



Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

JUNE — JULY 2017

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**The Revd. Michael Womack is chair
of each PCC.**

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Moving from AFC to Bee

Congratulations are due to AFC Hoxne and departing manager Jamie Scales, on their recent league promotion. Fortunately, their pitch hasn't been ear-marked as a possible burial site for Saint Edmund, unlike the unlucky tennis courts in Bury St. Edmunds itself, which are destined to be excavated according to newspaper reports.

Whether the Saxon King will be returned to Hoxne, once found, is open to debate, but as you can read in *A Word from Wingfield*, what is unlikely to happen anytime soon is the erstwhile Kings Head pub name being reinstated over the more recent De La Pole moniker.

That very hostelry has been visited by the *Lunch Bunch* this issue and a worthy place by all accounts. It's also the refreshment detour on the *Syleham Village Walks* too and should not be missed.

Sadly, this year's Tour of Britain cycle race will miss out when visiting our area on **Friday 8th September**, as it will only fleetingly pass through the foot of Denham and Hoxne parishes, on the way to the city centres of Horham and Stradbroke.

However, if you prefer your transport somewhat larger, then en route from

Norwich to London is the Flying Scotsman (arguably the most famous steam locomotive in the world) and will be passing through Diss on **Saturday 21st October**.

Talking of other countries, the recent Hoxne School Association tapas and paella night is reported as having been a great success. This bodes well for the newly advertised Greek taverna night, in aid of *Next Stop Symi*, to be an equally popular affair and surely worth a punt.

Should you find some Greek style yogurt spare in the meantime, then *In the Kitchen* is making good use of it for the charismatically called Healthier Honey Chocolate Cake in collaboration with our *Honey Bee* feature this issue.

Bees would have a tough life without suitable flowers, and you can do your bit by following the bee friendly planting tips described *In the Garden* this time around.

From AFC to Bee, two subjects that were a pain to photograph as they both kept moving about, but only one that managed to inject their own form of Botox into the back of my hand!

I hope you enjoy this issue. Due to the time of year, there's plenty more events once again. A big thank you to all contributors. Roll on Summer!

Bones

Front cover: Bee Hive in Spring (see pages 26 & 27)



How many bees can you find?

Hidden on the pages of this issue are a number of "cartoon" bees. Just find them all and count up the total. Send your answer to the editor, either by email, post or leave it with Peter at Hoxne Post Office & Stores by **Monday 3rd July** latest. The first **five** correct entries drawn at random, will each receive a packet of **Bee Friendly Wild Flower Meadow Seeds**. Good luck and happy bee spotting!

Letters to the Editor

SPANISH SURPRISE

Many thanks to everyone that attended the tapas and paella evening hosted by the Hoxne School Association, I do hope everyone had a great time. We raised a staggering £1090.40. Our next event will be the Summer Ball on Saturday 3rd June, which is already a sell out.

Hannah Mayhew

GROWING PROFIT

Two very well supported plant sales have been held at Market House, Low Street for the Hoxne Playing Fields. First was the sale of border perennials making a profit of £266.00 in 16 minutes. Second, a sale of some border perennials but mainly bedding. This time, 30 minutes and a profit of £253.00. All of the plants came from a Lincolnshire nursery. Thank you so much to all of the buyers - we hope you have a lovely display in your garden and hope to see you again next year.

Carole Smith



CHURCHES RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Churches in the Hoxne group of parishes rose to the challenge during the time of Lent to raise more than £600 to aid the Tanzanian province Kagera hit by drought and famine. The province has a long established link with the county through the diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The Rector of the Hoxne Benefice, the Revd Michael Womack who, with his wife Mary, spent time in Kagera working for a medical charity, organised the fund-raising scheme among the group's seven parishes. It was, he said, a truly wonderful result.



A symbolic cheque was handed to the Archdeacon of Suffolk, the Venerable Ian Morgan, at St Margaret's Church, Syleham on Sunday - pictured above (left) with the Revd Womack.

The archdeacon was at Syleham to re-commission lay elders who help to provide services and pastoral care in all the churches - they are: Barbara Irwin, John Swann, John McCracken, Ian Rose, Lawrence Weaver, Mary Lewis and Brian Chester.

Diary Dates

Thursday 1st June

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting, HPP p41

Hoxne Village Hall AGM p9

Saturday 3rd June

Jitterbugs, HVH p9

Summer Ball, HPPp4

Monday 5th June

AFC Hoxne AGM, HPP p37

Tuesday 6th June

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan p18

Wednesday 7th June

Hoxne Parish Plan Review Group, HPP p29

Tuesday 8th June

Mobile Library, Hoxne / Denham p12

Friday 9th June

Karaoke, SWH p7

Sunday 11th June

Concert, St Margaret's, Syleham p6

Tuesday 13th June

Hoxne Phoenix Group, HVH p29

Thursday 15th June

Hoxne Garden & Social Club, Outing p19

Friday 16th June

Mobile Library Syleham / Wingfield p12

Film Night, HVH p9

Saturday 17th June

Coffee Morning, St Peter and St Paul's, p19

Saturday 24th June

Wingfield Open Gardens p7

The Produce and Craft Market, HVH p9

Sunday 25th June

Wingfield Open Gardens p7

Hoxne Phoenix Group Strawberry Tea p29

Friday 30th June

Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' by RoughCast

Theatre Company, WB p10

Cheese & Wine, Old Vicarage, Syleham p24

Bingo, SWH p7

Saturday 1st July

Hoxne Village Fete p6

Summer Solstice Evening, New Reeding Woods Group p21

Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' by RoughCast Theatre Company, Hoxne Swan p6



Sunday 2nd July

Reg Meouss, WB p10

Tuesday 4th July

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan p18

Thursday 6th July

Mobile Library, Hoxne / Denham p12

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HPP p41

Saturday 8th July

Friends of St Peter and St Paul Curry Lunch p19

Family Barbecue Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall p7

Friday 14th July

Mobile Library Syleham, Wingfield P12

Save The Children 'Summer Fizz', Hoxne p6

Film Night, HVH p9

Karaoke, SWH p7

Fressingfield Scouts Group Open evening p33

Saturday 15th July

Coffee Morning, St Peter and St Paul's, p19

Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. WB p10

Sunday 16th July

Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. WB p10

Thursday 20th July

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Garden Party p19

Saturday 22nd July

Next Stop Symi Greek Night, HVH p15

Exhibitions commence for International Mini Prints, Rosemary Elliot, John Parker, WB p10

Friday 28th July

Wingfield Parish Council Meeting, WB p40

Bingo, SWH p7

Saturday 29th July

Produce and Craft Market, HVH p9

Thursday 3rd August

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting, HPP p41

Every Tuesday, **Black Dog at The Swan**, 2-3pm

Every Wednesday, **Bowls Club Night** HPP p33

For **Church Services** and events, see p22-25

For **Hoxon Hundred** events, see p17

BVH Brundish Village Hall

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

What's On Here

St Margaret's Church, Syleham

Concert with local choir AMICI

Sunday 11th June at 3pm

A varied programme. Renaissance church music to more recent pop numbers. The concert is dedicated to the memory of John Leader and there will be a retiring collection in aid of this church, which he strongly supported

Light refreshments during an interval
Parking available

Enquiries 01379 669258 or
mary.lewis43@icloud.com

RoughCast present *Twelfth Night*

Touring June 23rd - July 8th
Inside and Out

"Do I stand there? I never had a brother."

Following their sell out tour of *A Christmas Carol*, RoughCast return to Shakespeare with a typically fast-moving and energetic production of the most delightful of his romantic comedies - *Twelfth Night*. With the action transposed to the world of the Spaghetti Western, it's the perfect entertainment for a hot and lazy summer evening.

Performances at many local venues including: **Fressingfield** (Fox and Goose green, **Sunday 25th June, 4pm**), **Wingfield Barns** (outdoors, **Friday 30th June, 7.30pm**) and **Hoxne Swan** (outdoors, **Saturday 1st July, 7.30pm**)
Further details tel. **01379 586745** or
www.roughcast.co.uk



**FUN FOR
ALL THE
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HOXNE VILLAGE FETE

**Saturday July 1st
Abbey Farm Hoxne
Opens 2pm**

*Please bring your family &
friends to enjoy a traditional
village fete in a
delightful country garden.*

FREE ENTRY & PARKING

All proceeds for Hoxne Church

Save The Children 'Summer Fizz'

The next fund raising event for this charity will be on **Friday 14th July** at 'Woodlands', 50 Low Street, Hoxne from 6 - 8pm

We hope you will be enthralled by the variety of canapés and puddings set out for your delight with an accompanying glass of wine or soft drink. All this for only £10 pp

Additional drinks can be purchased.

Tickets from Hoxne PO Stores,
Jackie Johnson **01379 668220** or
Jan Murray **01379 668511**

To our wonderful local cooks:
If you are willing to donate canapés or a pudding for this occasion we would be very grateful. Please contact Jackie or Jan. Many thanks

Wingfield Open Gardens

The biennial event from the Wingfield Events Team is to be held this year on **Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June**. Bigger than ever, we have over 17 gardens to look around, many are appearing for the first time and will be open 11am - 5pm on both days.

We have a scarecrow trail and other attractions include a blacksmiths forge, Romany caravans, plus plant and craft stalls. Delicious refreshments including cream teas and light lunches will be for sale. This year the money raised is being split between St. Andrew's Church and the 'Nelson's Journey' charity.



Free parking will be found at GWC Equestrian centre where tickets will be on sale on the day (£3 for adults) and their cafe will be selling ice creams. We look forward to seeing you there.

Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Our annual **Family Barbecue** is being held on **Saturday 8th July**. All welcome. Free entry, very reasonably priced food, musical entertainment during the evening, bar open. We start serving food at 5pm. Do come along.

Don't forget the usual Tuesday and Friday **Social Club** nights where you can have a friendly drink at the bar (annual membership is just £4.50, concessions available) or come along to one of the evening and family events that are staged throughout the year. We are always fundraising for local charities and good causes

Last, but not least, there is **Bingo** on the last Friday of the month and **Karaoke** on the second Friday of the month. For further information, please get in touch.

Julie Thompson
k.thompson156@btinternet.com



Clay Shoot Help Required

The 2017 Hoxne Charities annual clay shoot will take place at Oakley Park, Hoxne on **Sunday 10th September**, by kind permission of landowner Peter Saunders. The profits from this event go to charities and causes within Hoxne.

People come from all over East Anglia to spend their money and have a good time. However, we do need help on the day to mark score cards - you would be working with someone who has done the job before, so there would be no need to feel out of your depth.

This event has been consistently raising £2000, with the profits from 2016 split between Hoxne School Association and Hoxne Recreation Ground (Playing Fields). If you are able to support us at this event, please contact either Julie Thompson, j.thompson@wvpschools.org or Alan Bryant, alanbryant@gmail.com

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Hoxne Village Hall

The Hall's AGM is on **Thursday 1st June** when you can find out what we have been doing in the last year and the plans for this. As well as members designated by village organisations, the Committee can have up to five members of the public that are appointed at this meeting. If you are interested in joining the committee and have time to help run the Hall, speak to me or another committee member to find out more.

Saturday 3rd June sees *Jitterbugs* return for a Saturday evening bop of '40s and '50s dancing, starting at 8pm. They have booked more evenings through the year.

