

Village Voice



DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

AUGUST — SEPTEMBER 2017

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

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Stop Press

At the time of going to print, it's disheartening to hear that the Rural Coffee Caravan charity have had their kitted out caravan stolen. The charity travels all over Suffolk providing information and friendship to isolated communities. They are regular visitors to Wingfield (see page 9) and hope to continue their schedule even though they



must now raise new funds for a replacement caravan and equipment.

Donations for their appeal can be made at: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ruralcoffecaravan

In this issue...

A full complement of events and reports fill this issue, much like a Labrador that stretches out to take up the available sofa space. There are also more great pictures by Barry Freeman, as we step back in time to Graham Borrill's thrashing day held earlier in the year.

In Other News...

The Hoxne Swan has been awarded North Suffolk Pub of the Year 2017 by the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). Congratulations go to Darren, Angela and staff, for their hard work and commitment since the pub was re-opened little over a year ago. The *Village Walk* (page 43) starts in Hoxne this issue, so a refreshment stop should be in order when you return. But it's not just beers by Adnams, Timothy Taylor and Woodforde's that will go down well, as the Swan serves up top rate food too as the *Lunch Bunch* also finds out (page 45).



The Swan continues to hold its popular Busker nights every Thursday and there is also another Beer & Cider Festival planned for the August Bank Holiday weekend, with live music across the three days and a family fun day on the Sunday.



1906 Clayton & Shuttleworth Portable Steam Engine
picture by Barry Freeman



Bones

Letters to the Editor

ON THE BALL

The Hoxne School Association would like to thank everyone that attended the Summer Ball on Saturday 3rd June at the playing fields. We raised a great profit of £508. Please keep an eye out for future events such as a race night and quiz evening.

Hannah Mayhew



The Muppits band in fine form at the Summer Ball

DEMOCRACY DEBATED

Although I wasn't present, I have spoken to quite a few people from both "sides" of the debate that led to David Rogers not being voted back onto the Hoxne Village Hall management committee at the AGM on Thursday 1st June.

While I didn't agree with everything he was proposing, I thought he was a breath of fresh air on the committee with new ideas, both innovative and visionary. As he said himself, people would either vote for change or not, and democracy would win. To paraphrase Voltaire, "every man is entitled to his opinion, even if I vehemently disagree with him".

Clive Baxter

GARDEN DELIGHT

Wingfield's Open Garden event was held on the weekend of 24th & 25th June and we are delighted to report that the event has raised over £2200 for our charities - Nelsons Journey and St Andrews church.

We had a record number of visitors this year from as far afield as London and Bedford, encouraged no doubt by the lovely weather and range of things to see and do. An enormous thanks goes out to all villagers who took the time to open their gardens and display their wagons and scarecrows, as well as those who served refreshments and ran the duck tombola, gave demonstrations and sold plants. We would also like to thank our very kind sponsors who helped to make our event a success. Many thanks and kind regards.

*Lorraine Ware
Wingfield Events team*

ALLOTMENT ANYONE?

The Brockdish & Thorpe Abbots Allotment Association is run by volunteer members of the community and provides allotments for people from the surrounding area.

There are already plot holders from Syleham and plots are currently available that may be of interest to people further afield. If anyone would like more information, please telephone me on 01379 668556.

David Young

Advance Notice

Yes, it may still be summer, but the walk-in FLU clinics at **Fressingfield Medical Centre** begin **Tuesday 3rd October**. Full schedule next issue!

Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st August

Hoxne Heritage Group meeting, The Swan p19

Thursday 3rd August

Hoxne PC meeting, HPP p41

Tuesday 8th August

Hoxne Phoenix Group meeting, HVH p33

Tuesday 15th August

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p9

Saturday 19th August

Coffee Morning, St Peter and St Paul p33

Friday 25th August

Bingo SWH p7

Saturday 26th August

Produce and Craft Market, HVH p12
Family Fun Day & BBQ, Syleham Hall p25

Saturday 2nd September

Defibrillator training, SWH p7
Hoxne Flower & Produce Show, HVH p29
Jitterbugs, HVH p12

Tuesday 5th September

Hoxne Heritage Group meeting, The Swan p19

Wednesday 6th September

Syleham PC meeting, SWH p40

Thursday 7th September

Hoxne PC meeting, HPP p41

Friday 8th September

Tour of Britain Cycle Race p6
Film Night, HVH p12

Saturday 9th September

Ride + Stride, Historic Churches Trust
Sponsored Cycle Ride, Denham, Hoxne,
Syleham and Wingfield p13

Sunday 10th September

Hoxne Charities clay shoot, Oakley Park p7

Tuesday 12th September

Hoxne Phoenix Group meeting, HVH p33

Friday 15th September

Hoxne Phoenix Group outing p33

Saturday 16th September

Coffee Morning, St Peter and St Paul p33

Sunday 17th September

Harvest Breakfast, Low Street Green p6

Tuesday 19th September

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p9

Thursday 21st September

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Talk, HVH p29

Saturday 23rd September

Ceilidh, Park Farm Hoxne p6
Charlie Dore, WB p11

Wednesday 27th September

Denham PC meeting, Red Feather Club p41

Thursday 28th September

Wingfield & District Gardening Club, BVH p28

Friday 29th September

Bingo SWH p7

Saturday 30th September

Produce and Craft Market, HVH p12

Every Wednesday, **Bowls Club Night** HPP p39

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

For **Hoxon Hundred** events, see p28

For **Mobile Library**, see p19

Every Wednesday 26th July to 30th August,

Summer Play Cafe HPP p6

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

SUMMER PLAY CAFÉ

Back by popular demand! Following the success and popularity of the Summer Play Cafe at the Hoxne Playing Fields last year, The Summer Play Cafe will be open again this year every **Wednesday** afternoon 2.30pm - 5pm during the school holidays, **26th July to 30th August**. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with a slice of homemade cake or ice-cream whilst the



children play. Last years play cafe helped raise over £400 towards the running of the Playing Fields. Please come and support our little charity again. The Pavillion, Hoxne Playing Fields, Heckfield Green, Hoxne IP21 5AD

Hoxne Harvest Breakfast

This years Harvest Breakfast will be held at Low Street Green on **Sunday 17th September 10.00 til 12.30**. This will be the 43rd year!

The event offers the opportunity to meet and chat to your friends and neighbours over a leisurely barbecue breakfast with street entertainment, raffle and the singing of the Harvest Hymns! Please book the date in your diary and invite your friends and family to come over - we look forward to seeing you.

If you would like to join the Harvest Breakfast Team and help at the event, please telephone Carole Smith on **01379 668210**. Proceeds go to support the Village Hall and playing fields.

Tour of Britain Cycle Race Friday 8th September

Don't forget, Stage 6 passes through Eye to Horham and Stradbroke via Shingle Hill & Horham Road, Denham.
www.tourofbritain.co.uk

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,
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**Saturday 23rd September
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**Tickets £10 including BBQ
Drinks available on the evening
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please ring Helen on 07894 562172**

Hoxne Harvest Breakfast 2016



Hoxne Charities Clay Shoot

The organisers of this year's annual clay shoot are looking forward to people travelling from Norfolk, Suffolk and beyond, to take part in this Open event. They will come whether it's raining or sunny!

The shoot runs from **11am to 4pm** on **Sunday 10th September** and is held at Oakley Park by kind permission of Peter Saunders. At this event, those taking part may only use fibre wad cartridges as the fields are otherwise used for Peter's cattle and sheep. Plastic wad cartridges could damage the animals.

Over the last few years we have made an annual profit of £2000 which has been split between Hoxne School Association and Hoxne Playing Fields.

If you have no idea what happens at this event please do come along - be prepared to park in specified areas, and to keep within roped off areas for your own safety - Saying that, it is a safe event because measures are in place to ensure this. If you are bringing children with you, they must be under your direct supervision at all times.

As ever, we are fortunate to have the help of the local community to run this event, but we are always looking for extra people even if you can only spare a couple of hours.

If you are not familiar with 'scoring' at a 'stand' there will be someone more experienced to guide you. Any help with the refreshments would also be gratefully received, as well as making a cake to serve along with teas and the barbecue.

Contact Julie by text on 07929 794636
j.thompson@wvpschools.org

Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Our Sports and Social Club organise an annual meal for those of a certain age. It is usually held in early January. We have sometimes found it a little awkward to know who to invite! Is everyone looking younger nowadays?

This Senior Citizens' meal is free on the day, although we hold events during the year that fund the evening. The meal includes three courses (starter and main by professional caterer) as well as all the trimmings. If you would like an invitation for **January 2018**, and haven't been invited before, please do get in contact with me.

Bingo continues on the **last Friday of the month**. We now have three months of raising funds for the Debenham Girls Group. This group offers social activities

for older girls with extra needs, enabling their families to gain support. Later in the year Bingo session funds will be put towards the Senior Citizens' annual meal. If anyone has any local worthy causes they would like us to consider, please get in touch, come to the hall on a Bingo evening, or join us at the Social club which is open each **Tuesday and Friday**. Membership of the Social club is £3.50 per year with annual subscriptions being due now (July to July).

On **Saturday 2nd September** from 10am to midday, there will be Free Community Access **Defibrillator** training by Community Heartbeat. No previous knowledge or expertise needed. Tea and coffee available. See posters for further details.

Julie Thompson
07929 794636
k.thompson156@btinternet.com

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Rural Coffee Caravan

The Rural Coffee Caravan delivers information and friendship across Suffolk. Knowing what's going on in our own community isn't always easy.

Information is power - and the Rural Coffee Caravan befriends people and offers them access to the information they need to empower them. The caravan

provides coffee, tea & homemade cakes, along with all sorts of information about organisations and the services they offer you. The caravan will next be in **Wingfield** at Castle Crescent, 10am - 12pm on:

Tuesday 15th August and

Tuesday 19th September

For more information:

Telephone: 01379 855338
ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Borderhoppa Members Outings

Borderhoppa has lots going on for our members in 2017 including lunches out, visits to garden centres and places of interest. Membership is £6 for 6 months or £10 for 12 months, outings are individually priced. The outings are very popular, so early booking is advised. If you or someone you know would like to join us, please call on **01379 854800** or email adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com to confirm space availability.

