



Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

FEBRUARY—MARCH 2018

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**The Revd. Michael Womack is chair
of each Parochial Church Council.**

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Springtime returns...

No sooner have you come to terms with having your rubbish bins collected two days late, than it's now (thankfully) getting lighter in the evening and the clocks will be going forward. With Easter falling relatively early this year, you can enjoy *Pancake Day* and then *St Valentine's Day* immediately after. And if that sounds enticing, the *In the Kitchen* three course menu in this issue could be what you're looking for. Out in the garden though, there's plenty to do

and it's always more appealing if the mild weather prevails. Whether you're looking to plant new bulbs or just to appreciate the ones that squirrels haven't dug up, be sure to check out the *In the Garden* pages this time around.

Should you be wondering how the last year has whizzed by as another spate of rescheduled bin days are imminent, take some consolation that collections will now only be a day later for the coming Easter, Spring and Summer bank holiday weeks. Well, that's in 2018 anyway!

Bones

Suffolk Libraries

Use it or lose it!

Did you know that the Suffolk Libraries mobile library visits your area regularly, giving access to hundreds of thousands of books, including large print, audiobooks and children's books? You can also hire CDs and DVDs for a small charge. If the items you want are not on the van you can reserve them from the library catalogue free of charge and have them delivered on the van at a later date. The staff are friendly and helpful, and offer a warm welcome to anyone who visits. The steps convert into a lift for those with limited mobility. This is a valuable service to rural and isolated communities who have lost many of their other local services, and can also be an opportunity to meet up with other people and catch up with the local goings on. Come along to visit us and help to keep this service running for YOUR community - all are welcome! Please do give the service your support - the more people use it the less likely we are to lose it.



Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham

Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**

Next stops: **15th February and 15th March**

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: **23rd February and 23rd March**

Syleham, Wingfield Road (Junction with Weybread Road) from 11:40 to 11:55*

Wingfield, Post box from 12:00 to 12:20*

***new earlier times for 2018**

Letters to the Editor

SYLEHAM CAROL SINGING SUCCESS

A big thank you to all who came carol singing round Syleham on 20th December and another big thank you to the wonderful hospitality of all those we sang to. A great evening, and besides having lots of fun, we collected £430 for the East Anglian Children's Hospice. Hope to see you again next year!

Jane and Adrian Knott

XMAS APPRECIATION

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HOXNE CHRISTMAS TREE TRIUMPH

Sales of Christmas Trees at Market House, Low Street, went extremely well. A profit of £1100 was raised for the Hoxne Playing Fields. A huge thank you to all who purchased a tree - we hope to see you all again next year!

*Carole Smith,
Andrew Banham, Phil Golding and
the Hoxne Playing Fields Committee*

OBSTRUCTION OBSERVATION

I completely agree with your previous correspondent on the subject of the road obstruction on the B1118 east of Hoxne. It certainly encourages west-bound speeding up (not slowing down) as it is important to clear the obstruction before someone comes belting around the corner towards you. And of course this has no effect whatsoever on east-bound vehicles who press on regardless as it is "their" road. There is also another unintended consequence. Now that HGVs are traveling on the same stretch of tarmac, the road surface is starting to give way on the one-way portion. How will that be repaired without closing the whole road again? For these obstructions to be of any value there has to be two of them, such as there is on Frenze Hall Lane, Diss.