The *Produce and Craft Market* will be on **Saturday 24th June** and again on **Saturday 29th July**, with goods for sale and a café serving speciality coffee and sweet and savoury snacks to tempt you.

The film on **Friday 16th June** is *Manchester by the Sea*, certificate 15. A searing domestic drama set in working class America and examining the disintegrating relationship of a couple haunted by a terrible family tragedy. Casey Affleck earned this year's Best Actor Oscar for his powerful performance.

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CASEY AFFLECK MICHELLE WILLIAMS KYLE CHANDLER LUCAS HEDGES

Hoxne Village Hall EVENTS MANAGER WANTED

They will help people booking a one-off event, from their initial enquiry to return of the deposit after the event. The hire fees from one-off events are a boost to income from our regular hirers. If you want to find out more, contact John or Jane on

07876 215269

HoxneVHbookings@outlook.com

The film showing on **Friday 14th July** is *Lion*, certificate PG, based on real life,



it's the story of a boy who loses his family and sets out to search for them 25 years later using Google Earth. Dev Patel plays him as an adult and newcomer, Sunny Pawar, plays him in the flashbacks to his boyhood. Bring tissues!

A Greek Night will be held on **Saturday 22nd July** to support the *Next Stop Symi* charity. Look out for details on page 15.

Anyone lost a Barbie castle with some dolls? Well, you left it by the glass recycling bins in our car park. By the time this issue comes out, "somebody" may have disposed of it legally.

Keep up to date with us at: www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk
For bookings: **07876 215269**

John Langley



The logo for JR Automotive Repairs, featuring the letters 'J' and 'R' in a stylized, serif font. The 'J' is positioned to the left of the 'R', and they are both rendered in a reddish-brown color. The letters are set against a light, sketchy background that suggests a car's outline.

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Wingfield Barns

We've had a fabulous couple of months with the Barns really springing back to life after the winter. The first two exhibitions of the year; The Royal Photographic Society's Creative Group and The East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies' Annual Exhibition have both attracted a high number of visitors. Musically, we welcomed Maddy Prior with a full audience in April, and Richard Digance in May. Also in April, Open Space Theatre Company entertained us with 'See How They Run'. Along with training courses and our usual Keep Fit classes and Art workshops, we've been keeping busy!

There are some equally exciting events coming up in the next few months too: Friday 30th June, 7.30pm, Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' by RoughCast Theatre Company. Weather permitting, this will

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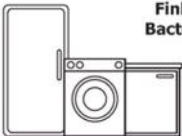
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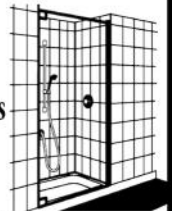


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The logo for Rackhams, featuring a large, stylized 'R' with a 'G' inside it, followed by the word 'Rackhams' in a bold, serif font. Below the name is the tagline 'building excellence for generations' in a smaller, sans-serif font.

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be an outdoor performance taking place on the lawn. Tickets are £10/£8.50 conc/£30 family and are on sale now! Bring a blanket or chair to sit on.

Sunday 2nd July, 7.30pm, Reg Meuross.

Reg's songs comment bravely on life as he sees it, bringing wide ranging stories from the ghosts of WW1 soldiers to the ravages of dementia, and some of the most beautifully disarming songs and lyrics ever written. Reg has that rare gift of being able to touch people through his songs and performance, on a really human level. His words and music paint pictures that remain with the listener long after the song has been sung. Tickets are £14/£12 conc and are available now.

Saturday 15th July and Sunday 16th July

Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. This will be another outdoor performance of excellent live theatre. Evening performance on the Saturday, followed by a matinee on the Sunday. Keep your fingers crossed for the weather! Times and prices to be confirmed.

curated by Ian Chance who is currently course director for the MA Creative Entrepreneurship course at the University of East Anglia. The exhibition has been shown annually in L'Etang d'Art Gallery in

Bages, France, and at Wingfield Barns in the UK at the same time as in Cadaqués, Spain. The Mini Print International of Cadaqués is the most popular and longest running exhibition of mini prints in the world. **22nd July - 3rd September, 11am-4 pm** Wednesday to Sunday. Free admission to all exhibitions.

Contrasts - Rosemary Elliott, Gallery 1. New landscapes with the power of suggestion moving between figuration and abstraction from the mists of East Anglia to the arid plains of Queensland, Australia. Rosemary trained at the Royal Academy Schools in the 1960s and was strongly influenced by Pop Art and the Photo Realists with exhibitions in London and East Anglia. She lectured in Fine Art at Harrow School of Art, Middlesex and the Camden Institute, London. Recent exhibitions include Mandell's Gallery Norwich and the Harleston & Waveney Art Trail Collective. **22nd July - 6th August, 11am-4 pm, Wednesday to Sunday**

John Parker, Studio 4. John will be exhibiting his work from **22nd July - 4th August, 11am-4pm, Wednesday to Sunday.**

For ticket sales, please contact the Box Office on **01379 384505**

**Wingfield Barns
Church Road, Wingfield, IP21 5RA
www.wingfieldbarns.com**



Reg Meuross—picture, Sue Foll

Rosemary Elliott

22 July - 6 August 2017
11am - 4pm Gallery 1
Wednesday to Sunday

Contrasts

Private View 6-8pm
Thursday 20 July

Wingfield Barns Church Road Suffolk IP21 5RA
www.wingfieldbarns.com

EXHIBITIONS - Private View for the following exhibitions 6-8pm **Thursday 20th July:**

International Mini Prints, Gallery 2.

One of the highlights of the year at Wingfield Barns is the International Mini Print exhibition. The exhibition, which has been running annually since 1995, is

Obituary

Ray Carter OBE 1930-2017

The former headmaster at Stradbroke High School and schools sports advocate Ray Carter OBE from Hoxne, had been very ill for a number of weeks and died peacefully in hospital on 26th February 2017, aged 86.

After excelling at Portsmouth Grammar School, Ray took up a place to do teacher training at King Alfred's College, Winchester, this led to a career in teaching, first at Chislehurst Secondary and then a rapid rise through the ranks - Head of English at St Mary Cray, Secondary Modern School, Orpington, Deputy Head of Stoke by Nayland Secondary and Community School, and in 1971, the headship of Stradbroke High School where he stayed until he retired 18 years later.

In the '60s, he was elected Chairman of Kent County Schools' Football Association, and was Chairman of Suffolk County FA from 1971. In 1980, he became the East Anglian Representative on the Council of the English Schools Football Association (ESFA). In 1990, he was elected Chairman of ESFA and became their representative

on the Central Council for Physical Recreation (now the Sports and Recreation Alliance) which was the member body for 270 national organisations for sport and recreation, meaning his voice was heard at a national level.

In 1995, he was appointed to the Sport England Lottery Panel and as a member of the Community syndicate. His remit was to help distribute the £1.5 billion of funding for sports clubs, local authority projects and voluntary organised projects.

Ray, quietly and steadfastly supported local and national sport in the United Kingdom. He wanted to spread the message that all schoolchildren should have the right to participate in organised sport, for their own personal benefit, and for the benefit of society at large. On meeting a young David Beckham playing schoolboy football, Ray suggested that he should perhaps make sure he got a full and proper education, as at the time it didn't look as if he would be successful as a professional player!

He undertook a large burden of administrative work for various local and national organising bodies, but participated on a most basic and down-to-earth, practical level, originally as a class one soccer referee, later as a cricket umpire. In 2005, his 50 plus years of

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Denham and Hoxne

Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**. Next stop **8th June** and **6th July**

Hoxne, The Swan car park from 10:25 to 10:50

Hoxne, St Edmunds House from 11:00 to 11:15

Denham, Post Office from 11:25 to 11:35



Syleham and Wingfield

Calling every 4 weeks on **Fridays**. Next stop **16th June** and **14th July**

Syleham, Wingfield Road (Junction with Weybread Road) from 12:15 to 12:35

Wingfield, Post box from 13:45 to 14:10

voluntary and entirely unpaid work to promote the benefits of sport and sporting activities were recognised when he was awarded an OBE. His work benefited an untold number of young people, and local communities. His commitment, stability, enthusiasm and dedication remained constant throughout.

In later life, he took on the role of Secretary of the local Workers' Education Association (WEA), shaping and planning very successful day and evening courses on an eclectic range of subjects. In that role, he organised trips to classical concerts and theatre productions. He was a great supporter of the Northern Ballet Company, a prolific reader, he loved classical music, Radio 3, Radio 4 and he adored his family.

In 1954 he married Jane, a State Registered Nurse. They had two daughters: Alison, who followed in his footsteps into the teaching profession; and



Gillian, who works for the BBC. He is survived by all three of them.

When I first met Ray Carter, it was over a box of seed catalogues for the Hoxne Garden Club. Ray had for some years, been running a very legitimate “scam” to save the gardeners of Hoxne and Eye money on their seed orders. When I mentioned this to his daughters recently, they both laughed. “Dad had ‘his’ way of doing things, his office was covered in bits of paper and seed packets for days”.

There was a private cremation on 23rd March 2017 and a thanksgiving service the following day held at St. Peter and St. Paul’s Church, Hoxne, conducted by the Revd. Michael Womack. Tributes were given for “A thankful family” by his daughters Gillian and Alison, “A grateful school” by Barry Lester and “What a good sport” by David Kimber.

Ray’s life has been remembered at various school sporting events across the country where they have held one minute silences before the kick off and a memorial cup is also planned in his honour. Looking back at all the things he did in his life, you can certainly say he had an influence on so many people in so many ways. As well as a teacher, husband, father and friend, he was a sorter, a doer, a facilitator, a man who got things done. A man who made a difference.

Claire Whiting



Next Stop Symi

From Suffolk to Symi

Following successful runs from Hoxne in January 2016, the UK registered charity *Next Stop Symi* was formed. It works with a sister organisation called *Solidarity Symi* on the Greek island of Symi, two miles across the Aegean Sea from Turkey. The charity is involved with the UK collection, sorting, warehousing and delivery of clothes and other items for humanitarian aid to refugees arriving on the island beaches.

During the first few weeks of 2017, a list of items that would be useful for refugees stranded in Kos, Rhodes and Symi was obtained. Helpers rallied around and soon the van was packed and ready for the 444 mile trip. Below is a condensed diary of the trip over to Symi where I live.

Departing Hoxne early, it was a trouble free run down to the Channel Tunnel and arriving sooner than expected, I managed to board an earlier train. Heavy showers on the way to Luxembourg through the Ardennes arriving at the hotel for the evening. Topped up with fuel the next day in Luxembourg where diesel is less than one euro per litre! Off once again to a pleasant combination of motorway and some other main roads leading to Karlsruhe, Germany. Around Karlsruhe, it

was a standstill due to the volume of traffic, but once past this, the roads were virtually empty. Even with a couple of stops it took just 6 hours to make it to a small town near the German/Austrian border for the night—only another 296 miles left to Symi.

The first part of the following day's drive was across the Fern Pass in Austria. I had a quick coffee break at one of the rest areas noting some peaks were still covered in snow. As I climbed up the Brenner Pass, there were people on the ski runs. The drive through Italy to Modena was simple and stress-free. That evening, a group of French people asked me about the signs on the van and invited me to an excellent pizza restaurant, proving there's genuine interest and support for what we're doing.