August 2017

Thurs 3rd - Aldeburgh, £17

Mon 7th - Cherry Lane Garden Centre & Goodies Farm Shop, £7

Thurs 10th - Chip Inn, Long Stratton, £6

Mon 14th - Southwold, £15

Thurs 17th - Beccles, £10

Mon 21st - Wroxham Barns, £15

Thurs 24th - Black Horse, Thorndon, £7

Thurs 31st - Highways Garden Centre, £15

September 2017

Mon 4th - Sheringham - £20

Thurs 14th - Chip Inn, Long Stratton, £6

Mon 18th - Snape Maltings, £17

Thurs 28th - White Hart, Roydon, £7



Bus routes from Diss to Norwich and Framlingham

You may not be aware, but both these bus routes have stops in **Hoxne and Denham**. The Norwich route is service no. 40 running on Saturday only. The Framlingham route is service no. 482 running Monday to Friday. Both are operated by Simonds, telephone **01379 647300** or see www.suffolkonboard.com/buses

Day Excursions from Hoxne

Thursday 17th August

Sheringham, £16.50

Tuesday 29th August

Lowestoft, £11.50

These trips are operated by Fareline Bus & Coach Services, telephone **01379 668151** or **07850 940445**

The logo consists of 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 of a car's outline.

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Wingfield Barns

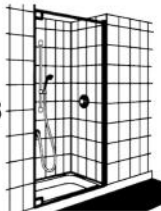
We have had a busy start to the summer here at the Barns with visits from Rough Cast Theatre Company and a last-minute dash inside for 'Twelfth Night' when the weather decided not to cooperate with an outdoor performance, and a really fantastic evening of music thanks to Reg Meuross with support from Jess Morgan. We also played host to a weekend of Christian Workshops over the Open Gardens weekend, and have welcomed a wide range of conferences bringing in delegates from all over the region. The site is at its most beautiful at this time of year, and we look forward to showing it off to many more visitors over the summer. Coming next...

International Mini Prints, Gallery 2.

One of the highlights of the year at Wingfield Barns is the International Mini Print exhibition. The exhibition, which

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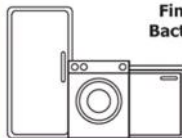
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has been running annually since 1995, is curated by Ian Chance who is currently course director for the MA Creative Entrepreneurship course at the University of East Anglia. The exhibition has been shown annually in L'Etang d'Art Gallery in Bages, 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 to 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. Recent exhibitions include Mandell's Gallery Norwich and the Harleston & Waveney Art Trail Collective. **22nd July to 6th August**, 11am-4 pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

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

Louise Chapman, Studio 4 Suffolk artist Louise Chapman will be exhibiting an eclectic mix of vibrant and bold abstracts and contemporary stylised portraiture from **Saturday 5th to Friday 18th August**, 11am-4pm, Tuesday to Sunday.



Imps Family Pop Up Play Café

Following the huge success of the last series of pop up cafés, Rachel will be back for a few more sessions over the summer -



Charlie Dore with Julian Littman

Wednesday 16th and 23rd August. For more info please call the box office.

Charlie Dore—Saturday 23rd September 7.30pm. An evening of eclectic, contemporary folk as Charlie Dore, one of the UK's most respected songwriters teams up with multi-instrumentalist Julian Littman of Steeleye Span. The pair, friends since they were 16, swap guitars, mandolin, harmonium, ukulele, piano, autoharp, harmonies and stories as they showcase the brand new album *Dark Matter*, dip into the past 5 albums and also share original acoustic versions of hits Charlie has written for others, including George Harrison. She may even do a new version of *Pilot of the Airwaves*, but the new songs will stay with you too. Tickets are £13 - on sale now via the box office.

Royal Photographic Society Nature Group, Open 11am-4pm in Gallery 2, **Saturday 30th September to Sunday 15th October**, Wednesday to Sunday. The exhibition displays all accepted print images from the 2017 Members' Exhibition of the RPS Nature Group. The displayed prints are from two categories, the first 'All Creatures' (birds, mammals, reptile, insects, marine life et al) and the second 'All Plant Life' (flora, fungi, lichens) and 'all other subjects' (including geological, microscopy, patterns, design and form).

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

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

Tai Chi in Hoxne

Generally, we think too much and move too little. But although almost any kind of movement is good for us, mindful movement such as tai chi is not the same as exercise.

An obsessive person can run obsessively; an angry person can punch a punchbag for hours yet neither will be changing the way they are. With tai chi, we become aware of how our habitual thought patterns and emotions are



restricting our flexibility, tension, health, and stamina. We train ourselves to engage our attention and intention mindfully throughout intricate movements. We learn to breathe with the diaphragm to switch off the high stress fight-or-flight response.

Adopting balanced movements requires us to change our emotional and mental habits. Tai chi performed by an angry or obsessive person is tight, clunky, and rigid. To make the form smooth, flowing, and soft, we learn how to change our internal state. In this way, mindful movement can gradually transform us into more balanced people. Tai chi smooths us out, takes off the edges. At the same time, our body softens, strengthens, flexes and starts to feel better.

Yes, tai chi is low impact but it is physically and psychologically challenging. Students ache during and after lessons, but they feel uplifted,

lighter, more joined up. Because tai chi is about each of us developing our own level of skill, it is suitable for a wide range of abilities. I have students with serious limitations on their health such as artificial knees, new hips, old hips, bad backs, bad necks, fibromyalgia, and autoimmune disorders. They thrive on our tai chi classes. I also have super fit individuals who are looking to optimize their health and well-being. Why not mindful movement a try?

Classes in **Hoxne Village Hall**, Thursdays
12.30 -2.00pm

Cindy Engel of WildHealth BodyWork
www.wildhealth.co.uk 07873114682

Hoxne Village Hall

The Produce and Craft Market will be held on **Saturday 26th August and 30th September** with stalls offering a range of products from 9:30 to 12:30.

The Garden Club is holding its annual Show on **Saturday 2nd September**; who will win the Rose Bowl this year?

Jitterbugs return for an evening of 40's and 50's music and dance on **Saturday 2nd September** from 8pm.

No film night in August, the next film is on **Friday 8th September**, check the website nearer the time for details.

We welcomed two new members to our committee recently - Anthony Kora and Sharon Knights. Sharon and her husband, Michael, will take on the role of Bookings Coordinator and will work with Jane to manage hirers' needs in future; further details next issue.

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

John Langley

Village Voice

Ride + Stride

The Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride

You will soon be seeing the posters and, if travelling in Norfolk, some banners, for the Ride + Stride on **Saturday 9th September**.

Ride+Stride is a sponsored bike ride or walk in which people all over England walk or cycle between churches, exploring and enjoying the countryside from Cornwall to Northumberland. The money they raise helps to save historic churches, chapels and meeting houses for future generations by helping to fund urgent repairs and the installation of modern facilities. It originally started in Suffolk and Suffolk has consistently headed the table of funds raised. The money raised is split, with 50% going to your nominated church and 50% to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

Most folk who choose to live in a village, whether they are born and bred villagers or new to village life, like to see their village church even if they are not regular 'church goers'. So do take this opportunity to help preserve these important buildings and at the same time enjoy cycling or walking along country roads between the churches.

Sponsor forms are available from your local organiser (see below) and if you are not able to walk or ride then please do generously sponsor someone who is. Or you could help by acting as a recorder. This involves sitting peacefully in the church or its grounds for a while and welcoming in the riders and filling in a couple of bits of paper. Most of the churches have a rota of folk so please do speak to your local organiser:

St Johns, Denham, Sue Roberts

07713 157351 scr@netcom.co.uk

St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne, Rhona Bertie

01379 871850 rhonabertie@gmail.com

St Margaret, Syleham, Mary Lewis

01379 669258 mary.lewis43@icloud.com

St Andrew, Wingfield, John McCracken

01379 384181 vj.mccracken@gmail.com

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



Sue Roberts
07713 157351
scr@netcom.co.uk

Stop Press from Rhona Bertie

If you'd like to be a recorder at Hoxne Church, I have hourly sessions available between 9am and 3pm. Please contact me as shown - I look forward to hearing from you!


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Sweet Briar Nursery

Small is Beautiful

Significant beginnings and ends are a time for reflection and re-assessment and this is happening in "bucketfuls" at Sweet briar Nursery. We have been running since 1989 and will close our doors, for the last time, at the end of July.

I am reminded of the saying at the end of the "A Team" TV show - "I love it when a good plan comes together. The "good plan" has included an ethos which has always put the children first and their subsequent preparation for transition to

school. The other part of the "good plan" has been the splendid staff who have worked here over the years. A huge thank you is due to all of you for your dedication and diligence.

Under 5's are a delight, challenging and, at times, difficult, but so very interesting. The enthusiasm with which they learn is astounding.

The second big "thank you" is to all our parents who, over the years, have trusted us to teach and care for their children. It has been a privilege.

Lastly, I am proud of what we have achieved here and left with many wonderful memories.

Sarah Buckley

Obituary

Michael John Davis

A Hoxne lad in France returned to his native village for burial at St. Peters and St. Pauls Church on 30th June. Michael Davis, affectionally known as "Mick" or "Tubby" was 71. Born in Eye, and initially brought up in Horham, he moved to Hoxne at an early age. Educated at Eye and Hoxne, his first job was at Pretty's Garage in Scole. A motorcycle enthusiast, he joined the air cadets in Diss.

Married to Jackie (they lived in London and Wickford, Essex), Michael was a welder, who worked for the Ford Motor Company at Dagenham in Essex, and for Vauxhall Motors at Ellesmere Port in Cheshire. They had two sons, Edmund and Andrew. Mick eventually returned to Hoxne to the "Willows" in Eye road where he had a variety of animals - cats, dogs, pigs, ferrets and goats. At this stage, he was working for Kelly's civil engineering. The marriage ended after

13 years and eventually Mike remarried to Janet, who tragically died in 1987. At this time, he was a driving instructor. 20 years ago, Michael moved to Pouzauges in France, where he lived with his partner Nanette. Semi-retired, he had an interest in property, wine, beer and particularly antiques.

The funeral service was conducted in front of a full church by the rector of Hoxne, the Reverend Michael Womack. Rev. Womack said that Mick "was a wonderful character, big hearted, very kind, unselfish, who would help anyone". A family man, he had a great sense of humour.

The organist was Tessa Bevan, a bible reading by Brian Chester and the poem "When we remember" by his granddaughter Violet Davies. The introductory music was "Hurt" by Johnny Cash and the closing music "Precious Lord, take my hand" by Elvis Presley. Michael's committal took place in the churchyard. Donations were for Hoxne Church. After the service refreshments were served at St. Edmunds Hall, Hoxne.