John Alborough, Syleham

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Diary Dates

Thursday 1st February

Hoxne Parish Council HVH p35

Friday 2nd February

Open Mic Night SWH p9

Wingfield Parish Council WB p35

Saturday 3rd February

Friends of St Peter & St Paul Quiz HVH p29

Tuesday 6th February

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan, Hoxne p33

Friday 9th February

Karaoke SWH p9

Old Herbaceous WB p11

Film Night, Dunkirk HVH p13

Saturday 10th February

Red Glass SWH p9

Sunday 11th February

Gongbath Therapy HVH p6

Tuesday 13th February

Hoxne Phoenix Group HVH p31

Thursday 15th February

Hoxne Garden & Social Club HVH p29

Saturday 17th February

Wingfield & District Gardening Club BVH p29

Sarah Probert, The Swan, Hoxne p13

Tuesday 20th February

Dementia Friends Information Session WB p14

Friday 23rd February

Bingo SWH p9

Gaby Starbuck, The Swan, Hoxne p13

Saturday 24th February

The Produce and Craft Market HVH p6

Thursday 1st March

Hoxne Parish Council HVH p35

Friday 2nd March

Open Mic Night SWH p9

Saturday 3rd March

Coffee Morning SWH p9

Once Upon a Labrador WB p11

Tuesday 6th March

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan, Hoxne p33

Thursday 8th March

Hoxne Heritage Group Talk HVH p33

Syleham Parish Council SWH p35

Friday 9th March

Karaoke SWH p9

Film Night, Victoria and Abdul HVH p13

Saturday 10th March

Fressingfield Scouts Firework Display p15

Call My Bluff (Wine) SWH p20

Tuesday 13th March

Hoxne Phoenix Group HVH p31

Thursday 15th March

Hoxne Garden & Social Club HVH p29

Saturday 17th March

Denham Church Quiz HVH p19

Sunday 18th March

RoughCast Theatre Company WB P11

Hoxne Clean Up Sunday HVH p35

Thursday 22nd March

Wingfield & District Gardening Club p29

Friday 23rd March

RoughCast Theatre Company HVH p13

Friday 30th March

Bingo SWH p9

Saturday 31st March

The Produce and Craft Market HVH p6

For **AFC Hoxne** & Veterans fixtures, see p37

For **Church Services** and events, see p18-20

For **Hoxon Hundred** events, see p33

For **Mobile Library**, see p3

BVH Brundish Village Hall

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

STREET CARETAKER

Hoxne

24 hours per month - flexible

If you are active and like working outdoors, this part time position with flexible hours could suit you. You will sweep pavements to keep them safe and ensure the village looks well kept. You will be paid whilst you provide a useful service to your community.

For further details call Sarah Foote, Parish Clerk, on **07554 733621** or email **pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk**
Equipment will be provided which can be stored at the Parish garage.

What's On Here

Gongbath

Hello my name is Jenna, I am owner of Gongbath Therapy Suffolk. I am a Gong practitioner and Reiki teacher. I use the sounds of the Gongs to take you into deep meditation and relaxation where the body can heal and tension and stress melt away.

The gongs can take us into the theta brainwaves, a hour of gong in theta state is said to be the equivalent of four hours sleep rejuvenation wise! It really is a

wonderful opportunity for the mind, body and spirit to feel connected and for us to take some time for ourselves. The gongs can help with: Stress; Anxiety; Depression; Aches and pains; Getting rid of toxins; Raising energy levels; Balancing and

maintaining a healthy Chakra system; Rejuvenating our body on a cellular level, and much more.

I am running my first Gongbath in Hoxne Village Hall on **Sunday 11th February** at 10.30am. To book a place or for more information, please email me:

Jenna Gooding
gongbaththerapy@gmail.com

I look forward to meeting you. I also have a Facebook page should you wish to look at other events I run regularly or for more information:

www.facebook.com/Gongbaththerapysuffolk

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market

Iwould like to thank everybody who is involved in the market for making my first year fantastic. It was a rather daunting prospect when I took it on last year, but I think we can all agree, it is a friendly, vibrant market. There is a huge range of stall holders offering Jewellery, Crafts, Meat, Fruit & Veg, Plants, Paintings, Garden Equipment, Honey, Olive Oil, Coffee, hand crafted knives, wood turned items, garden furniture, cordials, cakes, bread, pastries and much more.

The market is held the **last Saturday** of every month and is open from 9:30am to 12:30pm. If you receive this *Village Voice* in time, you may make the **27th January** date, but the rest of 2018 is:

24th February	31st March
28th April	26th May
30th June	28th July
25th August	29th September
27th October	24th November
15th December (Christmas Market)	

The café will be serving homemade cakes, sausage rolls, locally roasted coffee, speciality teas, hot chocolate.