After breakfast, with 168 miles remaining, I was on the way to catch the ferry from Ancona across the Adriatic Sea and down to Patras, Greece. Loading was relatively painless. The ferry crossing was very smooth and uneventful. We docked a few minutes late. But after 24 hours on board it was pleasant to be back on land. The new road from Patras to Corinth is not fully open yet, however much of the drive was on new tarmac and very much better than the old road it will replace.

I spent the following day in the village that has sprung up around the ruins of Ancient Corinth. The Archaeological site is beautiful and remarkably well preserved.

Soil Association Member AG25612



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The museum, although small is worth a visit. 68 miles left to go and the run to Piraeus for the next crossing was uneventful. The gates for the Dodecanese ferries are a long walk from the main area, and I had to wait about two hours before getting on the ferry. I had been allocated a berth in a shared cabin. Sleep was rather fitful, but I somehow managed to be up for the arrival at Kos at 6.30am.

After breakfast, I met up with representatives of *Kos Kindness* delivering boxes of clothing. They had some surplus items that they knew would be better used in Rhodes, so these were loaded on my van for delivery the next day. Five boxes out, one box in.

The ferry out to Rhodes was timetabled to come in at 4.35am, so I woke at about 4, but was staggered to see it docking some 20 minutes early. A quick dash through the deserted streets of Kos got me there on time and I only had to wait 20 minutes before I was on the ferry! After arriving at Rhodes, I made my way to the makeshift camp. We quickly unloaded the van, T-shirts, rolls of fabric, children's and baby clothing, plastic crates and some small toys. When I caught up with the manager, he was already distributing everything. The staff and refugees were absolutely over the moon with everything, it was just what they needed. Boarding the ferry to Symi for the final leg was smooth, and I was so glad to get back

NEXT STOP SYMI in partnership with **GENEROUS PORTIONS** invite you to

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home. The next day I made a delivery of items to the Medical Centre on Symi who again were very grateful. This was followed by a final drop of Educational materials to be distributed by Solidarity Symi.

After nearly nine days on the road (and ferry), my journey was complete and my cargo of helpful and useful items delivered to the local organisations which would make sure they reached the people who needed them most. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen.

Peter Vidal

www.nextstopsymi.org

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Sunday and Bank Holidays
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Harleston Open Gardens 2017

30 Open Gardens, 11.00am to 4.00pm
Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th June

Tickets and trail guide available in advance or on the day from The Apiary Cake and Coffee House and The Swan Hotel in The Thoroughfare and from Harleston Information Plus in Exchange Street. Note, tickets cannot be purchased from individual gardens.

Ticket price £3.00 per person or £5.00 for 2 adults / family group
2 adults with children

Free vintage shuttle bus from Broad Street throughout the day: route and approximate departure times will be displayed at the bus stop on the day.

Refreshments from The Apiary and other town centre cafes and pubs - and on Saturday only, from St John's Church, Broad Street.

Organisers, Harleston's Future with Harleston Garden Club

Call **01379 853132** or **854897** for further information

Ceilidh Dance

With **Harbour Lights** ceilidh band and caller Jill Parson plus *Stepdance Special*.

Saturday 10th June

Wilby Coronation Village Hall, IP21 5LR
Doors open 7pm for 8pm 'til 11.30pm

Bar - Food - Raffle Available
Tickets £7.50

(No tickets on the door)

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Call Doreen on **07591 499912**

Please come if you can!

HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY'S SUMMER CONCERT

Come and join us for our Summer Concert on **Saturday 17th June** at 7.30pm in St John's Church, Harleston. We'll be singing Mozart's Requiem and Haydn's Maria Theresa Mass, with professional soloists and orchestra. Tickets £10.00 (accompanied children free) from choir members, Harleston Information Centre, and on the door on the night. Further information from Jo Curry tel.: **01986 875494**
email: jo.curry@sky.com
www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk

Open Farm Sunday, 11th June

Shotford Hall Farm, Harleston, IP20 9QT
11.00am to 5pm. Free Entry



Visit our mixed farm to discover where and how your food is produced and used and how farmers look after the environment. Ever wondered what it's like in the seat of a tractor or what technology is involved? How are animals reared and cared for? Come and find out and get close to the machinery, touch the animals and meet the people actively involved in farming. Enjoy a tractor and trailer tour, take a leisurely riverside walk or get busy in the children's activity barn. Refreshments available.

For more information, contact Tim Lewis on **07767 708106**

Village Voices

The Village Voices are a community choir open to all with no audition. You don't need to read music, just have a love of singing.

We have great fun in our rehearsals singing an eclectic mix of music. We also sponsor contemporary music pieces which we take great pleasure in learning and performing.

The choir sing at village and charitable events, weddings and have close connections with The Depperhaugh and Elizabeth Court Nursing Homes. For further information contact:

Jenny Knight on 01379 668403
Email: villagevoicesjk2@icloud.com
www.thevillagevoices.weebly.com



Hoxon Hundred bring the Summer On

Every Morris man or woman knows that in order to have a bountiful Summer he must be dancing at Sunrise on Mayday. Rest assured all you farmers and gardeners, as in every year since the Druids first imbibed mead, the Morris did its bit. The musicians and dancers of Hoxon Hundred and Kenninghall Morris met with the folk of the Shelfanger Singers at Fair Green, Diss, to jointly celebrate the arrival of Spring this first day of May 2017. The sun coyly hid behind cloud on that early dawn, but we sang and danced anyway. All was good fun and many thanks to the crowd that turned out to watch and join in. A tired, but happy band left the field of play at 6.00am to go straight to the Angel Café for a hearty breakfast: Nice one Angel Cafe, much appreciated.

Hoxon have now settled into their Summer diet of Wednesday evening

dancing at local pubs and weekend performances for local events and good causes. If you would like to seek us out, then here is our **Wednesday** programme all starting at 7.45pm:

- 31st May** Crossways, Scole
- 7th June** Six Bells, Walsham Le Willows with Bury Fair Morris
- 14th June** Red Lion, Kenninghall with Kenninghall Morris
- 21st June** Cherry Tree, Yaxley with Lag A Bag Morris
- 28th June** Ivy House, Stradbroke with Point Devis Morris
- 5th July** The Cock, Diss
- 12th July** Oaksmere, Brome with Danegeld Morris
- 19th July** The Low House, Laxfield with Rumburgh Morris and Barley Brigg Morris
- 26th July** TBC

Further details, including weekend events, can be found on our website:

hoxonhundred.co.uk
Chris, 01379 678169





Catholic Parish of
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 Shelfanger Road, Diss IP12 4DX
 Parish Priest: Canon David Bagstaff
 Tel: 01379 642914

Mass Times:

Saturday : 10 a.m. and
 6 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 9 a.m.

Weekdays : 9.30 a.m. (Tues-Fri)

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(Info: Ellen Pitt Tel 01379 668308)



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Searching for our lost heritage - the Hoxne Heritage Group continues to investigate.

Although the public profile of the Hoxne Heritage Group is not particularly high at the moment, there is much activity behind the scenes.

The group is currently carrying out a project on recording the characteristic Banham Walls found in and around Hoxne. You may have noticed a small group of people walking around the village with clipboards and cameras recently. Using photography, measurements and sketching, our aim is to try to understand why these walls are quite different in some locations, with a variety of brick patterns, copings and plinths.

We are also investigating what has happened to a lodge that was shown on a C17th map located on Lodge Hill, Oakley Park, but which has now vanished. We have enlisted a Suffolk archaeology team who are planning to do some geophysical scanning for us. If we locate the remains, it may present an opportunity for another community dig. As part of this venture the Heritage Group has been asked to collaborate in a community heritage project which is currently seeking funding.

This year is the 80th anniversary of the bombing of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War. How does this impact on our small village of Hoxne one might ask? For a brief period many of the Basque refugee children were stationed in Oakley Park. For the past year we have been liaising with one of the descendants of one of those Basque children, as well as with The Basque Children of '37 Association in trying to find out more information for them.

Finally, please note, that our meetings will now be held on the **first Tuesday** of each month in the Swan.

Margaret Sillis
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxne Garden & Social Club



Our gardens need rain, but not all Summer! Back in March I said that everything in the Garden Club is rosy, but at the time of writing, that is more than can be said of our gardens if we don't get a decent fall of rain soon. If my memory serves me right, the weather is almost the opposite of last spring when we lost a few well established plants as a result of their roots being waterlogged for substantial periods. Whilst we gardeners are wishing for rain I am sure that all of us, gardeners or not, would not want a monsoon summer this time round!

We do not have talks through June and July as the former is the month for our annual outing and the latter for our garden party, both of which are definitely more enjoyable with warm dry weather.

The outing on **Thursday 15th June** is to Colombine Hall at Stowupland and separate guided tours of both the house and gardens are included. I do not believe that the club has ever visited this venue, but I feel sure that it will live up to the expectations generated from viewing their website. Speak to one of our committee members if it interests you.

The garden party is held at different venues around Hoxne and Denham each year and is simply an enjoyable social occasion for our members. This year it will be held on **Thursday 20th July** and members will be guests of my wife and myself at South House, Denham Road, Denham with the same catering arrangements as last year.

It would be remiss of me not to put in my usual plug, so if you are interested in joining the Garden Club contact myself on **01379 668565** or any other committee member.

Gordon Lacey

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

By the time you read this, we hope that plans for the kitchen and toilet will have gone out for tender. Apart from helping with the ongoing costs of maintaining the fabric of the church and its grounds, our major fundraising is aimed towards covering the cost of the kitchen, this will be a big asset when holding functions, concerts etc.

We recently had a trip to the Black Country Museum, Trentham Gardens and to Wedgewood, this raised just over £500 and it is planned to hold a similar trip in May 2018. Our next event will be a curry lunch on **Saturday 8th July**, by Kind permission of Suzanne Lewis, the cost will be £14, to include two courses and a drink. Tickets are limited to 40 and are available from Suzanne, John Brawn, the post office or any committee member.

Looking further ahead, on **Sunday 22nd October** we will be holding our annual Harvest Lunch in St Edmunds Hall, more details to follow. Our sincere thanks go to all who support the Friends.

Church coffee mornings are on the third **Saturday** of the month, 9:45 to 11:15. If you would like to become a "Friend" and help with our mission to preserve, repair, restore and improve the fabric of the church, its contents and its grounds, contact Maureen Johnson **01379 668478**.



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Hoxne Telephone Kiosk Book Library

During the Summer, the Hoxne (Telephone Box) Library will have its second birthday. This will not be the terrible two's as we have been very well supported by kind donations of books. In fact we have been over supplied and unable to present to you all the titles we hold.

However, this is not a problem as we will, by the time this issue is in circulation, have refreshed the library by almost 100 titles. Also, there will be a larger choice of junior reading from Mr Men to Roald Dahl, with occasional appearances by Enid Blyton!

So if you enjoy reading in the garden, on the cruise or when jetting to far away places, do borrow a book; read it, keep it or just return and choose again. The choice is yours. We hope you have an enjoyable literary Summer. For book donations, please leave with me at Autumn Cottage, Nuttery Vale and not in the kiosk itself. Thank you.