Clive Baxter

St Edmund's Primary School

We are very grateful to Hannah and Brian for their hard work during the half term holiday and the rejuvenation of our pond area. Pupils are now using it for guided reading, art and 'philosophy 4 children' sessions. It provides a calm area for study as well as being a haven for wildlife.



The green area is also the setting for KS2's summer production of 'Mystery of Magpie Manor'. The children of Rowan and Beech Class put on a great performance, entertaining everyone with their razzamatazz. Hoxne School Association kindly organised refreshments, making it a quintessential summer evening, enjoyed by all.

Lorraine Hart



St Edmund's Mystery of Magpie Manor

"Unsung Hero" Hannah at Trinity Park

Paul Page Retirement

One of Hoxne's most loved and respected "blokes" Paul Page has retired. A presentation was made to Paul at Stowupland on May 12th (his 65th birthday) to mark 40 years' service with Mid-Suffolk District Council.

Paul, a lifelong resident of the village, lives in Green Street and in his teens played for the Hoxne Youth Club Football Team. He's now looking to spend more time enjoying his pastimes of shooting, fishing and walking his dog.

Clive Baxter

Unsung Hero Awarded

Hannah Mayhew has won "Unsung Hero of the Year" at Suffolk County Council's Raising the Bar Awards. Having been shortlisted as a finalist, she attended the awards evening at Trinity Park, Ipswich, where she gained top prize.

Hannah was recognised for her fund raising for St Edmund's Primary School throughout the past year. A new library, books and pond area have been provided as a result of her tireless enthusiasm and work with the Hoxne School Association.



What's On There

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Thornham Magna, Eye, Suffolk IP23 8HA

Walled Garden Events

Sunday 6th August

Mad Hatters Tea Party (£3.00)
12.30 - 3.00

www.beyondthewall.org.uk
01379 788700

HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY

We're on holiday until the start of the Autumn Term on **Monday 11th September** (7.00 pm start for collection of subscriptions), in St John's Church. Do come and join us - we'll be singing Bach's Christmas Oratorio (Parts I, II, III and VI), in preparation for our Christmas Concert, with professional soloists and orchestra, on **Saturday 9th December**. Further information from Jo Curry tel.: **01986 875494** email: jo.curry@sky.com See the 'About Us' section on our website for more information about what we do and how to join the choir: www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk

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FLIGHT OF A THOUSAND CRANES

A "must see" summer sight

A flight of 1,000 paper origami cranes has landed in a wonderful art installation to be on display all **summer**, fluttering from the rafters of Harleston's St John's Church. The work fulfils the 2017 New Year Resolution made on behalf of the communities of Harleston and district. It is a precursor to the United Nations' 21st September International Day of Peace, and has been put together for Harleston and District under the auspices of the Rotary Club and Harleston's Future.

The paper cranes carry messages, thoughts and drawings on the theme of "peace" contributed by schoolchildren from Alburgh with Denton, Harleston, and Pulham Primary Schools; by students at Archbishop Sancroft High School; and by individuals, members and officers from our many senior institutions and groups.

Visitors to the exhibition will be encouraged to add their own peace messages and observations. Tokens from the installation and its messages will be sent out further into the world when it is taken down - with a proposed first stop in New York at the Peace Bell gifted by Japan to the UN in 1954. Watch this space!

The display is a wonderful sight and continues **until 15th September**.

St John's Church is open most weekdays until 4.00pm.

Phone the Churchwarden on **01379 851148** to confirm.

For further information contact:

Lesley Rock 01379 854897

Pat Webb 01379 676289

Ian Carstairs 01379 853413

The Great Get-together

We were forty Syleham folk to come together on Sunday 18th June to commemorate and honour the life and work of the MP Jo Cox, who was brutally murdered a year ago. It was a happy community occasion, bringing together people of different views and outlooks in the way that Brendan Cox wanted his wife to be remembered.

The pizza oven was fired up, as was the BBQ, and as the wine and conversation flowed we finally arrived at the desert - two delicious chocolate tarts! Some of the younger participants



enjoyed dinghies on the pond and even helped one of the older participants to have the best swing for years! Let's hope that the sacrifice of Jo can encourage people to work harder to come together and be less divided.

Jane and Adrian



Waveney Valley Food Bank

The Waveney Valley Food Bank is in urgent need of certain foodstuffs to meet a rising demand. The Church of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne is a collecting point for the bank with a box placed alongside the font.

Top of the needs list are: coffee, sugar, cooking sauces, tinned rice, tinned fruit, tinned puddings, dried UHT milk and powdered milk. The church is open everyday from 9am until at least 7pm with plenty of room to park.

A recent national survey has shown that many food-bank users are still forced to skip meals because they cannot afford the basic provisions.

Gentlemen - Are You Retired Or Semi-Retired?

DISS WAVENEY PROBUS CLUB aims to provide its members with new opportunities for friendship and fellowship with their contemporaries.

If you come from a background of management, business or the Professions, we invite you to join us at The Park Hotel Diss at our monthly lunch meetings.

Diss Waveney Probus Club covers the surrounding villages to Diss.

For further information, please call or email Alan Batley (Chairman) for a chat about our club and its activities on: **01379 668472** or **alan.batley3@btinternet.com**



Catholic Parish of
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Church of St Henry Morse
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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The Maynard Trust

Can the trust help you?

Many of you may not know about this long established charity. The Maynard Trust (previously The Foundation of Charles, Lord Maynard) is a registered charity whose main objective is to provide grants for educational and training purposes to individual residents of Hoxne Parish. The Trust also provides an annual grant, 'The Maynard Award' to St Edmund's Primary School which is used for purposes decided by the school board of governors.

All parishioners are welcome to apply and the trustees would be delighted to hear from any applicant. The trustees meet four times a year and the awards are made at their discretion.

In order to ensure that the trust has a sufficiency of resources, we are always grateful to receive any donations or bequests.

Please make your application to:
secretarymaynardtrusthoxne@hotmail.co.uk
The Maynard Trust, c/o Little Park House,
Church Hill, Hoxne, Eye IP21 5AT
We look forward to hearing from you.

Hoxne Parish Plan Review Group

A status review of the action points from the 2010 plan has been completed. We will be holding new opinion gathering meetings in early October and these will be confirmed with full details next issue.

To receive the 2010 status review and early notification of the new meetings or if you merely wish to be kept informed of our progress, you can e-mail:

hoxne-parish-plan@outlook.com
Stephen Nixon (meeting chairman)
01379 668785

Hoxne Village Fete

On behalf of the Hoxne Parochial Church Council we would like to thank all who worked so hard and gave of so much to make this year's fete such a success. Unlike last year, the weather was very kind and we managed to raise more funds which is testament to the effort of those who volunteered so willingly and cheerfully and to those who came and participated so generously.

The village fete is a key cornerstone in traditional village life and a fun afternoon for young and old alike. We look forward to an even more successful event next year when we plan to add more attractions and hope to attract even more people from our amazing community.

We are unbelievably lucky to enjoy such a happy, thriving and tranquil village, with so many warm, friendly and kind people. Keeping our community so special takes engagement and effort and so many people in our community do so much to bring and keep us together.

To help keep the heart of Hoxne beating, do please come and enjoy our village events. The village is beautiful for sure, but it is our people and community that make it magic.

Anthony Benton



Witches beware! The Heritage Group is on the case!

We are hosting a public meeting on Halloween **Tuesday 31st October** in St. Edmund's Hall, Hoxne on 'The 1645 Witch Trials of Bury St Edmunds'. This is one not to be missed, so come along to hear the gory details. Admission will be £5 on the night, but £4 in advance. Look out for posters in mid September for details.

We are continuing to pursue various projects behind the scenes. A small group had a very interesting tour of The Gardens, which was originally part of the Oakley Park estate, providing fruit and vegetables for the big house. Structures in the grounds are also related to past recreational activities.

Finally, our meetings are held on the **first Tuesday** of each month in The Swan. **Margaret Sillis**, www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxne Village Fete at Abbey Farm

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Denham and Hoxne

Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**

Next stops: **3rd August, 31st August and 28th September**

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 stops: **11th August and 8th September**

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

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

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Reflections

Once Upon A Time

One of our children is writing a memoir of his trip from Alaska to Patagonia. How it begins is crucially important; it sets the tone, the tenor of what will follow. Also, it is an opening gambit, a bid to entice the reader to stay in the author's company and see what will unfold. All this must be addressed in the opening lines of a book.

No wonder that the beginning is often written last! But the great openings stay with us and colour our every memory of what followed. The melancholy of, "I had a farm in Africa at the foot of the Ngong Hills." seals the whole of *Out Of Africa* as a sad memory (I had) and as a book in which the tininess of the European in Africa (a farm) is mounted on piquant details (at the foot of the Ngong Hills). Or what of *Moby Dick*, "Call me Ahab" - is this whole book a fisherman's yarn which shouldn't be taken at face value? You can call me Ahab - but is that my real name?

This then got me thinking about how the stories of Jesus, the gospels begin. We find four very different openings as each author sets out their stall, surprisingly only one, Mark, actually tells us that they are writing about the gospel.

John offers us an epic struggle. He starts right at the beginning; "In the beginning was the Word..." Not only does John, like Genesis, start at the beginning but he introduces an ambitious concept 'the Word'; by comparison the opening of Genesis is genteel, "In the beginning God created..." It could even be argued that John's gospel starts even earlier than the beginning with the thunderous pronouncement, "the Word was God..." As we read John we become absorbed in an epic struggle; it is John who talks of light and dark, of knowing and not knowing,

enormous themes indeed. In his opening remarks, John prepares us to have our brains stretched and our assumptions challenged.

In contrast Luke's opening is meticulous and thorough. He intends the reader to appreciate that his work is a thorough undertaking. Whereas John later admits that there aren't enough books in the world to record everything that Jesus did, Luke sets out to write the definitive account. It is as if, two thousand years later, Luke is writing, "Don't read the Da Vinci Code, or the Gospel of Judas; this is all you need to read to know what happened." If John is ready to engage philosophically, Luke sets out with historical rigour. After his opening remarks, this historic rigour leads Luke, to start with an account about the birth of John the Baptist. Like John, Luke references his account to the beginning, though in his case of human history as he provides a genealogy of Jesus back to Adam.

The other gospel author who provides a genealogy is Mathew. Another interesting point about Mathew's opening is that he actually mentions Jesus in his opening verse. Can you judge a book by its cover? How far will we go in our journey to encounter the divine?