Lisa Morris, 07748 156953
www.facebook.com/HoxneMarket

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RoughCast Theatre Company

Measure for Measure by William Shakespeare

Passion, injustice, hypocrisy and power are at the centre of Shakespeare's darkly comic exploration of social justice and sexual politics. Lord Angelo, appointed to

govern in the absence of the Duke, insists on the strict implementation of 'the all binding law', sentencing to death the young Claudio for getting his wife-to-be pregnant. But what of Angelo's control and authority when he falls prey to exactly those urges when Isabella, a novice

nun, pleads for her brother's life. Caught up in the action are a medley of nuns and prostitutes, a pirate, pimps and friars. Some rise by sin, and some by virtue fall.

Sunday 18th March:

Wingfield Barns (see page 11);

Friday 23rd March:

St Edmunds Hall, Hoxne (see page 13);
Tickets £10/£8.50 concessions, £5 full-time students. All performances start at 7.30pm.

Other dates in March: 12th - Old Kings Head, Brockdish; 15th - Beccles Public Hall; 16th - The Hub, Huntingfield; 24th - New Cut Arts, Halesworth; 25th - Southwold Arts Centre; 30th - The Fisher Theatre, Bungay; 31st - Diss Corn Hall.

For more information visit:

www.roughcast.co.uk
01379 586745

Dates for your Diary

HOXNE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

will be holding an evening of

cabaret

On **Saturday 14th April** at
Hoxne Village Hall

(please note revised date)

This evening will include a three course meal, table magic by an award winning magician, a comedian and a six piece covers band called midlife crisis.

Tickets for this event will be £30.00 per person and tables or single tickets can be purchased.

For more information or to book you place please call Hannah Mayhew on
01379 668200 or 07774 327836

Rural Coffee Caravan

The Rural Coffee Caravan will be back to its usual schedule after the Winter break, so make a date in your diary for the first visit of the year to **Wingfield** at Castle Crescent, 10am - 12pm on **Tuesday 17th April**. The caravan delivers information and friendship across Suffolk. For more information:

Telephone: 01379 855338
ruralcoffecaravan.org.uk

Hoxne Music Festival

The festival will be back once again across the Spring bank holiday weekend, **Friday 25th to Sunday 27th May**. Events are planned for Friday and Saturday evenings in the Village Hall, Saturday afternoon at the playing fields and a concert in the Church for late Sunday afternoon. The line up will be confirmed on the website shortly:

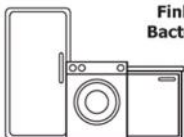


www.hoxnemusicfestival.com

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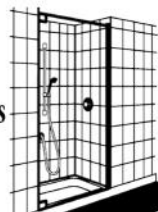
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Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

The monthly BINGO at Syleham and Wingfield village hall raises funds for locally nominated charities and good causes. Bingo evenings are the **last Friday** of each month at 8pm. The **26th January** and **23rd February** events will be in aid of **Meningitis Now**. This is a national charity (no. 803016) raising awareness, campaigning, supporting, as well as funding research. Meningitis has many different forms and can affect anyone. Babies now have vaccines against some forms as part of their early routine vaccinations, but are still not protected against all forms. Children, teenagers and adults can all be affected. They have a 24 hour helpline **0808 80 10 388** and there's lots of information on their website www.meningitisnow.org.

Some of you will know that 20, yes TWENTY, years ago, when she was three, our daughter had a small rash one Sunday. We spent over two weeks in Great Ormond Street Hospital for sick children, and a further four weeks in Ipswich hospital. She's very well now, and studying to be a primary school teacher with a PE specialism. We found the information available from the charity invaluable in understanding what her body was trying to do to heal itself - with not inconsiderable help from medicines and the care of health professionals. Time to thank again all of you who supported us at that time.

Local band, **Red Glass**, will be playing at Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall IP21 4LT on **Saturday 10th February**. Event starts at 8pm and costs just a fiver entry on the door, music from about 8.30pm, bar open. This band of talented lads, who are now busy studying various aspects of the music and media industry, will be launching their EP at this event. Don't

miss this opportunity to see this great band on their way up.