Colin Ablitt

New Reeding Woods Group

At Pound Lane Wood spring has arrived, as in the pond newts can be seen and the yellow flag irises and water violets flourish amid the lily pads. In the grassy rides and on the meadow dandelion clocks and cowslips have almost finished flowering, but the red clover and ox eyed daisies are ready to take over. Amongst the trees the oaks are in leaf, but the ash is still suffering the effects of ash dieback disease. The trees are tall now and this community space looks like a wood, the result of 12 years of maintenance and attention from

the group. Evidence of small mammals can be observed and birds are singing in the trees, Pound Lane Wood continues to flourish.

The date of the Summer Solstice Evening has now been changed and will now take place on **Saturday 1st July**. This weekend date will hopefully encourage more visitors to come to enjoy this community woodland. In July, the trees and the wild flower meadow should be at their best. The New Reeding Woods Group will start the evening at 6:30pm, with a short AGM which will review progress and actions over the last year. Following the formalities, there will be a BBQ and a chance to enjoy this community facility as the sun sets.

If you want to be actively involved in this project please contact Mike Reeves on **01379 668179** for more details.

Hoxne Music Festival

Hoxne Music Festival would like to thank all those who made the April quiz night such a big success. Fifteen teams packed into the village hall for an evening enjoyed by all with around £600 profit raised to support Festival activities. Thanks also to all those who so kindly helped organise and run the evening.

After 10 years of organising the festival the old committee stood down last year and a new fledgling committee is developing to keep the festival going. This new committee is keen to find additional helpers who can offer support with events and potentially take on committee work. Please contact us if you are interested.

Anthony Benton (Ben)
anthony.benton1@googlemail.com





Church services

Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Wingfield

If you need to get in touch with the Rector, Michael Womack, tel.: **01379 388889**

Village contacts

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**

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

Sunday 4th June Whit Sunday

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 11th June Trinity Sunday

11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Sunday 18th June

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

11.15am Hoxne Community Service for Fathers' Day

Sunday 25th June

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne Family Service

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

Sunday 2nd July

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 9th July

11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Sunday 16th July

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

11.15am Hoxne Community Service - Heritage Sunday

Sunday 23rd July

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne Family Service

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

Sunday 30th July

11.15am Hoxne Benefice Holy Communion

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Church News

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Easter Day at Hoxne was a double celebration with the Easter Holy Communion and the baptism of William Hall (Knights) combined in a special service prepared and led by the Revd Michael. Many happy faces all round.

An in-depth discussion on church finances proved informative for many attending the annual meeting of St Peter and St Paul on 18th April. Reasons why the parish - along with other churches in the benefice - faces an uphill challenge to raise the funds needed to pay its way, were fully explored. On present costings, about £90 a day is required to balance the books. Last year the books did not balance in that expenditure exceeded income by a significant amount and limited reserves were depleted as a result. Ways of improving the situation are being explored.

Churchwarden Brian Chester reported that a regular pattern of worship had been maintained alongside special services for particular events such as Lammas, Remembrance Sunday and remembering the departed. The church and parish were delighted with the Revd Michael's return to full time ministry. Work to limit damp in the north walls had been completed and plans approved for the kitchen unit and external toilet. Thanks were expressed to the volunteers who fulfill so many tasks to keep the church and churchyard as places that 'show we care'.

At the preceding Vestry Meeting, Guy McGregor was elected as churchwarden for the third consecutive year and Brian Chester for the twelfth. Brian announced that 'retirement' beckoned. St Peter and St Paul is in need of willing hands and

minds to help prepare for services, deliver (as in speak) a reading, lead the prayers - please ring Brian Chester on **01379 669157** so we can meet for a chat and explanation.

Church weddings are regaining their popularity with no fewer than four at Hoxne this year - in June, July and September (two).

Book the date **Saturday 1st July** for Hoxne's Village Fete for a family fun afternoon and help to raise funds for the day-to-day running of the church. Abbey Farm will be the venue, starting at 2pm.

St Peter and St Paul will be hosting a benefice service of Holy Communion at 11.15am on **Sunday 30th July**.

The annual Lammas service, held on behalf of the Addington Fund, takes place on **Wednesday 2nd August** at 7.30pm. A meaningful occasion followed by a hog roast.

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.

Monday 19th June Branch meeting.

Monday 17th July Wave of Prayer Service at Hoxne church shared with Fressingfield, followed by tea and bring and buy. All welcome.

Contact the Branch Leader Cathie McGregor on **01379 668434**.

Flower Rota

4th and 11th June - Sue Thornett

18th and 25th June - Cathie McGregor

2nd and 9th July - Cathie McGregor

16th and 23rd July - Eleanor Hart

Thank you to all the flower arrangers for your contributions to keeping our church a welcoming place for visitors. If you would like to join our group please contact Cathie McGregor, flower rota organizer on **01379 668434**.

St John, Denham

The monthly Family services are on **Sunday 25th June** and **23rd July** at 11:15am with refreshments and fellowship from 10:45am. The Benefice communion services will be as usual on the second **Tuesday, 13th June** and **11th July**, at 7:30pm and through the summer will continue to be held in the church.

The planned Denham Fair has been postponed until later in the year, but the Ceilidh and BBQ will go ahead on the **Saturday 23rd September** in the Barn at Park Farm. So join us to dance the night away to the music of Ron Ross and the Hoxne Hundred Ceilidh Band. Tickets £10 to include BBQ available from **01379 668179**.

St Margaret, Syleham

Easter Sunday saw a church full to capacity as our praise service was combined with the baptism of Harriet Barker: it was a lovely occasion.

Other Services

We hosted the benefice service in April when Lay Elders were recommissioned by the Archdeacon of Suffolk. The third Sunday Service shared with Wingfield is continuing: we celebrated Rogationtide with a tour of the churchyard in May and in June the Revd Michael will be with us for the baptism of Elliot Goodwin.

Messy Church

Continues to be a success for all families in the benefice, next meeting on **Sunday 4th June** and **2nd July**, 4pm in the Village Hall.

Seraphim Voices

St Margaret's was privileged to be selected as one of the venues for a mini-concert during Seraphim Voices' musical pilgrimage in the steps of St Edmund. Truly "Beautiful sounds in secret spaces"

Sunday 11th June

A reminder of the concert in the church with local choir AMICI dedicated to the memory of John 'J' Leader. It will be at 3pm and include a varied programme to suit all tastes. Further details in separate notice on page 6.

Also in memory of 'J', it is expected that replacement churchyard railings and gate will have been fitted before the concert on 11th June.

Friday 30th June - a cheese & wine evening at the Old Vicarage, by kind invitation of Colin & Jackie Campbell - from 6pm.

Family fun day with BBQ will follow at the end of the school summer holidays. Watch this space!

Contact

For any of the above: Churchwarden, Mary Lewis on **01379 669258**, email: mary.lewis43@icloud.com

St Andrew, Wingfield

Wingfield has a strong interest in a number of the announcements covering the next couple of months - including Eleanor Goodison's licensing as Associate Priest at Hoxne on **Wednesday 12th July** (page 25), the village Open Gardens (page 7) and discussions on the coming together of the PCCs of Syleham and Wingfield.

Seraphim Voices at St Margaret's on Sunday 7th May.



New Associate Priest for the Hoxne Benefice

The Right Revd Martin Seeley, the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich has announced that the Reverend Eleanor Goodison will become Assistant Curate, to be known as Associate Priest in the Hoxne Benefice which includes the parishes of Athelington, Denham, Horham, Hoxne, Redlingfield, Syleham and Wingfield.

She will be licensed on **Wednesday 12th July** at 7.30pm at St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne by the Archdeacon of Suffolk, The Venerable Ian Morgan. Eleanor is presently Assistant Curate in the South Hartismere benefice. The Rev Michael Womack adds: "I am thrilled that Rev Eleanor is coming to join us; many here have benefitted from her ministry already and the prospect of her making a fuller contribution to our benefice life is very exciting."

Reflections

"Yeah, she's the promise in the year of election"

In 2010 we lived close to the flight path for Stansted Airport, planes would pass over the house and we grew to blank out their noise. Then, in the middle of April a volcano erupted in Iceland and for two weeks the sky was silent. It took a couple of days to notice the difference; once we realised what had changed we thoroughly enjoyed the lack of noise.

I had a similar feeling on Thursday 4th May; I was aware that something was different, but couldn't work out what. The next day I realised that because it had been a polling day there had been no electioneering, not just for the local

elections, but for the national one that is about to happen.

I suspect that for many people, politics has become a background noise which they have grown accustomed to blanking out. Politics has become viewed with the scepticism of the U2 song *Desire* (from which the title of this piece comes), it is another way for some to advance their status and desire; politics is no more commendable than the "preacher stealing hearts at a travelling show".

I have no intention of offering any view on how you should vote. But I will plead with you to set aside any scepticism and use your vote. You may well say that politics and religion don't mix or, more poetically, what has Jerusalem to do with Rome? For me, any worthwhile spirituality is not solely about how we relate to God, but about how we relate to the rest of humanity. On that basis, taking part in democracy and casting our vote is as much a part of our spirituality as sitting in a quiet church and meditating, so please vote in June!

Michael Womack
01379-388889

hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

WALPOLE ST PETER CHURCH

There are still a few seats left in the coach going to the Flower Festival at Walpole St Peter Church (known as the Cathedral of the Fens) on

Monday 5th June

Not only is this a wonderful Flower Festival, but there are lots of stalls and side shows to see. Different flower theme each year, this being the 56th.

Cost is £20 pp

all in-Lunch, Coach and Driver's tip.

Picking up in Hoxne at 9.15 and
Dickleburgh at 9.30

For more information please ring
John Chapman on **01379 740821**

The Honey Bee

As the warm and sunny days of early spring passed, you may have noticed a little more of a buzz in the air than usual. Over the past two years, the bee population in Hoxne has grown with two local sites being used by a local bee keeper called Justin to house his hives such that we can all now enjoy truly local honey.

Speaking to Justin, he revealed how the intriguing world of the honey bee (*Apis Mellifera* for those with a taste for Latin) has both inspired and been used by us. Their communities and produce have enthused writers through the ages: the book of Exodus speaks of the “land of milk and honey”; Pliny wrote about bees in his Natural History; in Shakespeare’s Henry Vth, Canterbury describes the roles of bees within a hive as an ideal to be emulated and so on to more recent times with Tom Petty, The Supremes, Robert Palmer and Gloria Gaynor all singing about the honey bee.

A hive of bees is a whole community. The Queen, a female egg laid in a special cell and fed on royal jelly lives for up to 5 years, but is only in her prime for up to 3 years. Worker bees are female bees fed on bee milk, with a life span of 40 days - their role is to clean the hive, feed the queen and the larvae, forage for food and act as guards; a hive contains as many as 70,000 workers. Finally there are the drones, male bees whose role is to mate the queen and that can make up 5-15% of the hive’s population. They are the largest bees in the hive and the only

bees that can enter another hive without being attacked. The bees communicate with each other using

movement, pheromones and sound: they tell each other where there is a good source of nectar using the charmingly named “waggle dance”, they will “roar” if their queen is taken away and will try to find her by fanning their wings. A day’s foraging will see them cover distances of 2-3 miles or more, pollinating as they search for food. As with all communities, things are not always harmonious - a community of bees may supersede their queen, laying and raising a younger, stronger queen or a queen may depart in a swarm to form a new colony.

