 In front of a school boss (5)
- 27 Go into uneven territory (5)
- 28 Drum often used in the kitchen (6)

#### SOLUTION TO PUZZLE NO 112

Across 1) Hart 3) Breakers 9) Ledge 10) Praised

11) Elm 13) Permanent 14) Calico 16) Attend

- 18) Endeavour 20) Gem 22) Drawled 23) Sever
- 25) Reassure 26) Bath
- Down 1) Halve 2) Red 4) Report 5) Adamant
- 6) Easter Egg 7) Sedated 8) Neap
- 12) Melodrama 14) Cheddar 15) Cradles 17)
- Colder 19) Rose 21) March 24) Via

#### DOWN

- Alter the petty cash (6)
- 2 Oblivious to an EU war (7)
- 3 Hurried to find ten heads in chaos (8)
- 4 Political associate well partially (4)
- 5 Mad to lose direction, becoming silly (5)
- 6 Oxford college should be in Devon? (6)
- 7 Curtailed sibling making soup (5)
- 13 Alter toe and grin and bear it (8)
- 16 Beg for a twisted tan tree (7)
- 17 Stop work and lash out (6)
- 19 Lose one's nerve no way (5)
- 20 Cross the river for a card game (6)
- 22 Speedy avian summer visit (5)
- 24 Unbiased blond (4)

If you would like to enter the crossword competition, send your solution to the editor, deadline on back cover. The first correct solution to be opened will receive a cash prize of  $\pounds 10$ .

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Sunday	8.30 - 1	1.00
Wednesday	7.30 -	1.00 (1/2 day closing)

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## EDITOR

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## **DEADLINES**

Issue	Сору	Crossword
February/March	8th January	1st March
April/May	8th March	1st May
June/July	8th May	1st July
August/September	8th July	1st September
October/November	8th September	1st November
December/January	8th November	1st January

## ADVERTISING

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