Our next 'Come along for coffee' event will be on **Saturday 3rd March** from 10.30 to 12.30. Come along, meet friends, meet new people, have a look round our village hall, have a tea or coffee. There'll be a couple of stalls, as well as cakes and a raffle. See you there.

Our friends at Stradbroke Cricket club have their annual Music quiz on **Saturday 3rd February**. Called Michael Hugman on 01379 384433

Dates for your diary

Eastern Angles return to Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall on **Thursday 19th April**



with their next production, **Guesthouse**. A grandmother, mother and a daughter have to set aside differences as they decide the fate of their family-run Guesthouse. Battling family demons and the crashing waves of a troubled past, tensions are high in Clacton-on-Sea. Exploring the lives of three generations of women, Guesthouse asks what's it like when the town you were proud to grow up in becomes impoverished? What does it take to keep going? And what does it take to face the truth?

Sports and Social club

Membership of the Sports and Social club costs just £3.50 per year with £3 for concessions. Social club open **Tuesday and Friday** from 8pm when the bar is open. The **first Friday** of the month sees Open Mic, **second Friday** is Karaoke, last **Friday** there's the Bingo session.

*Julie Thompson, 07929 794636
k.thompson156@btinternet.com*

How to book the hall

Bookings for Syleham and Wingfield village hall can be made with:

*Donna Baker, 01379 668361
donnamariegoose@hotmail.co.uk*



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Wingfield Barns

We had a fabulous New Year's Eve ceilidh here at the Barns again, with lots of fun had by all. Keep a look out for what we have planned this year in the coming months! Until then, here are a few things coming up to keep us going in these dreary winter months.

Friday 9th February - 7.30pm
Kick In The Head - Old Herbaceous
Described as "Downton Abbey with gardening tips", Old Herbaceous is the

humorous love story of a single-minded yet gentle man with a passion for plants and is a charming one man play which has entranced audiences around the country. An acute and sometimes hilarious observation of relationships between the classes in a simpler

age, Old Herbaceous is sprinkled with witticisms and epithets. The evening blossoms into tender humour, much in the traditionally understated English style of the early 20th century.

As Old Herbaceous, renowned actor Giles Shenton truly lives the part of the legendary Head Gardener, Herbert Pinnegar, inviting you to feel included in a private chat from a bygone, comforting age. Keeping you engrossed, amused and emotionally engaged from start to finish, Old Herbaceous will leave you with a feeling that, perhaps, all's right with the world. Tickets £14/£12 conc.

Saturday 3rd March - 7.30pm
Charles Garland - Once Upon a Labrador
Once Upon A Labrador is a new show, with Alfie the Labrador making his theatrical

debut. It would be quite wrong to suggest that Alfie is a "performing dog". He does not walk on a tightrope, juggle, or dance on his hind legs. Don't think this is because his grandfather was Carpenny Walpole, Great British Champion, International Champion, and Nordic Champion. Alfie is very modest about his ancestry and never mentions former achievements by close relations. The reason for his reluctance to follow current trends and audition for TV talent shows is simply that Alfie is happy to be a Labrador. Nothing more. And it has to be said that he maintains this role with dignity and distinction.

Charles Garland writes whimsical verse, plays, music and trivial comedy lines. But he is also the proud partner of Alfie, and hopes that you will come and see them both doing what they do best. Tickets £10.



Sunday 18th March - 7.30pm
RoughCast Theatre Company - Measure for Measure
RoughCast return to Wingfield Barns with their 13th Shakespeare. See page 7 for further details. Tickets £10/£8.50/£5



Tickets for all events are available via the box office on **01379 384505**.

Keep an eye on the website and Facebook page for more events being added, and for those already planned for later in the year. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Hartismere Place, Castleton Way, Eye IP23 7DD
careuk.com/hartismere-place



What's on at the Swan?

Bookings are now being taken for Valentines Day, so make a date for **Wednesday 14th February**. Also coming up is singer Sarah Probert on **Saturday 17th February** at 8.30pm, with her diverse repertoire from old favourites to current chart hits. Making a return visit on **Friday 23rd February** is Gaby Starbuck for Darren's leaving party—not to be missed!