Those with Winnie the Pooh inclinations will be comforted to know that in a good year a hive can yield 60lbs or 27kgs of honey. For the alcoholically minded, it is thought that mead (fermented honey) was the first brew. But honey is not the only benefit of bees. For centuries, bees’ products have been associated with health. Bee propolis is a sticky red



“glue” produced by the bees when making their hives - the name is derived from the Greek for *before the city*. It creates a sterile environment for the bees to live in and store their food. The Egyptians used it in mummification, the ancient Greeks for treating abscesses and the Assyrians used it for treating wounds. Today, it is still used by people to treat cold sores and minor burns and people report that eating local honey can help manage hay-fever symptoms. We clean our wood with beeswax polish and light our homes with beeswax candles.

For gardeners and farmers alike, the benefits of bees for pollination cannot be understated. In farming, oil seed rape, borage, field beans and soft fruit and orchard fruit plantings all benefit if bee colonies are introduced by 15-30% and the same benefits are enjoyed domestically: in our own garden, our fruit pollination has increased substantially



since we hosted and now own some hives.

There is, inevitably, a sting in the tale! Bees and other insects face a number of threats that have been much talked about in the news over recent years. The threat of disease, pests (*varroa mite* in particular) and predators including the recently arrived Asian hornet (smaller than the European hornet, mainly black body with yellow legs) and limited forage; not to mention novice bee-keeper error - sorry bees!

There is, however, a lot that we can do to support bees: join a bee keepers group and keep some hives for yourself; host someone else's hives or sponsor a hive; notify any suspected sightings of Asian hornets to alernnonnative@ceh.ac.uk; call Justin if you spot a swarm; plant your gardens with bees in mind (see *In the Garden* on page 34); avoid the use of strong garden pesticides; support your local bee keeper by buying their honey (Peter now stocks Hoxne honey from Justins hives) and of course use this to make some delicious recipes (see *In the Kitchen* on page 30).

For bee swarm removal, hosting or sponsoring hives, you can contact Justin on **07703 363944**

Bee fact: Did you know that Hoxne had its own queen bee breeder by the name of John H Atkinson? He devised a backpack to transport bees long distances to remote, and therefore secure, queen bee breeding grounds!

Marie Lagerberg



Hoxne Playing Fields and Pavilion

At the AGM in April, Chairman Phil Golding, reported on a wide variety of activities in the past year. The Circus held in association with the school had proved very successful, as did the Fun Day which offered a range of games and activities for families and raised some £300.

The school holiday 'summer café' on Friday afternoons proved very popular with, at times, 50 people attending. While children of all ages enjoyed the play equipment, parents and guardians appreciated the teas, coffees, cakes and ice-cream on offer from the pavilion. This raised in excess of £400. The 'Summer Play Café' will be open again during the school holidays in August this year, so watch out for details. Equally popular was the children's Christmas party organised by Gail Jackson, with entertainer, food and a visit from Santa.

Regular safety checks of the play equipment can now be carried out by committee members following an inspection training day.

Fundraising continues to be a major activity with the plant sales and Harvest Breakfast led by Carole and Alan Smith, plus the Hoxne Charities clay shoot in association with the school. The Christmas Trees sales led by Andrew Banham raised over £700 and were such a success that they will be run again this year.

Improvements to the catering/kitchen facilities have been carried out with Section 106 funds that were granted by Mid-Suffolk District Council with support from the Parish Council.

Thanks are due to Alan Bryant (pictured) and Andrew Banham for their hard work in installing the fittings and also to Marcus Read for his help with the

plumbing. These improvements will increase the attraction of the pavilion's facilities for events and lettings. There is still work to do through the coming year.



On sporting matters, the bowls club won the Border League and have a high proportion of local players. Both A and B football teams of AFC Hoxne have been pushing for promotion, with the First team having just achieved this. Many congratulations to them. The new Hoxne Veterans side has been very successful and enjoys the facilities of the playing field and pavilion in a friendly and co-operative manner.

The work done this year has been achieved with the help and mutual support of a very active committee and their friends/relations. A maintenance group has recently been formed who will check, monitor and remedy any problems with the fabric of the building. This will be an ongoing project for the coming year. It will ensure the playing fields and pavilion remain an integral part of the community.

To find out how you can support the committee or to book the playing field and/or pavilion for an event, please contact either:

Phil Golding, Chairman, 01379 668494
Email: golding.hoxne@btinternet.com
Julie Bryant, Secretary
Gail Jackson, Treasurer

Hoxne Phoenix Group

“Bugs on the Move” sounds a bit creepy but at our last meeting, Dr Ian Bedford (Head of Entomology at the John Innes Centre, Norwich) gave us a very interesting, illustrated talk which covered a large variety of insects found in our homes and garden. The slides he showed gave a good insight into some of the damage insects can do in the garden, including the Spanish slugs which are now invading this country and quite often are 5”-6” long. One photo showed the difference between one evening and the next morning when the slugs had been busy and the crop had been completely demolished overnight.

By the time you read this, we should have had our trip to Sandringham and are now beginning to put together plans for an outing on **Friday 15th September** to Holt. We will take the coach from Hoxne to Sheringham (with a break) then the steam train back to Holt where the coach will then transport us into the town centre for 2-3 hours before our return trip to Hoxne. If you are interested, put the date in your diary and full details will be available soon. This trip is open to non-Phoenix members, so if you would like to be put on the list either telephone Viv Bradford **01379 668551** or email Pat Green **patandbryan1@gmail.com** (full details and costs will be available by the time this Village Voice is published).

Phoenix members are also holding a Strawberry Tea at Cedar Lodge (home of Viv and Nigel Bradford) on **Sunday 25th June** in aid of Phoenix funds (limited tickets available due to space). If you would like to come along please contact Viv Bradford **01379 668551** to see if tickets are still available.

Our meeting on **Tuesday 13th June** is a talk and demonstration by Melissa Sheldrake on “The Language of Flowers” - we are promised an interesting evening of

flower arranging. Even if you are not a member of Phoenix, anyone is always welcome to come along on a one off-basis - all we ask is for a visitor fee of £2.00. Start time is 7.30pm at Hoxne Village Hall, do come along.

Pat Green

Hoxne Parish Plan Review Group



In 2010 the Hoxne Parish produced its own plan. Many of you were involved at the time both in developing the issues and/or answering the questionnaire. Much has been usefully achieved by that plan, but time moves on, and it is now being reviewed and refreshed to ensure it remains relevant.

So far the work undertaken involved a few volunteers attending open meetings to review the 2010 Plan. Next we need to widen the consultation and ensure as many people as possible can be involved. We expect at least one meeting, or drop in session, in the early autumn seeking your views, and consultation may involve another door to door questionnaire.

This is an open process so any parishioner can get as involved as they wish. The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm on **Wednesday 7th June** at the Playing Fields Pavilion, but please check with me before attending.

Much interest was evident at the recent Hoxne Parish Annual Meeting. Anyone who has access to the internet can view the 2010 plan at:

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Parish-Plans/Hoxne2010.pdf

If you wish to get involved in the process or merely wish to be kept informed of our progress, you can e-mail:

hoxne-parish-plan@outlook.com

Alternatively, I am happy to discuss the review.

Stephen Nixon (meeting chairman)

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In the Kitchen

*"Stands the Church clock at ten to three?
And is there honey still for tea?"*

**Rupert Brooke, written in the
Café des Westens, Berlin, May 1916**

Honey can be used to enrich and add subtle flavour to many savoury dishes e.g. tagines, casseroles and sauces. When used in a marinade honey will help to tenderise meat. Use honey to add a distinctive barbecue flavour to food as it caramelises, in salad dressings or very simply, as a topping for cold Greek style yoghurt with summer berries.

Sticky Ginger & Honey Baked Chicken



Ingredients

- 5 tbsp. soy sauce
- 3 tbsp. honey
- 2" fresh ginger peeled and grated
- 1 small red chilli finely chopped
- 2 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 cloves garlic finely grated
- 10 chicken thighs or drumsticks
- freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6/Aga roasting oven.
2. Place all ingredients in a lidded plastic box.
3. Stir to mix thoroughly.
4. Add chicken and coat with the marinade.
5. With the lid on give the box a good shake and leave to marinade for 2 hours or more. Turn occasionally.
6. Cook in a hot oven for about 45 minutes turning halfway through.
7. I served this with basmati rice and a green salad.

Honey and Wholegrain Mustard Vinaigrette

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp. white wine vinegar
- 3 tbsp. mild olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3 cloves of garlic, flattened and peeled
- 1 tbsp. honey
- 2 heaped tsp. of wholegrain mustard

Method

Place all the ingredients in a clean jam jar and shake to incorporate. Try this dressing dribbled over slices of beetroot (not in vinegar) and orange topped with a little crumbled feta cheese

Healthier Honey Chocolate Cake

Ingredients

- 3 very ripe bananas
- 125g plain Greek style yoghurt
- 115g of runny honey
- 2 tbsp smooth peanut butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract (optional)
- 1 egg
- 175g plain flour
- 85g cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 tsp. bicarbonate of soda
- 110g dark chocolate chips or finely chopped chocolate
- Sprinkle additional 50g dark chocolate chips or finely chopped chocolate on top of the cake if desired

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180C/16C fan/ Gas Mark 4/Aga 4th shelf baking oven.
2. Grease and line a 20cm loose bottomed deep cake tin.



Sticky Ginger and Honey Baked Chicken

Honey and Wholegrain Mustard Vinaigrette

Healthier Honey Chocolate Cake

3. In a blender or processor combine the bananas, yoghurt, honey, vanilla and peanut butter. Blend until smooth, 1 - 2 minutes.
4. Pour the blended mixture into a large bowl, add the egg and mix in until combined.
5. Sieve the plain flour, bicarbonate of soda and cocoa powder into the blended mix.
6. Add the chocolate chips and mix thoroughly using a spoon or spatula.
7. Pile into the prepared cake tin. Smooth the top with the back of a spoon and sprinkle the additional chocolate chips if required.
8. Bake for about 45 minutes or until a wooden kebab stick comes out clean.
9. Leave in the tin for 10 minutes, remove the cake and place on a cooling tray.

Enjoy.

Gill O'Connor





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Fressingfield Scouts

In March, we were delighted to finally have planning permission approved for our new Scout HQ and are very grateful for the whole hearted support we have received.

We now have the huge challenge of raising a significant amount of funding to get the new building and facilities that our young people should have - after 40 years at the Goodwin Hall - they really do deserve to have running water and an inside toilet! We hope that the whole community will support our fund raising efforts.

Pioneer Troop supported the Hoxne Village clean up on 19th March. This is the fourth year that Scouts have been involved in Clean Up Sunday and is an excellent example of Scouts being involved in the local community. Welcome refreshments were supplied by Hoxne Parish Council at the end of the morning in the Village Hall.



Shooting, Climbing, Crate Stacking, Paddleboarding, Canoeing, Treasure Hunts and a Camp Fire.

The summer brings Summer Camp at Milton Keynes as well as a wide variety of outdoor activities at evening meetings, culminating in our Group Open evening on **Friday 14th July** which we are hoping will be at our new plot.