Michael Womack

01379-388889

hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

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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 6th August

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 13th August

11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Sunday 20th August

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

11.15am Hoxne Community Service

Sunday 27th August

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne Family Service

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

Sunday 3rd September

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 10th September

11.15am Hoxne Harvest Festival

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Sunday 17th September

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

11.15am Hoxne No service - Village Harvest Breakfast (see page 6)

Sunday 24th September

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne Family Service

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield Harvest Festival

Sunday 1st October

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

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Church News

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Sunshine and balmy breezes made for high spirits at Hoxne's Village Fete and increased the funds raised for the day-to-day running of the Parish Church to a new record total of £3019. The fete, held at the invitation of Wilf White in the grounds of Abbey Farm, proved an attraction to those from Hoxne and visitors from neighbouring villages. Cake and plant stalls, china smashing, games, teas, hot dogs and a bar - plus the music of a fairground organ - provided entertainment throughout the afternoon. The Hoxne Rector, the Revd Michael Womack, praised all who had contributed to preparing for the event and making it happen on the day. "It was an afternoon of much enjoyment," he said. "And the funds raised are a vital part of the income the church needs to pay its way. We are very grateful to everyone who helped in any way and all those who enjoyed the fun of the fete."

The Revd Eleanor Goodison was licensed as an associate priest in the Hoxne Benefice by the Archdeacon of Suffolk the Ven Ian Morgan at a service at St Peter and St Paul on 12th July. The service was attended by members of congregations from the seven churches in the benefice and friends from the South Hartismere Deanery where Eleanor served as an assistant curate. She will be fulfilling a role for the diocese as well as working alongside the Revd Michael. **Don't miss** the annual Lammas service at St Peter and St Paul on **Wednesday 2nd August** run in conjunction with the farming charity the Addington Fund. The service celebrates the first loaf made from the first grain of the new harvest with symbols of the elements needed for grain to grow being offered and blessed.

The service is followed by a hog roast with all donations going to the Fund.

Many of us contributed to the Kagera Challenge run by the diocese during Lent to raise funds to help the Tazanian province which has been hit by drought and famine. The diocesan total reached no less than £50,000 - an impressive result.

The call is going out to bikers to sign up for the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Bike Ride on **Saturday 9th September**. Please see more details on page 13 of this Village Voice. The following day - **Sunday 10th September** - is St Peter and St Paul's Harvest Festival - earlier this year and more in keeping with the pattern of modern farming. The Harvest Lunch, organised by the Friends of the Church, is planned for **Sunday 15th October**.

Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mother's Union meets on the third Monday of the month at 2.15pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne. New members are always welcome.

Monday 21st August - Branch meeting.

Monday 18th September - Branch meeting.

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

Flower Rota

6th and 13th August - Suzanne Lewis.

20th and 27th August -- Jenny Looome.

3rd September - Cathie McGregor.

10th and 17th September - Harvest Festival rota.

24th September & 1st October - Sue Thornett.

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 organiser **01379 668434**.

St John, Denham

The monthly Family Services are on the **Sunday 27th August and 24th September** at 11.15am with refreshments and fellowship from 10.45am. The Benefice Communion Services will be, as usual, on the second Tuesday of each month, **8th August and 12th September** at 7.30pm and continue to be held in the Church.

A Ceilidh in a Real Suffolk Barn is organised for **Saturday 23rd September** in the barn at Park Farm IP21 5BS from 7.30pm to 11pm. Join us to dance the night away to the music of Ron Ross and the Hoxne Hundred Ceilidh Band. Tickets £10 (accompanied children under 12 free) includes a BBQ. Drinks will be available on the night. Admission by pre-booked tickets only available from Helen on **07894 562172**.

St Margaret, Syleham

A wedding and another baptism! Just what we love to have and both were really lovely occasions. Mike Oliffe and Lisa Pellat were married on 10th June and Elliot Goodwin was baptized on 18th June.

An AMICI concert on Sunday 11th June, dedicated to the memory of John "J" Leader, was delightful, with a wide range of beautifully performed songs in the church and a relaxed, Prosecco interval in the sunshine. The event raised £631 for church funds and our thanks to all who attended and, especially, to Adrian and choir. It was also an ideal celebration of the new gates and railings to the churchyard, funded by donations given at the Thanksgiving Service for J's life held a year ago. They were made to our design by local company Easitron and the improved approach to the church has



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been universally praised. Several volunteers helped lay a fresh surface and we are very grateful to them all.

A cheese & wine evening generously hosted at the Old Vicarage by Colin & Jackie Campbell on Friday 30th June managed to hit the only wet and chilly evening in weeks, but that didn't dampen spirits! Thanks to everyone who supported the event, which raised £570 for the church's fabric fund.

A family fun day with lunch-time BBQ will be held on **Saturday 26th August**, at Syleham Hall by kind invitation of Roy and Rosemary Goodwin. Details still to be decided, but we expect games, races and plenty of fun activities. Free entry with pay-as-you-eat BBQ. Donations and raffle prizes welcome. Please contact us nearer the time for details.

Ride & Stride - St Margaret's will again be open for visiting cyclists on **Saturday 9th September** (see page 13) and will this year be able to offer the facility of a toilet!

Messy Church, open to all families in the benefice, continues on the first Sunday of each month(4pm at the Village Hall) with sessions planned for **6th August and 3rd September**.

One of our children's bags, a rucksack with books, crayons, and toys, has disappeared from the church. This will be a big disappointment to the children who look forward to using them during services, so if anyone can help us get it back we would be really grateful

Contact

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

St Andrew, Wingfield

A huge thank-you to everyone who helped with the Open Gardens in June, and made the event such a great success. Our Harvest celebrations will take place in September. The ever-popular Harvest Supper will be held at 6.30pm on **Saturday 9th September**. For further details and tickets please contact Sharon Alldis on **01379 384854**. Our Harvest Festival Service will be at 6.30pm on **Sunday 24th September**

We are sorry that we are currently having to restrict access to the choir stalls and sanctuary in the church. This is because a decorative wooden panel dating from the Victorian period fell from the chancel wall damaging one of the choir stalls.

The task of replacing the panel and checking the other ones is complicated by the great height of the wall and the restricted space in the choir. This is taking longer to resolve than we would wish and we are working with the church architect to find a solution as soon as possible. Meanwhile we are enjoying using the Lady Chapel for worship.

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Thrashing Day

Thrashing day came around again at Corner Farm, Hoxne on Easter Saturday with kind permission from John Havers. We would normally thrash out the harvest of long straw wheat in the early autumn, but due to me falling off a roof and breaking my back last September, the day had to be postponed until I had recovered, which I now am and due back on a roof in a few weeks.

We started the day running the 1948 Ransomes Thrashing Drum and 1950s Claas Buncher with Edgar Collyer's Field Marshall tractor driven over from St Margarets with his "Living Van". He has owned the tractor from new and has used it to run his own thrashing drum as a contractor all its working life.

picture by Gareth Underwood



Jonathan Wheeler arrived from South Lopham with a low loader carrying a 1960's Fordson Major tractor with a 1906 Clayton & Shuttlesworth Portable Steam Engine. All was pulled by a modern JCB



tractor, the sight of this represented over 100 years of farming technology in one load. A skilful bit of manoeuvring by the Wheeler's crew got the portable steam engine lined up to run the drum for the rest of the day. Traditionally these portable engines were pulled in by horses, no mean feat, in quite often a muddy stack yard. This Clayton & Shuttlesworth portable engine had spent its life working in a saw mill in Malaysia. With off-cuts of wood to fuel the fire box, it was in a sense a form of perpetual motion! Three years ago it was sent over to Jonathan Wheeler to be completely rebuilt. They finished putting it back together and got it in steam for the first time in 60 years at 8pm on the Friday evening. Having kept her in steam all night they loaded it onto the low loader at 7am Saturday morning

picture by Barry Freeman

picture by Gareth Underwood

Village Voice



and set off for a full days working trial under load, this being the only time it will be seen working in the UK and now will be shipped back to Malaysia to be worked once again in the same woodyard. Jonathan was delighted with its performance and only a few minor problems needed to be sorted out.

People have tried to modernise producing thatching straw over the years, but the best method by far is still to use the traditional method of binder cut wheat and drum thrashed straw. The wheat is cut in the field with a binder when it still has some green in the knuckles on the plant stem. It is then shocked up (stooked) in the field and left to ripen for about a week. It is then carted and traditionally put in a corn stack. They say the straw matures in the stack and should not be thrashed out for at least a month, I think this is due to the moisture evening out. Care is taken when the sheaves are fed into the drum, these being placed in a particular way and the fact that the

wheat is cut in the field slightly green means the stems retain their strength and remain mainly whole through this process. The chaff is also separated which again was traditionally used in horse feed. No one seems to want this these days and how

Aug/Sep 2017



ironic that to me the grain is now the by product and not worth nearly as much as the straw just when the Diss Corn Trading Hall has reopened after its refurbishment.

The day went better than expected and over 100 people came to look, many of whom sat with a drink watching a piece of history working in front of them. The drum hummed and the dust hung! Lovely food was supplied for the fantastic working volunteers by Popsie and Winky.

You can see a film of the day on YouTube curtesy of *Natural Spa Supplies Ltd* at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-LCJYHA1nI

Graham Borrill

pictures by Barry Freeman



Wingfield & District Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be "Water Gardens" on **Thursday 28th September** at Brundish Village Hall, 7.30 start. For further information, *Email: priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com*

Hoxon Hundred's Summer Dancing

A strange thing, the morris. Much ridiculed, a throwback to a land of lords and peasants, eccentrics of all ages and gender dressed weirdly, playing with sticks and hankies. Suddenly, on a summers evening it all makes sense. People having fun and others having fun watching those having fun. The same has been happening for centuries. It's in our culture.

The summer season has been good for the dance. Just one event at Horham where we were almost rained off. The martial arts performers got the full brunt of the storm. Those martial types are a tough lot. Hoxon are still dancing through their summer programme, a mix of **Wednesday** pub evenings, dance events with other sides, local fetes and the like where we present traditional Cotswold and Northwest style dancing in return for our hosts presenting their appreciation in kind. Tempted to come and watch, maybe try a dance? Further details, including weekend events, can be found on our website: hoxonhundred.co.uk
Chris, 01379 678169

The Cock Inn, Diss, always welcomes the dancers



Fressingfield Scouts

We are having a busy Summer. The Beavers have had a Harry Potter themed Magical Sleepover in Mendham School; the Adventurer Scouts have been Climbing; the Pioneer Scouts have been Canoeing and also visited Stradbroke Fire Station where they saw how the Fire brigade cut open cars and got to try out the hoses (most of them got soaked!); the Explorers have been Scuba Diving and will be going Gliding. All this has been going on together with normal badge work and Scout activity.