Michael Knights

Successful Open Day for Bowlers

At Hoxne Bowls Club's annual Open Green Day, ten villagers came along to experience the fun of bowls. Alongside existing members getting their eye and arm working together again, they discovered the intricacies and excitement of the sport, followed by refreshments and friendly chats about the coming season.

Five new members have joined the club and by the time this article comes to print will, no doubt, be gracing one of our two teams as well as enjoying our regular Wednesday evening Club Nights.

Anyone thinking of taking up the sport can either come along on a Wednesday evening or contact the secretary: Roger Knight **01379 668403**



Over the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of April, 75 members of the Group ranging from six year old Beavers, through to Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders (who began their Scouting in the 1960s) attended our Group Camp at Eaton Vale Activity Centre near Norwich. The weather was kind and a good time was had by all. Activities included Air Rifle

In The Garden

After the rush of April and May, you can now start reaping some of the rewards of your hard work. Salads sown in April will soon be ready to harvest and early summer flowering shrubs will be making their presence known in the garden. The herbaceous border will be flush with new growth and I'm sure your lawns will be keeping you busy. Watering can become an issue in this part of the world, as dry springs often proceed a dry summer. So, make sure you catch every drop of rain in covered water butts and use this on your established ornamentals and bedding displays.

Do it now?

Plant autumn flowering bulbs like colchicums, *Cyclamen hederifolium* and *Nerine bowdenii*.

Remove spent flowering spikes from Lupin and shorten by about 10cm. Also remove one in three flowering stems of Michaelmas daisies, helenium and phlox. They should then re-shoot and flower a bit later, so you will extend the flowering season.

Don't forget to water - at the height of the summer, give priority to hanging baskets and containers, as well as any newly planted shrubs as they will suffer



and dry out much more quickly than established plants.

Last, but not least, keep on top of the weeds!

General Maintenance

While most pruning is done in the winter or spring, there is no harm trimming a few plants like hedges of privet, lonicera and the ever growing leylandii to keep them neat. In July, you can trim evergreens like holly, box and laurel. Use secateurs on large leaved plants. You can also tidy overgrown spring flowering clematis like *C. alpina*, *C. cirrhosa* and *C. montana* if they have become a bit rampant.

Deadheading will encourage more flowers and less seeds! So, snip off the faded flowers from lilacs, rhododendrons, pansies, azaleas and roses.

You can also get some plants for free. Take 10cm stem cutting from below a leaf joint, remove the lower leaf and push

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into pots of multi-purpose compost. Try buddleja, dianthus, ivy, honeysuckle, lavender, spiraea and broom.

In July, you can also cut back the whip like growth on your wisteria to five to seven leaves. This will set you up for less work in the winter and likely promote better flowering next spring

5 Minute Jobs

Watch out for lily beetles on lilies and fritillaries, squash them and their excrement covered larvae. Now is also the time to watch out for powdery mildew, this is made worse if the plants are stressed, so remove any effected leaves and water and feed well. Aphid are also rife, so keep a look out for them too.

Lift developing squashes and pumpkins off the soil and onto a tile or piece of old carpet to prevent them rotting and it should also help them to ripen.

In the veg garden



Outside, you can thin out any direct sown seedlings. Plant out your Brussels sprouts, summer cauliflowers, kale and calabrese. To encourage bushy plants, pick out the tips of peppers and chillies. Removing the first few flowers will stimulate more production in the long term. You can also remove the side shoots from cordon varieties of tomatoes and keep tying in cucumber and melon plants in the greenhouse. Early sown broad beans, carrots and potatoes should be ready to harvest. Wait till you can see the bean forming in the pods before picking broad beans, but with peas harvest when the pods look fat, but you can't see the peas swelling the pods. This should give you sweet beans and peas.

Keep sowing salad crops at two or three week intervals. On warm sunny days you can harvest herbs to dry and store. Pick bunches of shrubby herbs like sage and hang to dry in a dark, but warm airy place, then store in an airtight jar till you want to

Bee Friendly Gardens

If you fancy planting up a bee friendly container or adding more bee friendly plants in your garden, then just follow some of the guidelines below.

Bees can see purple more clearly, so grow lots of lavender, alliums, buddleja and catmint. That said, flowers of other colours still attract bees, so don't go pulling them all up!

Pick single flowers as doubles are usually ignored, while tubular-shaped flowers such as foxgloves, honeysuckle and penstemons, are great for the long-tongued bees like the garden bumblebee, *Bombus hortorum*.

Bees are most active from March to September. However, overwintering queens and workers may emerge on warm days in winter, so it's a good idea to have at least two nectar or pollen-rich plants in flower during this time:

Winter/Spring flowers Bluebell, bugle, crab apple, crocus, daffodil, flowering cherry and currant, forget-me-nots, hawthorn, pulmonaria, rhododendron, rosemary, snowdrop, thrift and viburnum.

Early Summer flowers Aquilegia, astilbe, campanula, comfrey, delphinium, everlasting sweet pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*), fennel, foxglove, hardy geranium, potentilla, snapdragon, stachys, teasel, thyme, verbascum.

Late Summer flowers Angelica, aster, buddleja, cardoon, cornflower, dahlia (singles), eryngium, fuchsia, globe thistle, heather, ivy, penstemon, scabious, sedum, and *Verbena bonariensis*.

use. Delicate herbs like parsley and mint, that lose flavour when dried, can be chopped and frozen dry or in water in ice cube trays.

Claire Horne
BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert

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AFC Hoxne round up for the season

We have reached the promised land! In the final match on the 6th May, AFC Hoxne beat Benhall (the league champions) 3-1 and finished second in the table. Hoxne, therefore, will next season be playing in the top flight of the Ipswich League (the Senior Division) for the first time.

Looking back, on the 11th March, AFC suffered the heaviest league defeat of the season, 3-0 away to Sporting '87 of Bury St Edmunds. However, they bounced back to win the next two matches, both away. Ipswich Exiles were thrashed 6-0 and they completed the "double" over Wickham Market with a 2-0 triumph.

April began with a 3-0 home win against Mendlesham. Claydon, the best side seen at the home ground this season, were held to a 1-1 draw at their place. It was vital that victory was obtained at home to Sporting '87. This was achieved by a 1-0 finish. In the penultimate game, AFC thrashed bottom team Ipswich Valley Rangers 14-0 to equal the league record score. Congratulations to the manager Jamie Scales and all the lads.

The reserve team managed by Ben Wilby, "Bens Boys", were the most successful reserve team in the Ipswich League. They won intermediate 'A' league losing only one game in the process.

Last, but not least, Colin Mayhew has managed the Sunday veterans team very well and they performed very credibly.

So, the curtain is drawn on AFC Hoxne's 19th season, with the AGM in the pavilion on **Monday 5th June** at 8pm. AFC Hoxne finished second (gaining promotion) in their first season, 1999 - 2000. This was in division 8 (there are now 4), so it's been a remarkable rise over the years

Jamie Scales

AFC Hoxne's most successful manager, Jamie Scales, announced that he will be standing down at the end of this season. Jamie has been in post for six seasons. Mr Scales' first season saw him guide the first eleven to promotion from division 3 of the Ipswich league in 2011/12. Hoxne gained promotion to division 1 for the first time in the clubs history at the end of the 2014/15 season. It was a great night for the club at the home of Ipswich Town, Portman Road, on the 24th May 2016 when Hoxne won the Suffolk junior cup, by deservedly beating Henley 2-0.

Jamie has put Hoxne on the map by devoting a fantastic amount of his spare time for the gain of the football club. He is being replaced by reserve team manager Ben Wilby for 2017/18.

Clive Baxter, President

AFC Hoxne's Robert Peake in action against Benhall



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BAG IT AND BIN IT - PLEASE!

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Dog fouling has for a long time been a matter of concern to many villagers. Some paths in Hoxne have continued to have a problem, in particular those linking through to Brakey Wood.

Are owners aware they can be fined up to £1,000 for allowing their dogs to foul public footpaths, rights of way and other open spaces? The anti-social owners who wilfully allow their dogs to foul areas



where the public walk - and often the fouling takes place on a daily basis - are giving a bad name to the more considerate owners who bag the waste and bin it when they get home.

Bagging it and dumping the bag in a hedgerow is also an issue. One Hoxne resident reports picking up five separate piles of dog dirt in just a one hundred yard stretch of a public footpath. It is a disgraceful state of affairs. A new Dog Bin is being placed in Low Street and there should be no excuse not to use this in the future instead of the general litter bin on the Green.

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act of 1996 allows for a maximum fine of £1,000, so please be aware of the consequences and take a supply of plastic bags with you next time you are out walking with your dog.

Mid-Suffolk District Council requests that if you see someone failing to clean up after their dog in a public place then try to remember as much detail of the incident as possible, including the date, time and location, and the name and

address of the offender if you know it. Where a vehicle is involved please note the make, colour and registration mark of the vehicle, together with a description of the person. To report an incident of dog fouling that you have witnessed, please visit:

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/dog-control/dog-fouling/



Healthwatch Suffolk finds out what local people think about NHS and social care services and has powers to influence, shape and improve them for the future. It is putting feet in focus this month with the launch of its latest research report, which is about the experiences of diabetic patients in Suffolk.

It found that 32% of its respondents are not always told about their risk of developing complications. This is an important finding because some people with diabetes develop foot ulcers or infections that are one of the leading causes of amputation in the UK.

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Report from Syleham Parish Council

Chairman: Malcolm Flounders

There has been no Parish Council meeting since our last report, but several issues have since arisen to be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

1. All parishes have been reminded about their duties regarding “open government”. This is embodied in the **Transparency Code**. To fulfil these duties your council has received funding for its own website. The new domain address is **www.syleham-pc.org.uk** and will be operational from June.

This should be your reference point for all matters concerning the Parish Council including meeting minutes, financial reports, and notices of upcoming events. It will also serve as a point of contact for you to communicate with the council.

2. The Clerk attended the Police Locality Meeting in March to raise concern with the recent outbreak of burglaries in Syleham and neighbouring villages. The police outlined their reorganization into Safer Neighbourhood Teams and how they will work with local communities.

Details will be posted on the new website. In the meantime, we ask all residents to be vigilant and report all suspicious activity to the police.

The Annual Parish Meeting will have taken place by the time you read this. We hope you will use the website in the future for more up to date information about the Parish Council and matters affecting the village.

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday 6th September** at the Village Hall, 7.30pm start.

David Young, Clerk, 01379 668556

Report from Wingfield Parish Council

Chairman: Mike Allmeay

The Parish Council has met just once since our last report in an extraordinary meeting to review GWC’s planning application (1059/17) for change of existing building’s use to provide an animal feed outlet and café open to the general public. The Council voted to recommend this application and thus further local employment and provide additional refreshment opportunities for residents and visitors in the village.

Crime remains the major concern for the village. The number of break ins to gardens and out buildings have multiplied. Will all residents be vigilant and report all suspicious activity to the police?

This will be the main issue for discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting that was postponed from April.

Hurricane Doris brought more devastation to Wingfield’s road signage. The 30mph village sign, outside Old School House, blown down, adding to the damage to sign posts opposite Wingfield Barns and the junction of Abbey Road and Top Road. All these have been reported to Suffolk Highway’s Department for repair with the pithy note that Wingfield is being wiped off the map without urgent attention.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will have taken place by the time you read this. If you were not able to attend please read the outcomes on the website **www.wingfield-pc.org.uk**

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council will be **Friday 28th July** at Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm start.

David Young, Clerk, 01379 668556



Report from Hoxne Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL AGM - at the Annual General Meeting in May, Cllr Edward O'Connor was re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr John Brawn will continue to serve as Vice Chairman and Cllr Kevin Potter and Michael Knights will be the Council's representative Trustees to the Playing Fields and Village Hall respectively. Cllr Rod Searle, after many years, handed over the co-ordination of planning applications to Cllr Richard Whiting. Hannah Mayhew has resigned from the Council and was thanked for her work, particularly her efforts which resulted in Hoxne being awarded Mid Suffolk Village of the Year in 2015.

ROGATION WALK - this year's walk took place on 21st May and we are grateful to Mr Philip Flagg for his organisation, the landowners concerned for allowing access and to Cllr and Mrs Searle for the venue for post walk refreshments.

DOG LITTER - The Parish Council has purchased an additional bin which will be placed in Low Street. All parishioners are reminded to clear up after their dog - the penalty for dog fouling is £1000 under the Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996. Perhaps at this time next year the spring clean volunteers won't have to retrieve quite so many bags of dog litter from the hedgerows as there is an additional bin. Your co-operation to clear up after your dog will be much appreciated.

2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - this year's meeting was very well attended and we are grateful to all who supplied reports to the meeting. Many have commented that they didn't realise so much was happening around them and

that they are proud to live in such an active village.

The Parish Council meets on the first Thursday of the month. The next meetings will be held on **Thursday 1st June, Thursday 6th July, Thursday 3rd August, Thursday 7th September and Thursday 5th October** at the Playing Field Pavilion and will commence at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

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Where there's a will...

For a fascinating insight into the lives of our ancestors, one class of document sheds more light than most and that is the Probate Inventory. From 1530 to 1782, it was obligatory for every executor of a will to provide the registry of the appropriate court with an inventory of the deceased's goods and their value.

To this end, two or more appraisers, one often a close relative, would turn up at the premises of the dead person and move from room to room listing furniture, clothing, cash, tools and stock in trade in workshops. Each item would have its value appended. They would then progress to the out buildings, recording their contents, together with livestock, crops and husbandry items. Generally, though, land and property were not recorded.

Hoxne is especially fortunate in that just over one hundred inventories for the village, which were lodged at the Consistory Court of Norwich, have survived, and are now preserved at the Norfolk County Record Office. These mostly cover the 16th and 17th centuries, a period in Suffolk of extensive dairy farming, when even quite small parishes like Hoxne could support a large number of relatively well off yeoman farmers who augmented their incomes by growing large quantities of hemp and flax for the production of cloth.

Most of the peasant folk of our village, though, would have been too poor to even produce a will, and so obtaining any sort of a picture of how they lived and died is almost impossible. But with the surviving inventories of the gentry, yeomen, craftsmen and shopkeepers of Hoxne, we can at least get a remarkable

insight into the lives of a sizeable chunk of the population.

One major drawback, unfortunately, to studying these inventories, is that many are in such a poor condition. Ink being smudged when they were being drawn up and sheets pressed together - some having portions torn off, staining due to damp, often completely obliterating text, and a number of inventories not completed or having sections missing.

The other problem for anyone trying to transcribe them is that a few are almost totally illegible, due to the atrocious handwriting and spelling of some of the appraisers who were on the bottom rung as far as literacy was concerned in the village! Nevertheless, a great many for Hoxne have survived intact and what a fascinating picture they provide.

I hope to publish transcripts of about 70 of these inventories later in the year, together with an analysis of what crops were grown and what animals were farmed in Hoxne, particularly during the 17th century. It will also cover what people owned and how their houses looked, from the likes of Alexander Ouldis, a gentleman whose property was valued at just over £2,000, to Robert Elvin, a brickmaker, whose entire possessions amounted to £6!



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Village Walks...

Pastoral quietude dominates these walks. From ancient water meadows, through an agricultural heartland, enjoy stunning views within and across the beautiful Waveney Valley.

The basic walk is an easy five miles. Add a worthwhile mile for a moderately strenuous six miler and/or another mile detour for refreshments at **The De La Pole**, Wingfield (pub, restaurant, deli & cafe).

Parking is at St Margaret's Church, Syleham. A visit to the church might be more interesting after the walk and reading the history at the crossroads. Look for tiny carved crosses in the porch. Graffiti, if you like, but an ancient form of sealing a transaction under the eyes of God, before literacy was common. From the small church car park, admire the tranquil water meadows as you follow the road back to the crossroads. Here is an interesting display

Start & Finish: Syleham

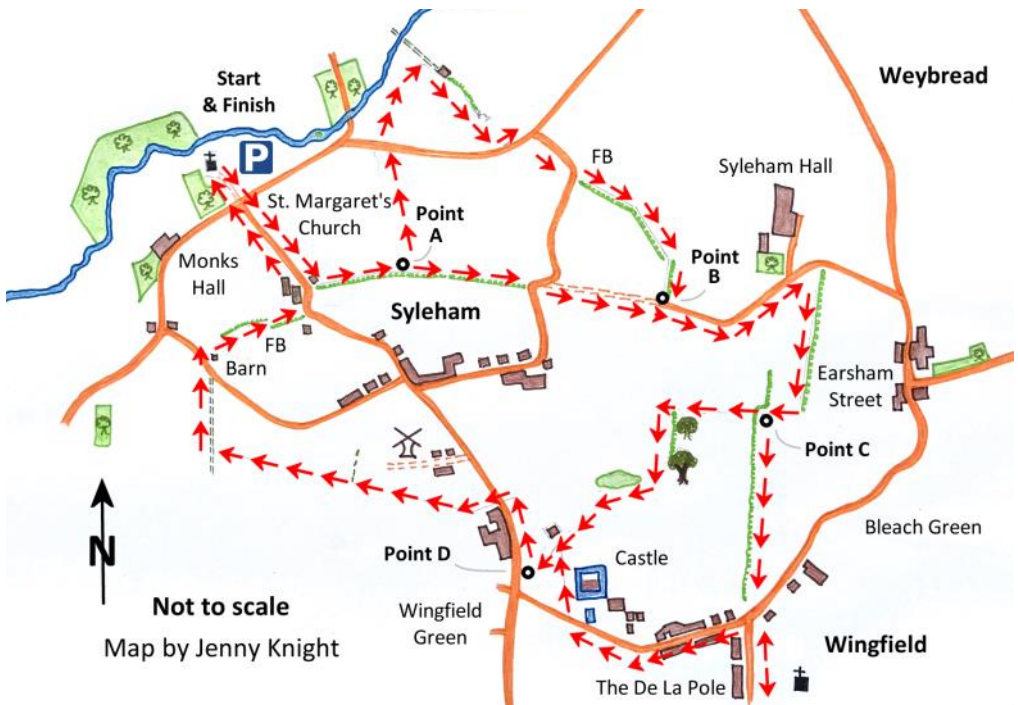
Two walks of easy 5 and 6 miles with a 1 mile refreshment detour

OS map: Explorer 230

telling the history of the Church. Continue straight across the crossroad and head up the hill. At the top, where the road swings sharp right, find a footpath on **The Left** beyond the house. Follow this straight path along field edges. Here are sweeping views across The Waveney and Brockdish church on the far side. In a quarter-mile you will reach a crossing of paths.

Point A

You can now follow the **Longer walk** section, else **Continue Straight** until meeting a road. Round the corner in the road and **Continue along it in the same easterly direction**. Ignore the turning on the left and in another quarter-mile you will see a footpath on the left.



Point B

Continue along the road in an easterly direction. Shortly after passing Syleham Hall on your left, take the footpath on the **Right**. Keeping the fence on your left pass through two fields until a sign points to the **Right**. Turn here and head for a dogleg of hedges on the other side of the field.

Point C

You can now follow the **Refreshment Detour** section if you wish, else continue beyond the hedges and toward an oak tree. Pass beyond the tree and **Turn Left**, to follow the hedge. In a hundred yards, reach a Y shaped oak tree and **Bear Right** toward a copse in the middle of a field. At the copse **Bear Right** again, keeping the copse on your right and follow the field edge.

On your left, you will see Castle House: once a Castellated manor house, it is still moated and signs of the gate, draw bridge and portcullis are still present, though it is now a private residence. Exotic birds stroll the grounds and the common. Pass a pond on your right and at the corner of the copse, **Bear Left** across a field. Aim for a corner where a hedge and fence meet. Follow the hedge to a stile and join a lane at the front of the house.

Point D

The lane skirts the common and brings you to a road. **Turn Right**. In less than a quarter-mile, just past 'Old Roses', take the footpath on the **Left**. Follow this path for a mile in a westerly direction. Note the remains of a windmill on the right, but ignore the path on the right. Reach a Green Lane and **Turn Right**.

At the end of the lane, **Turn Left** on the road and descend the hill to a large barn on the right. Just beyond the barn, but before the footpath sign, two paths ascend the valley. Take the **Left** and higher of these, keeping the hedge on your left as you climb. **Cross a footbridge** on the left

and continue on the path. The hedge is now on your right. Join the road by the water treatment plant and **Turn Left**. Descend the hill back to Syleham Church.

Longer walk

Take the path on the **Left**, descending to 'Top Barn' and continue on the lane that leads to a road. Looking to the left, you will see a row of terraced houses: once a clothing factory, originally powered by a watermill on The River Waveney, which still rushes over the weir behind it.

Cross the road and take the footpath. Pass through a gate and keep to the left of a row of trees. On reaching a gate into a lane, **Do Not Pass Through It**. **Turn Right** and head uphill, keeping a fence on your left. Descend the other side of the hill, cross a stile and pass through a gate into another field.

Bear a little to the Left and cross the field to a stile. **Take care** passing through the hedge and stepping blindly onto a road. **Turn Left**. In a hundred yards, take the right fork in the road. In another hundred yards **Turn Left** onto a footpath crossing a footbridge and climb a hill, keeping a hedge on your right. Near the top, pass into another field on your right, but continue in the same direction to cross a stile and join **Point B**.

Refreshment Detour

From **Point C**, **Turn Left** and follow the path, straight ahead until it reaches the road. **Turn Right** and immediately **Left**. Continue towards the church where you will find the De La Pole on your right.

After replenishment, retrace your steps to the T junction and **Turn Left**. Continue along the road until, just past Castle House, you enter Wingfield Green. **Turn Right** and keep to the path that runs along its eastern edge. In the corner of the common **Turn Left** and join **Point D**.

Roger Knight

The Lunch Bunch Visits...

After a chance visit to the newly re-opened De La Pole for a sunny afternoon pint of Adnams, we enquired on weekday lunches and were told if we came early there generally wasn't a need to book. So we didn't, but had it been a weekend we may not have been so lucky to get a table easily.

Walking in, we were greeted by Luke the lovely friendly pub dog - the human welcome was equally warm and cheerful and we were offered a table in the Deli-Café area. Drinks were ordered and very quickly brought to the table.