At the time of writing we are preparing for our Group Open evening which will be at the Fressingfield site where we will be building our new headquarters. Also coming up is the week long annual senior sections (Scouts and Explorers) Summer Camp at the Quarries Campsite near Milton Keynes.

We are making some progress with the building project, you will soon be seeing adverts for various fund raising activities and we are starting to make grant applications.

Michael Knights

Beavers making "potions" at the Magical Sleepover



Hoxne Garden & Social Club

One of our regular features over the years, has been the monthly ramble. Last year they ceased due to a dramatic fall in numbers following a change of format to a non pub based start and finish, after the proportion of walkers taking lunch dwindled. However, some members expressed disappointment over this and Roger Knight kindly offered to organise a June ramble (report follows).

Like the monthly talks, the ramble are also open to non Club members on payment of £2 as opposed to a members fee of £1. If you think you may want to join the Club, this is a good way to get to know existing members and help you make up your mind (one way or another!).

Our annual outing was due to take place on the 15th June, but had to be cancelled due to lack of sufficient numbers to make the visit viable. We looked at different travel arrangements to cut the cost, but still did not get the numbers to make the visit viable for the host. We will have to look carefully at any plans for an outing next year, but it may be that for whatever reason this year's venue was just not attractive to members.

By the time you read this, our Annual Flower & Produce Show will be just weeks away on **Saturday 2nd September** and remember, you don't have to be a Club member to enter the Show, providing you live in the parishes of Hoxne and Denham. It is additionally open to the children and families of those attending St Edmunds Primary School and pre-Schools. For show information in general, contact either Sue Flagg **01379 668258** or Cath Lawrie **01379 668204**.

Our next talk is 'Weird and Wonderful Plants' by Barry Gayton on **Thursday 21st September** at 7.30.

Gordon Lacey, Chairman, 01379 668565



Ramble Report - Wortwell

On a warm and sultry Thursday morning in June, fourteen intrepid ramblers left Wortwell, - so reviving the famous club rambles. They headed south-west, traversing the ridge above the Waveney Valley and skirting the imposing Redenhall Church. Not even the approaching storm clouds could spoil the view across the valley which was reached in time to take shelter from the short deluge.

After shaking off Hats, coats and even the odd broly, they crossed the valley by the Mendham Bridge, surely one of the iconic landmarks of this beautiful valley. In clear air and sunshine, they followed the river through cattle-grazed water meadows, and back toward Wortwell, crossing the river once more by the mill and sluices near Wortwell Hall. Finally, they passed through the tranquil, fishermen's caravan park and on to the Wortwell Bell.

Five more members, unable to make the walk, joined them for a well earned meal and convivial company in the pub. Due to this successful day another walk is planned for October. Details will be in the club's newsletters and, hopefully, in the Oct/Nov edition of Village Voice.

Roger Knight

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In the Kitchen

As I type, Andy Murray and Johanna Konta will be preparing for their matches on Monday. Wimbledon conjures up images of players in pristine white, and of course, those immaculately cut grass courts (made of rye grass which has the ability to withstand wear and tear). I also think of strawberries and cream, which many of us surely do. Did you know that on average 10,000 litres of cream and 28,000 kg of strawberries are eaten at the tournament every year?

It seemed fitting then to include a special treat of a creamy berry dessert in this issue of the Village Voice and also one for tomatoes, which should be at their best just now.

Anna's Tomato Tart

This can be served as a starter or as a main course with accompanying salads.

Ingredients

- 1 sheet of ready rolled puff pastry brought to room temperature
- 4 - 6 tbsp. of pesto (see recipe below)
- 2 garlic cloves, finely grated
- 6 large tomatoes, finely sliced (or whatever you have)
- Grated or sliced cheese (I used a combination of grated cheddar and sliced Somerset brie)

Method

1. Unroll the puff pastry and lay on a sheet of baking parchment on a baking sheet.
2. With a knife, score a line on the pastry about ½ inch or 1 cm from the edges. Be careful not to cut all the way through.
3. Spread a thin layer of pesto over the pastry sheet and cover with the grated and sliced cheese right up to the line.

4. Sprinkle over the crushed garlic.
5. Thinly slice the tomatoes and overlap in rows on the pastry sheet on top of the cheese
6. Season with salt and pepper
7. Drizzle with a little olive oil
8. Bake in a pre-heated oven gas mark 5 / 375F / 190C or AGA roasting oven shelf 3, until the pastry is golden and the tomatoes are roasted.

Pesto

This homemade pesto will keep for a week in the fridge and a block of parmesan approximately 3 months

Ingredients

- 30g of basil leaves and stalks
- 1 large clove of garlic
- 1 level tbsp. of pine nuts
- 25g of parmesan cut into small cubes
- 6 tbsp. of olive oil
- A little salt and pepper

Method

Place the ingredients in a processor. Blitz until you have smooth puree. Try mixing pesto with fresh pasta with an extra grating of parmesan on the top.

Fresh Berry and Meringue Cream Semifreddo

Ingredients

- 450g of fresh strawberries and raspberries or a mixture of any seasonal berries
- 600 ml double cream (it is a treat!)
- 4 tbsp. of caster sugar
- 1 tsp. of vanilla extract (optional)
- 75g of shop bought meringues, crumbled (or make your own)

Anna's Tomato Tart

Pesto

Fresh Berry and Meringue Cream Semifreddo

Method

1. Line a 2lb loaf tin with cling film ensuring the inside is completely covered and leaving enough film hanging as an overlap to cover
2. Put the berries into a bowl, cutting any larger ones.
3. Sprinkle over 2 tbsp. of caster sugar and let stand to macerate for about 15 minutes.
4. Whisk the cream and vanilla extract (if using) and the remaining 2 tbsp. sugar until the cream forms soft peaks.
5. Gently squash the fruits with a fork and fold with the meringue into the cream until incorporated.
6. Spoon into the lined loaf tin and give it a little shake to remove any air bubbles.
7. Cover with the overhanging cling film and freeze for about 3 hours or until frozen.
8. Remove about 20 minutes before serving, pile on extra berries, slice and serve (serves 8).

Enjoy.

Gill O'Connor



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Hoxne Phoenix Group

As has become customary, our May meeting was an outing - this time to Sandringham. Although it was a dull day we had a good run up and were soon off to visit the Church, Museum and then on to the House. It was quite a surprise to find that, in one room, we were standing 'arms length' from the armchair where the Queen generally has her morning coffee and then in the evening watches television! If it hadn't been roped off we could have touched it! The house is not as large as one would expect and the exhibition of cars was quite a surprise.

In June we had a wonderful flower arranging demonstration by Melissa Sheldrake, a National Demonstrator, just three days before she was off to the flower arrangers World Championships in Barbados. She often tries to use natural materials found in walks etc., especially after a frosty morning. She made a number of arrangements which she kindly offered to the group to be raffled.

A very successful strawberry tea enjoyed by about 40 people was held at the end of June at Cedar Lodge, courtesy of Nigel and Viv Bradford. Despite one very brief shower it was a good afternoon and raised the sum of £180 for Phoenix funds.

Our next outing is Holt via Sheringham on **Friday 15th September**. The coach will leave Hoxne P.O at 9 am and take us to Sheringham. There we will have a short time for coffee before the steam train will take us to Holt (we should have a carriage reserved). At Holt station we will be transported into town by coach where we have 2-3 hours for lunch and a wander round the fascinating shops. We will leave about 4 pm for the return trip to Hoxne. The cost of is £22.00 which includes coach and train fare and there will probably be room for non-members. If you are interested either telephone Viv Bradford **01379 668551** or Pat Green.

If you are interested in coming along to any of our meetings on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, you will be very welcome. All we ask is for a visitor fee of £2.00 to include coffee or tea and biscuits. If you would like to know any more about the group, contact either Viv Bradford or **Pat Green, Secretary, 01379 668379**
patandbryan1@gmail.com

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Progress has been made towards the provision of the kitchen in the Church, plans have gone out for tender and hopefully by the time you read this we will have some quotations and can proceed. The toilet facility has gone out for planning approval and we look forward to seeing progress on this.

Our Curry Lunch was well supported and we are looking forward to our next event which is the annual Harvest Lunch on **Sunday 22nd October**. Tickets are restricted to 60 so please get yours as soon as possible, the cost will be £10 and £6 for children over 5. This covers the two-course lunch and a drink with lunch.

Future ideas are for an Afternoon Tea in September and a quiz in the New Year. Also, our trip in **May 2018** to Lichfield, Coventry and the National Arboretum is definitely on, if interested please let John Brawn know ASAP, as again numbers are limited. Further details will be out in September and the cost will be the same as this year at £185 per person.

Just a reminder, Coffee Mornings are held in the church on the **third Saturday** on the month, 9.45 to 11.15 am. If you would like to become a "Friend" and help preserve the fabric of the church etc., contact Maureen Johnson **01379 668478**. Membership is only £12.50 for the year.

John Brawn (Chairman), 01379 668352

In The Garden

August and September are the traditional holiday months. Whether or not you have a friendly neighbour who is happy to pop in and water your plants, there are a few things you can do to make life easier for them and your plants. First off give everything a really good soak so you wet the soil deep down. Watering is always best done in the early morning or evening as water and sunlight can lead to scorched foliage. Also, if you have a number of plants in pots, bringing them together in one place not only makes watering easier, but if you move them to a shady place they are less likely to dry out too.

Try to make time for deadheading and weeding before you go, you're less likely to come back to a jungle and your plants will be putting on a show for you when you return. I would also recommend you pick all your courgettes and beans, no matter how small they are before you leave, as this will promote further cropping when you return.

Going abroad? Don't forget you can bring back plants and seeds from the EU as long as they were grown there, but for countries outside the EU, you may need to obtain a phytosanitary certificate (plant passport) so best to check with DEFRA first. If in any doubt, "don't".

Do it now?

Dead heading and trimming back summer flowering heathers can be done now. You can use shears on larger plants, but try not to cut into the old wood. You can also give a final trim to your *Lonicera nitida* hedges in late September.