We were perhaps expecting a fairly limited menu as the De La Pole only sells itself as a café as far as food goes, just serving between 09:00 - 16:30(ish) Tuesday to Saturday with a carvery from 12:00 on Sundays, but the menu and the specials boards were filled with a variety of offerings from a full English breakfast (including a vegetarian version), light salads, burgers and chips, "De La Pole deli boards" which seeing one being served on the next door table, I think I will try next time! or design your own sandwiches and wraps. All very interesting and sensibly priced.

The food was ordered from the table, two opting for starters. Before we had even stopped to admire the open fire and décor, bread and side plates had been brought to the table along with the two starters. The bruschetta, topped with

The De La Pole
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seasonal vegetable including asparagus and the filo wrapped prawns and chilli dip, were hot, freshly cooked and smelling delicious. The dip was nicely spiced and the vegetables perfectly cooked. The mains arrived in a very timely fashion too, three opting for the wonderful looking and smelling paprika wedges, beef chilli topped with sour cream from the specials board and one for the fish goujons (salmon and haddock, I think) and hand cut chips. The waitress could almost read our minds and various condiments were supplied before we even thought to ask for them, she was friendly, efficient, and attentive without being at all overpowering. Top marks.

Earlier hints that the deserts were worth the wait, were not wrong. The waitress ably reeled off the list of all too tempting sounding dishes and we were duly tempted. Nothing beats apple pie with cream or custard except maybe treacle tart that came with little boats of cream, they were all beyond delicious. The lovely meal was rounded off with cups of piping hot strong coffee and a pot of tea. But the enjoyment didn't stop after the meal was paid for. The De La Pole also has a deli counter and a little shop area selling gifts for "house and home". We eyed up the salami, cheese and pork pies in the deli area, as well as sweets in old fashioned jars. Tempted by the homemade cakes, we brought some home for our tea! All in all, a very warm and welcoming hostelry, lovely food and a great setting. A return visit is certainly on the cards.

Our bill: Starters £4.95 / £5.95, Mains £9.95 / £11.95, Deserts £5.95

The Lunch Bunch





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A Word from Wingfield

The De La Pole Arms

(The King's Head)

When we first came to Wingfield as week-enders, the owner welcomed us on cold wintry nights with fish and chips plus Adnams however late we arrived. The next owner, having started the St Peters brewery, also bought 6 outlets and did a transforming makeover. The public bar with its darts, shove ha'penny and a regular local clientele was replaced by a restaurant which was popular with audiences at Wingfield Arts and tourists.

As the brewery expanded the outlets were sold on and The De La Pole came on the market in 2014. The sales blurb reported discussions with MSDC to delicense the property and return it to a private dwelling. Our parish successfully campaigned to prevent the change of use and MSDC subsequently agreed. Although it was claimed that the business was not viable financially, it was pointed out that when Sally Prior had the tenancy for three years it was very successful and important to the community and Wingfield Arts.

Sheila Kent, our local historian, has written the following fascinating story of The De La Pole Arms to inform both pub visitors, and our readers, some of whom will remember the smithy next door where Michael Harvey took horses from Abbey Farm to be shoed.

Tommy Gee

“In England's history there have been many great families who in their generations wielded great powers and influenced the course of history. Some have kept their power up to the present day. Some flashed across the skies like shooting stars. The de la Poles were such

a family, Earls and Dukes of Suffolk in the Middle Ages. They burned brilliantly and died away in little more than two hundred years.” The village of Wingfield throughout the 14th and 15th centuries bustled with people and was used to the grandeur of the Royal Court, used to the family of Sir John de Wingfield - a Norman knight and financial adviser to the King (Edward III). Sir John had settled in Wingfield and built a castle, he had married the heiress of Sir Ranulf de Glanville and they had an only daughter, Katherine. She married William de la Pole from Hull, sadly Sir John died before the church he had planned could be built. William de la Pole was a wealthy merchant and brought his wealth down to Wingfield. His sons fought in the Hundred Years Wars, and eventually in the Wars of the Roses. They married well, one to Alice Chaucer, granddaughter of Geoffrey Chaucer - a formidable woman and throughout her life close to the throne.

But to this public house. The earliest inns or hotels were for pilgrims and the Abbeys or Monasteries provided overnight accommodation. They bore the sign relating to the Religious Order or the sign might have the head of the Pope or Abbot. However, when the hostels became more generally used by travellers, the signs were still kept on, but after the break with Rome, the Pope's head was quickly exchanged for the King's Head - and often bore a resemblance to Henry VIII. The owners of the houses were often former stewards or retainers of the monasteries or even of the estates on which the inns stood, and often they would put up the sign of the local big-wig. However, in Wingfield probably the Pope's head was quickly changed to the King's Head in the 16th Century.

It might well have been built to cope with the influx of craftsmen when the Church and College were being created. There is no doubt that there was a tavern

on this site for a long time. There are some "Rules of Wingfield Tavern":-

"4 pence a night for bed - 6 pence with pot luck - 2 pence for horse keeping - no more than five to sleep in one bed - no boots to be worn in bed - no razor grinders or tinkers taken in - no dogs allowed in the kitchen and no organ grinders to sleep in the wash house - Lemuel Cox's Inn, Owner"

Inns were places of great importance to travellers, especially with the treacherous state of the roads and the slowness of horse drawn carriages. They became the centre of the village's entertainment for dance, good fellowship, meetings and inquests and more often than not because they had the biggest room in the village. It was used for the Parish Council meetings and anything that perhaps a Village Hall now would accommodate. Hard drinking of course and good company and for the East Anglian who claims his favourite occupation to be "talking". In Wingfield the Parish Council met in the King's Head (renamed by then the De La Pole Arms) in the 1980s. In 1880 most public houses made their own beer and probably the King's Head bought the malt from Aaron Leathers, who had The Maltings (renamed The Beeches) opposite Bleach Green.

The Inn was essential for resting and feeding the horses. They were open all day and for the greater part of the night. Travellers could refresh themselves with hot drinks or an early breakfast at 5 or 6 in the morning. The local innkeeper would have a lot of information about everything and was really quite an important person. It was, of course a male institution and women never accompanied their husbands - they might go round the back on their own for a bottle or jug, and listen unseen to what was going on! The social life for the married women was strictly with her neighbours. In 1885 it was claimed that the average working class family spent a quarter of their income on drink. Beer was 2d a pint.

In rural areas customers might "set in". "Setting in" meant that they just stayed at the pub when they were too fed up to go home! They might "set in" for a week, sleeping on the settles and being fed and given beer by the landlord!

There were a lot of landlords coming and going at the King's Head. In 1878 it was sold to Steward and Patteson at an auction at the Magpie in Harleston for £810. Eventually many many years later it became one of Watneys tied houses.

In those days there was one large front room, a small bar room with large square bricks on the floor. A cellar four steps down from the public bar. A public kitchen a living room three bedrooms a loft and a store room. Two staircases - no water laid on. Mullioned windows and thatched. There would have been outhouses for brewing and the beer might have been bottled in old creamy coloured stoneware. There were old type wooden forms near the window and side of the public bar and a highbacked wooden settle in the centre facing the fireplace, on which mugs and saucepans had plenty of room to be put.

There was a washhouse and copper and probably Steward and Patteson put in a pump with a handle outside facing the kitchen window. Mrs Norman (a member of the Brown family) became a licensee in 1926 and she well remembered an old fashioned pump there. Mrs Norman took over from a Mr Joe Copping and before him there was a Mrs Valour whose brother slaughtered pigs for local people. Groceries were often sold in the pub, even as late as 1972 when the last grocers shop (Mr Pipe) closed, leaving only the Post Office.

It was renamed the De La Pole Arms in the 1970's, but might well go on answering to the King's Head for a few more years yet.



Sheila Kent

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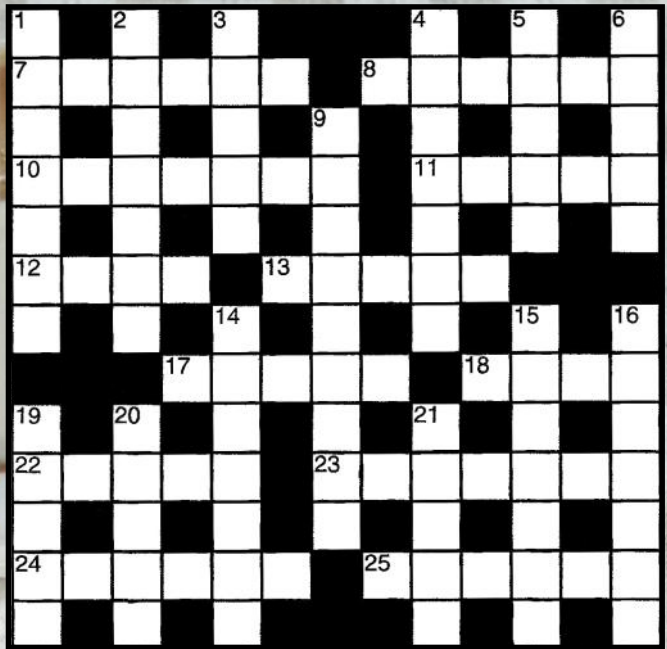
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Crossword

Puzzle No. 118

To enter the crossword competition, send* your solution to the editor for a chance to win £10. The winner will be the first correct entry picked at random from those received by **Monday 3rd July latest.** *Don't forget you can email a photograph or scan of your entry too!



Across

- 7 Animal with a sore throat I hear (6)
- 8 Spike the G.P's drink (6)
- 10 Dummy pill to reduce anxiety (7)
- 11 City in which Emil and pals may be found (5)
- 12 Repeat the name of the ancient Greek nymph (4)
- 13 Family found in the road without any money (5)
- 17 An Imperial measure is in the offing (5)
- 18 Silly person with a blood problem (4)
- 22 Mixed raita worn on the head (5)
- 23 Expensive food flavouring from part of Essex (7)
- 24 I label objects I am responsible for (6)
- 25 Allow in the river and cross out (6)

Down


- 1 Take an axe to the helicopter (7)
- 2 Each pan created with flair (7)
- 3 Sets a poser to produce a valuable quality (5)
- 4 Man trod haphazardly and became inactive (7)
- 5 Duty paid to visit coral reef (5)
- 6 Candid sort of chap (5)
- 9 Descriptive of a Suffolk punch when toiling (9)
- 14 Fab flea maybe quite friendly (7)
- 15 Smudged the 90's pop group into a colour (7)
- 16 Capital fellow from the Falklands (7)
- 19 Pinched a scarf (5)
- 20 American ally provides a waterway (5)
- 21 Sounds like a proposal to a dyke builder (5)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 117 was: Mrs M Hawes, Hoxne

Answers: **Across** 1) Knight 4) Shift 8) Climb 9) Fraught 10) Epistle 11) Stye 12) Rim 14) Plea 15) Apex 18) Lea 21) Ugly 23) Disband 25) Confide 26) Crime 27) Epoch 28) Severe **Down** 1) Kicked 2) Initial 3) Habitual 4) Sham 5) Ingot 6) Tether 7) After 13) Massacre 16) Evasive 17) Muscle 19) Adder 20) Adhere 22) Lingo 24) Rich

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Peter at Hoxne Post Office & Stores has kindly agreed to accept copy and crossword entries on our behalf.

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