Early summer flowers like foxgloves, poppy, campion and cowslips are all setting seeds now, so you can collect any seed and store them in a paper envelope in a cool dry place, just don't forget to label them so you know what the seed is later!

General Maintenance

If you have a wildflower area or meadow, early autumn is normally the time to cut the hay. Leave the cut hay on the ground for a few days, "fluff" the hay by shaking the stalks with a fork to help dislodge the flower seeds back onto the soil. When the hay is dry, you can collect it up and compost it or burn it. If it doesn't contain any toxic plants (such as ragwort, field poppy or bracken), feed it to any livestock you have that might enjoy some gourmet meadow hay for their dinner.

Blackcurrants, depending on the variety, can be harvested and pruned all at the same time. So, stems that still have fruit on them can be cut back to the point



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In the veg garden

Outside, you can still sow crops of salad leaves, small early carrots and some fast-growing peas.

Start to harvest early varieties of garlic and onions once the leaves start to yellow. Don't bend the tops over as this can encourage rotting at the top of the bulb and they won't store well. Dry them outside if warm and sunny or protect with a cloche or put in the greenhouse to fully dry out before storing.

Keep picking courgettes when they are about 15cm long or you will end up with marrows! Peas and beans will need picking at least twice a week to get the best yields. Try to pick your tomatoes with the stalk attached and store them at room temperature for the best flavour.

Now's the time to watch for late blight on tomatoes and potatoes, so watch for the tell tail signs of a rapidly spreading, watery rot of leaves which soon collapse, shrivel and turn brown. Brown lesions may also develop on the stems.

Picking off leaves or leaflets when just a few are affected may slow down the progress of the disease very slightly, but will not eradicate the problem. So if the infection levels reach about 25 percent of leaves affected or marks appear on stems, cut off the foliage (haulm) on potatoes, then after about two weeks the tubers can be dug up. Sadly, blighted potatoes or tomatoes don't keep very well, so cook or eat tomatoes as soon as you can and check potatoes regularly and remove any rotting ones from store.

Infected material should ideally be burned, rather than composted, but if you can't, bury deeply (more than 45cm deep) or consign foliage to the green waste collection bin. Sadly there is no chemical control for amateur gardeners against blight.

Claire Horne
BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert

where new shoots are starting to form, then taken into the kitchen to pluck the fruit. But on young plants or those you have already picked, just aim to remove about one in three of the older stems. You can also prune out the canes of summer fruiting raspberries that fruited this year. Cut these to about an inch from the ground and tie in the new young shoot as these will be your fruiting canes next summer. You can do the same with blackberry canes too.

5 Minute Jobs

Prune back herbs that are flowering. If you let them go to seed you won't get new tasty leafy growth for cooking, and annual herbs will give up completely.

Watch out for flea beetles on rocket and salad leaves which can pock the leaves with small holes or leave craters like a Lunar landscape on the leaf surface. Covering your beds with a very fine mesh can help protect the germinating seedlings and young plants from attack.

Keep liquid feeding your pots, baskets and window boxes or add some slow release feed granules. If they keep drying out, move them to a shadier spot.

Check for suckers on roses and other budded or grafted plants. Pull them off instead of cutting them (you may need to dig down below the soil to find their point of origin) and this will reduce the chance of them recurring.



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The New Reeding Woods Group

Are you a Dendrophile a Nemophilist, an Orchidologist an Ornithologist or a tree hugger, or does your interest in Pound Lane Wood depend on its peace and quiet or the fact that it is a safe place for children and dogs to run free? If you are interested in supporting this local amenity then The New Reeding Woods Group needs you!

When the New Reedings Wood group was set up in 2003 there was a hope of a series of woodlands across the three villages of Denham Horham and Athelington, hence the "s" on the woods in the name. However, land was difficult to come by and over the years the cost per acre has spiraled at the same time as grants for land purchase have become more limited. In 2005 the group were able to buy the hectare of land that is now established as Pound Lane Wood. In those distant days, the group were enthused to collect seeds from local trees including veteran trees and nurture them. By the time that the land purchase was completed there were plans for erecting fencing, digging a pond, seeding the wildflower meadow and planting the tree seedlings. Finally, the wood was planted and twelve years later is now a well-used local amenity.

However, the Steering Group that planned and planted this woodland has matured at a similar rate to the trees and though few of them have grown taller their joints have stiffened much as the branches have, and now they are looking for younger blood to carry this project on into the future. Regular working parties to encourage new volunteers are planned, with advice and instruction on hand. In future years as well as the regular maintenance of fences, making hay from the meadow, cutting the rides, and keeping the pond clear, there will be a

need to do some formative pruning of the trees. As the trees grow we will have the opportunity to set up bird and bat boxes, and do more in depth surveys of the wildlife using the wood, so this peaceful leisure area may become a useful wildlife resource.

Our working parties will encourage everyone regardless of age to help keep this woodland flourishing and in good shape into the future. Look out for details of these events which will be displayed on the notice board at the wood and join us to keep this project going!

The Annual General Meeting was held at the woodland on the 1st July. The chairman reported that this year has been excellent for tree, wildflower and grass development, but the time was fast approaching when tree thinning and formative pruning will be needed as well as the usual maintenance tasks. He emphasised the need for succession planning as this is a long-term project. The pond now supports large numbers of newts and two different varieties of orchid have been found in the rides, the butterfly, insects and bird visitors are regularly observed.

The New Reeding Woods Group meets three or four times a year to arrange woodland management and working party events and new members are always welcome. For more details contact Mike Reeves on **01379 668179**.

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AFC Hoxne



At the time of writing, the fixtures for the 2017/2018 season are not available, but from next issue we'll start including them. The first team will now be playing a total of 15 teams in their new Suffolk & Ipswich League, Senior Division. The teams are as follows:

Achilles - They beat us in the "Coleman" Cup 2014/15; **Benhall St Mary** - Who we were promoted with; **Bramford United** - Previously played them in Division 2; **Capel Plough** - Beat them in the Mick McNeil Cup 2001/2; **Coplestonians** - The most sporting club from Ipswich; **Crane Sports** - Never played them before; **East Bergholt United** - Previously played our reserves; **Felixstowe Harpers United** - Previously played our reserves; **Grundisburgh** - Never played them

before; **Haughley United** - Scene of Hoxne's Primary Cup Win in 2002 **Henley Athletic** - Won the Senior Division title this year; **Leiston St Margaret's** - Beat them in pre-season friendly last year; **Ransomes Sports** - We knocked them out of the "Coleman" Cup last year; **Wenhaston United** - Beat them in the Mick McNeil Cup 2003/4; **Westerfield United** - Never played them before.

Clive Baxter, President

Hoxne Bowls Club

Everyone wants to beat the top team, and this season has seen strong competition for Hoxne's bowlers in the Norfolk & Suffolk Border League. The champions of the last two years have had to fight hard in every game.

But despite some early set backs, at the time of writing, they sit a handful of points above the rest, at the top of the table.

In the Waveney League, the new members continue to improve and even shine, like the good weather blessing the greens this year. With full teams for every game, they have been competitive in many a close encounter and hopes are high for a mid-table finish.

Club nights, **Wednesdays** from 6.30, have been well attended and a contrast of keenly played club competitions and good-humoured practice games have led to many happy evenings.

Several players continue to do well in both Waveney and County competitions and it is hoped to bring news of their successes in the next edition.

Anyone interested in joining or trying the sport may come along to a club night or contact the club secretary, Roger Knight - **01379 668403**.

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Report from Syleham Parish Council

Chairman: Malcolm Flounders

The 2017 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) took place on May 10th with a full complement of parish councillors, our district councillor and two residents in attendance. Reports from the District and Parish councils and Church were delivered.

The purchase and use of land opposite the Village Hall is causing some concern to residents adjacent to the property. This will be taken up with the Village Hall Committee.

At the Parish Council Meeting (PCM) that followed Malcolm Flounders and Gloria Elsdon were re-elected Chairman and Vice Chair respectively.

The Clerk presented the internally audited accounts for 2016/17 and these were approved for submission to the external auditors.

These accounts and minutes of both meetings can be viewed on our new website www.syleham-pc.org.uk, funded by the transparency grant received.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 6th September** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

David Young, Clerk, 01379 668556

Report from Wingfield Parish Council

Chairman: Mike Allmey

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on May 19th and was well attended. After annual reports were delivered by both the Parish Council and District Council, Mike Allmey chaired a debate on

residents' concerns. Crime and the police response; the dangerous state of our roads due to pot holes, removal of cat's eyes, blind spots at junctions, speeding motorists and the increased frequency of low flying by the military were all discussed. The strength and volume of these views was noted and will be addressed by the Parish Council.

In the case of crime, we ask all residents to do everything possible to guard their own property and be vigilant on behalf of their neighbours. Report anything suspicious to the police and Parish Council.

At the Parish Meeting that followed the APM, Mike Allmey and Lee Smith were re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chair and Melanie Murray was co-opted onto the Council, replacing Sarah Young who is standing down after six years' service.

Two planning applications, Pond Cottage (1660/17) and Cone Tree Nurseries (1476/17) were recommended for approval as long as they fulfilled the requirements of listed building criteria and highways department safety considerations respectively.

Congratulations go to the organisers of Wingfield Open Gardens for record breaking attendance and monies raised for charity. Particular recognition goes to Councillor Tony Jolly who judged the scarecrow competition and the numerous cream teas he ate in fulfilling his duties.

Thanks also to the volunteers who have restored our telephone box. It is now in pristine condition and available for community use. If you have any ideas visit the website: www.wingfield-pc.org.uk and make your suggestions

The next PC meeting is scheduled for **Friday 28th July** at Wingfield Barns at the usual time of 7.30pm. Please check notice board or website for following meetings.

David Young, Clerk, 01379 668556

Report from Denham Parish Council

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - at the Annual Parish Meeting in May it was agreed to ask Mid Suffolk District Council to undertake a review of how Denham should be parished: by Parish Council, Parish Meeting or merged with another parish. Mid Suffolk District Council will be contacting all the electorate directly to gather views.

NEW COUNCILLORS - at the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council two new Councillors were elected -Tania Farrow and Nick Farrow. One vacancy remains on the Council and interested applicants are asked to contact the Clerk for more details. The Council noted the resignation of Nick Urwin and he was thanked for all he had done during his tenure as Chairman.

MEETING DATES - the next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 27th September** in the meeting room of the Red Feather Club. Members of the public are also welcome to all Parish Council meetings with the exception of closed meeting items. Notices of meetings and detailed agendas are displayed on the four notice boards in Denham. Please check these or the website www.denham.onesuffolk.net for further details.

Sarah Foote, Clerk, 07554 733621

Report from Hoxne Parish Council

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES - there are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in finding out more about the role of a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk for further details.

GREEN STREET TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME - an improved build out to slow

the traffic will be constructed on Green Street at the beginning of August. This is the result of year's of lobbying by the Parish Council. The project will be funded by the County Council Highways department.

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN - a new local plan is nearing its consultation stage. This will replace the 1998 plan. Included within the plan will be the settlement boundary for the village and indications of where future housing development could take place. The Parish Council will be formally consulted by the District Council in September. The Parish Council will liaise with parish Plan Review Group to ensure that their feedback can be included in the parish's consultation response. Further details will be available on the Parish Council website in due course and your comments will be welcomed.

A TIDY VILLAGE

- we would like to thank all the farmers and landowners who have kindly cut back the verges in the village.

- if you do put posters up, please take them down again. We are lucky to live in a village with so much going on, but no one wants to be reading about an event six months later! Where possible use the noticeboards in the village hall car park (by the picnic bench) and at Cross Street to publicise your events. If you do place posters on trees, wells, shelters, telegraph poles, gates etc, please do remove them, along with the staples and pins.

- and finally, PLEASE DO CLEAR UP AFTER YOUR DOG.

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

Sarah Foote, Clerk, 07554 733621

Times Past

Syleham Mill

In 1849, the old corn mill on the Waveney at Syleham finally stopped grinding, and with several water powered looms, a dye house and other appropriate machinery added, was converted to the manufacture of drabbet. This was a coarse cloth with a linen warp and cotton weft that was used for making smocks. The owner at this time was Henry Warne, born in 1793 and who had up until 1840, run a factory in Mere Street in Diss which employed 60 men and boys

Syleham Mill circa 1920



and three women. Here they made drabbets, huckabacks, sheeting and shirting, many labouring for up to 16 hours a day, some weaving in their own homes for which they earned about 15/- a week.

After the factory closed, Warne moved to Hoxne Mill which had also been converted to the making of flax and linen. After a short lease granted by Sir Edward

Kerrison expired, he moved all his business down the river to Syleham. The business flourished and was employing 96 people by 1855. By this period it had passed by will to his wife, Sarah and son Charles, who still traded as Henry Warne & Son and transformed the product (drabbet) by rendering it entirely waterproof by a patent process. They made four qualities - 4 & 6 for labourers, 8 for agriculturalists and sportsmen, 10 for gamekeepers and dealers. Nothing equalled the cloth they claimed for warmth or resistance to wet. It was guaranteed perfectly ventilating, thus “superseding the offensive Macintosh and India Rubber”! A much heavier cloth for waggon and rick covers was also produced which was said to be impervious to damp mildew and no doubt sought after by local farmers.

After his father’s death, Charles ran up enormous debts and was bankrupted in 1867. The mill was put up for auction in 1872, but remained unsold. It was finally bought by William Emms in 1899 and the firm known as the Syleham Drabbet Company. Very soon afterwards, sales of drabbet declined rapidly and manufacture ceased at the outbreak of the First World War. Sadly the old mill perished in a fire in May 1928, an inferno which tragically claimed the life of Captain Robert Pipe of the Harleston Fire Brigade.

Chris Johnson



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Village Walks...

Here we have two Hoxne walks exploring the parish's smaller rivers, Chickering Beck and Goldbrook. Both these walks provide an undulating variety of scenery and habitats.

Stout footwear and robust clothing is essential for the longer walk.

Refreshments: **The Swan Inn** and **Post Office Stores** in Hoxne, 1/4 mile from the start/ finish at the Village Hall.

From the car park, **Turn Right**, away from the Goldbrook Bridge. At the end of the cottages, take the gated footpath on the **Left**. This leads behind a row of bungalows.

Ignore the stile on the right, but **Turn Right** shortly after and follow the path to and across the drive of the buildings to your left. With a crop field on your right, the path passes alongside a garden, a wood and a water treatment plant.

Start & Finish: Hoxne

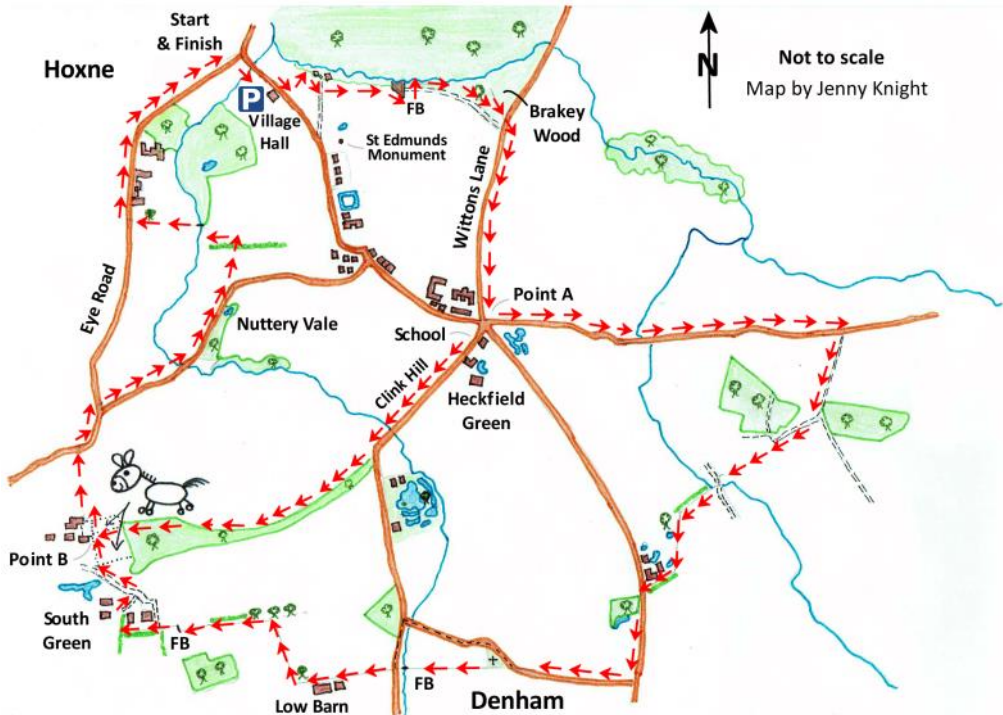
Two walks of 3.8 and 6.25 miles

OS map: Explorer 230

After crossing a footbridge, **Turn Left**. Cross the water treatment plant access road and enter **Brakey Wood** (a Woodland Trust managed site) where you will walk alongside Chickering Beck.

Where the woodland path forks, **Keep Right**. As you pass through the wood, see if you can spot the six Sequoia trees planted at the millennium. Three are easy, the others not so, despite their age.

At the **Hoxne Man** carving, **Turn Right** on the old deer track, expanded by Tim Craven, an early guardian of the wood. This leads onto Wittons Lane. **Turn Right** and follow the narrow lane to Heckfield Green and Hoxne School. You are now at **Point A** and should follow either the **Short walk** or **Long walk** sections in order to arrive at **Point B**.



Short walk

Continue ahead, keeping the school on your left. Follow the road down Clink Hill, cross the Goldbrook and, where the road bends left, **Continue ahead** into a narrow, wooded, ancient pathway.

Follow the wiggly path through the wood to South Green, where you emerge to a paddock on your right. Follow the paddock fence to a stile. You are now at **Point B**.

Long walk

Turn left at the school, then immediately **Keep Left** at the road junction. Continue on for almost a mile, crossing Chickering Beck, until reaching a footpath sign to your right. It is also signed Park Farm and (at present) Castleden Trees.

Follow the lane until you reach woods on your left, but **Take the signposted footpath along the track on the right**. As the track bends right, the path descends, slightly left and diagonally across a crop field. This is usually marked by the farmer, but if not, aim toward the farm building roofs in the distance. At the corner of the field, cross the Chickering Beck once more. Join the farm road, **Turn Left**, cross the bridge and **Turn Right**.

Head uphill, keeping a hedge on your right and make for a large tree where you then follow the field edge, curve left, until you reach a gap in a hedge via a plank bridge. Follow a line of posts across to the far side. In the corner, find a narrow path to your **Right** that passes between a fence and a hedge (can be overgrown).

Beware: the path exits blindly onto a road. **Turn Left** and walk along the road to the first turning on the right (by the Denham Village notice board), **Turn Right** and follow the road to Denham Church.

The footpath here keeps to the left of the church grounds, but is often impassable. Enter the grounds by the gate further on and skirt the church to the left, where a convenient bench offers a short respite. You can then pick up the footpath in the far left corner of the church Grounds.

However: the path from here can be difficult if freshly ploughed, muddy or heavy with crop. In which case a detour along the road where you entered the church grounds, is strongly advised, turning **Left** at the T junction. Either way, you will reach the place where the footpath crosses the Goldbrook and then crosses the road. Head uphill on a farm track. Pass Low Barn on your left and keep straight on to a solitary bush. Here the path turns right and continues to a tree line where it turns left.

Keep the tree line, and then a hedge, on your right until you reach a footbridge on your right. **Cross** the bridge and **Turn Left**. The correct path heads directly for the house before you, but skirting the field may be wiser. At the house, find a narrow path to the **Left of the property** (can be overgrown) which emerges through a hedge onto a wide farm track. **Turn Right**.

On entering an industrial style farm site, keep to the right to find an exit lane on the **Right**. In a few yards **Turn Left** at the crossroads. Continue past South Green Farm on your left until a sign directs you through a gap in the hedge to your **Right**. Continue ahead, keeping to a paddock fence until you pass through another hedge to find a stile into another paddock...

Point B

Cross the paddock and continue ahead, keeping the fence on your left until you reach the Eye Road. **Turn Right**. After about 50 yards, **Turn Right** down Nuttery Vale. Cross the Goldbrook and climb uphill until the road swings right. **Take the footpath on the left**. At the end of the narrow path **Turn Left** downhill to a stile. Cross and **Turn Right**.

In a few yards, **Turn Left** over the footbridge, go through a gate and follow the path across a field, passing close to a large tree until you reach the Eye Road once more. **Turn Right** and continue to the bottom of the hill and **Turn Right**, crossing the Goldbrook for the final time.

Roger Knight

The Lunch Bunch Visits...

The Lunch Bunch set off on a sunny and warm weekday to try the culinary fare on offer at the Swan Inn at Hoxne. Pleasantly situated on the banks of the River Dove, the Swan reopened in March 2016 after a long closure, much to the relief of the local residents. This year it was awarded Pub of the Year for North Suffolk by The Campaign for Real Ale, so it had a lot to live up to!

We had booked a table, but if you arrive early and there aren't too many in your party, I suspect you would normally get a table in either bars, the restaurant or outside at this time of year, the summer holidays may be another matter! The welcome from both the staff, landlord and local drinkers was warm, and expect to see a friendly dog or two in the bar as they are warmly welcomed too. I noticed a lovely Adnams water bowl by the door and a jar of biscuits on the bar, a nice touch.



We ordered drinks from the bar and were told we could pick our table. Settling in, menus were brought, one was the "Pub Classics" and the other filled with specials. I was, as I tend to be, again disappointed at the limited selection of vegetarian dishes, but some efforts had been made and there was, at least more than one to choose from if you like lentil chilli or Pesto linguine. The starters offered a much better range and I'm sure could

Village Voice

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have been made into a main course with added chips or such. One of us opted for the Asparagus and the other for baked camembert. The camembert could have fed a small army, but was soon finished off along with the toasted bread which we used to spoon the liquid cheese mainly down our chins!

The plates were cleared and soon the main courses arrived. Delicious hand cut chips and homemade coleslaw with the burger, Lasagne smothered with cheese and toasty bread roll. The beef chili was served with rice, smooth guacamole and sour cream, the hot spicy ¼ chicken came with thin fries. All the meals served with a nice crisp side salad. We were asked if we wanted sauces and they were duly brought. All the meals were deceptively generous and the consensus was that they were well worth the slightly higher prices than we have paid before.

After a respectable delay to allow our stomachs to stop telling our brains we were full, two "light" deserts were ordered. Both the cheese cake and panna cotta came out beautifully presented with red currents, poached fruit and red and golden swirls of "couli" along with delicate chocolate pencils. Delicious.

Nice atmosphere, friendly staff and tasty food. The Swan is now serving food seven days a week, so none of this arriving on a Monday and not getting any lunch! Certainly, worth a visit if not to eat, then for the wide selection of regional beers and cider on tap.

Our bill: Starters
£6.95 / £8.95, Mains
£11.95 / £14.95, Deserts
£6.50

The Lunch Bunch



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A Word from Wingfield

Grammar Schools and Education Reform

My father was not a vicar; he was a pork butcher. When he came home to Nottingham from the Somme in 1916 he was missing half a leg and half a foot. His father died and he took over the family business, which was lumbered with debt to HMRC. He never had a car so we walked or used public transport usually the tram in those days.

I recall him saying to me “ I don’t want you in trade, my boy, I want you in the professions” and like the route for many others in the 1930s, it was 11 plus and local grammar school. The boys had parents who worked for Raleigh bikes, Players cigarettes and Boots the chemists. None of us were posh. The posh ones went to the High School. Our school buildings were over crowded, but our devoted staff had a sense of vocation and enabled a few of us to win scholarships to Oxbridge.

Theresa May tells us she enjoyed a similar opportunity. The posh children had private education which nurtured my first experience of class divisiveness.

The recent reaction to her call to bring back the grammar school has been mainly from the many who failed the 11 plus and were humiliated, were unfairly categorised as failures, but who succeeded nevertheless, thus proving the 11 plus was an unfair test. Another reaction has been that grammar schools today reinforce privilege, and enable posh people in exclusive catchment areas to give their children better education than those attending comprehensives.

So is the case against them about the shortcomings of testing, and whether

there should be any selection at all on merit, or whether it is about class?

My pre-war experience was of a different sort of grammar school from the one now being proposed. It was the class prejudice in the Labour party that led to their closure, including the one that I attended, which had enabled me and many others to make a break through and join the ranks of those who governed, the meritocracy, the intellectuals, those who ran the country. And I was not alone. It took place in a time of post-war upheaval, of rapid change, of universal social security, of our precious ‘cradle to grave’ NHS, a sudden awakening of the British people to a new world opening up for them to share. It was a peaceful revolution.

The opportunity was missed for a fully comprehensive secondary system, and instead of closing the grammar schools we could have transformed every secondary modern and technical school into a grammar school. This was an opportunity for private grammar and public schools to be nationalised. We destroyed many grammars, dismantled communities of outstanding teachers some of whom were poached by the private sector. This act of vandalism was in sharp contrast to the uniform solution adopted in Australian higher education, later followed by the UK, of embracing all colleges of technology into a single national university system.

Some of us see it as a failure in the pursuit of excellence and a descent to the lowest common denominator. And now for many “ grammar” has become a dirty word, and reviled by many as a perk for the privileged.

The one that launched me was not like that at all. It had a remarkable assemblage of talented, devoted and committed staff working under a fantastic head, which was producing men

who would take their place in the world with a clear sense of vocation.

True, it was in part a meritocracy, but society has to sort out abilities of heads and hands at some point, but not by class, which is still happening in Oxbridge.

I am ashamed to say that my Oxford college, Brasenose, still has the worst public / private school origin ratio of students in Oxbridge, the very reverse of the ratio in the UK education system. Our new VC, an Australian woman, intends to deal with this, but the Chancellor, Lord Patten, sounds very unsupportive. Gordon Brown made a desultory attempt over a single case but failed, when

Magdalen turned down an outstanding female medical applicant who was instantly snapped up by a leading US university.

So I too would like to bring back the grammar school, the 500 year old pre-war model, for all secondary education.

And this is not a political polemic. It's just plain common sense. And it's how many other countries organise their system of education as it is fair for all and it delivers national unity.

In the words of Gilbert in *The Gondoliers* "when everyone is somebody, no one's anybody".

Tommy Gee



Communities share views to improve health and care services in Suffolk

We're Healthwatch. We listen to your views about local NHS and social care services so that we can make them better for everyone.

We have just launched our fourth annual report, which covers the year 2016/17. It tells you how we have been working and using people's experiences to shape, influence and improve local services throughout the year. Five ways that health and care services have improved:

1. Maternity services increased support for birthing partners and changed policies so that birthing partners can stay with mum and baby overnight.
2. People will receive improved support and information to help them manage their risk of complications from foot disease caused by diabetes.
3. Residential and nursing homes have made changes that will improve the experience of some of Suffolk's most vulnerable people following visits by our volunteers.
4. We made safeguarding alerts that have led to immediate improvements to people's care.
5. We delivered patient feedback that helped to shape pathology services in Sudbury, including improvements to IT systems and access to appointments.

This year, we have seen the incredible power that people's voices can have in helping to make sure NHS and social care services meet the needs of our communities. If you have an experience that you would like to share - however big or small - we want to hear about it.

More information and detail about our outcomes is available from www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk. You can also call **01449 703949** or email info@healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk to find out more.

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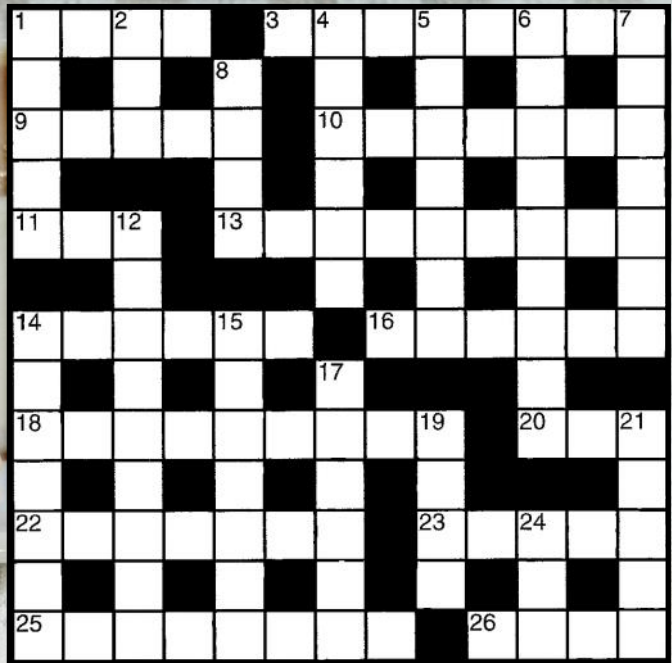


Crossword

Puzzle No. 119

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 4th September** latest.

*Don't forget you can email a photograph or scan of your entry too!



Across

- 1 Complain about the Sunday roast (4)
- 3 Fast food sounds good for continental citizen (8)
- 9 Heard making a bid for Welsh dyke builder (5)
- 10 The wear suitable for any climate (7)
- 11 Relatives found in Woking (3)
- 13 Glint a man saw in something evil (9)
- 14 Get back for example in the downpour (6)
- 16 Involuntary spasm whilst bird watching (6)
- 18 Fast side I presented and was content (9)
- 20 Nothing for the sister apparently (3)
- 22 Think about a John Lennon song (7)
- 23 Cause a shock at the beginning (5)
- 25 Essential parts of the weather (8)
- 26 Caught the sound of animals on the move (4)

Down

- 1 Second class bird by small stream (5)
- 2 Travel far to find fairy (3)
- 4 Feeling poorly by a French watering hole (6)
- 5 Gas glow seen in Scotland (7)
- 6 Enter a hen as encouragement (9)
- 7 Elongate a spell inside (7)
- 8 Small dinghy for a baby (4)
- 12 Black horse appearing in a bad dream (9)
- 14 Is Peter taking time out? (7)
- 15 Take a deep breath to motivate (7)
- 17 Absorb the synopsis (6)
- 19 Mild expletive issued during a sprint (4)
- 21 Edward's absence was recorded (5)
- 24 Dispense with the tool (3)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 118 was: Zillah Inglis, Brome

Answers: **Across** 7) Hoarse 8) Doctor 10) Placebo 11) Milan 12) Echo 13) Skint 17) Afoot 18) Clod 22) Tiara 23) Saffron 24) Liable 25) Delete **Down** 1) Chopper 2) Panache 3) Asset 4) Dormant 5) Atoll 6) Frank 9) Workhorse 14) Affable 15) Blurred 16) Stanley 19) Stole 20) Canal 21) Offer

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

DEADLINES

Issue	Copy Date
February/March	8th January
April/May	8th March
June/July	8th May
August/September	8th July
October/November	8th September
December/January	8th November

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