*The Swan Inn, 01379 668275
www.swaninnhoxne.co.uk*



News from the De La Pole

While the bar will be open as normal, there will be no food from **Monday 19th February to Sunday 4th March**. The usual food and bar service will resume from **Tuesday 6th March**. Don't forget to book your table for **Mothering Sunday 11th March!**

*The De la Pole, 01379 384983
www.thedelapole.co.uk*



Hoxne Village Hall

The Friends of St Peter & St Paul will be holding a **Quiz on Saturday 3rd February**. Teams of up to 6, £5 per head. Bring a picnic. Bar open. To book a table, Margaret Brawn **668352**.

The film on **Friday 9th February** is

Dunkirk, 12A. Allied soldiers from Belgium, the British Empire and France are surrounded by the German Army, and evacuated during a fierce battle in World War II. Written and Directed by Christopher Nolan.

We have a **Gongbath Therapy** session on **Sunday 11th February**. For further details and how to book, see page 6.

Showing on **Friday 9th March** is **Victoria and Abdul, PG**.

Queen Victoria strikes up an unlikely friendship with a young Indian clerk named Abdul Karim. Directed by Stephen Frears and stars Judi Dench, Ali Fazal and Tim Pigott-Smith.

Denham Church will be holding their **Quiz on Saturday 17th March**. Teams of up to 6, £5 per head. Bring a picnic. Bar open. To book a table, Sharon **668060**.

The annual **Hoxne Parish Clean Up** is on **Sunday 18th March**, 9.50am at the Hall for a couple of hours. All hands welcome. Free refreshments afterwards courtesy of the Scouts.

RoughCast Theatre Company return to Hoxne on **Friday 23rd March** with their 13th Shakespeare, **Measure for Measure**. Tickets £10/£8.50 concessions, £5 full-time students. For booking details visit www.roughcast.co.uk or tel. **01379 586745**. See page 7 for further details.

The **Produce and Craft Market** will be held on the **last Saturday** of each month 9.30am - 12.30pm. You can find full details of this year's events on page 6.

The **Hoxne Village Café** is back every **Friday 9am - 11.30am**. A community café serving up home made cakes, sausage rolls, bacon & cheese pastries, soup, Coffee, Tea & Hot Chocolate. A great place to meet up with neighbours and friends & family.

Keep up with Hall news on our website www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk

Contact details are **07876 215269**
hoxneVHbookings@outlook.com

Sharon Knights



What's On There

Dementia Friends Information Session

Tuesday 20th February

10.30am - 11.30am

Are you interested in learning more about dementia? Do you want to discover the small things you can do to make a difference to people living with dementia in your community?

Angela Hodge, from Hartismere Place care home in Eye, will host this information session at **Wingfield Barns** on behalf of the **Rural Coffee Caravan**. The Rural Coffee Caravan delivers information and friendship across Suffolk.

There will be the opportunity to learn more about what it is like to live with dementia and turn that understanding into action. For more information and to book your free place, please call **01379 888130** or email angela.hodge@careuk.com

Eye Bach Choir Concert

Saturday 10th March

Eye Parish Church 7.30pm

Gloria

Francis Poulenc - Gloria
Giacomo Puccini - Messa di Gloria
with the Kingfisher Sinfonietta and
featuring Soprano, Lisa Cassidy

Tickets £15 and £12 to book:

01379 871272

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Membership is required at £6 for 6 months or £10 for 12 months. If you or someone you know would like to join us, please call **01379 854800**, 8.30am to 5pm, Mon–Fri.



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Covering 61 parishes in south Norfolk and north Suffolk. The fares to use the Borderhoppa bus service are: 0-5 miles £2 (£3.50 return); 5-10 miles £2.50 (£4.50 return); 10-15 miles+ £3 (£5.50 return).

Members Outings

Borderhoppa has lots going on for our members. The outings are very popular, so early booking is advised. Call or email adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com to confirm space availability. Outings are individually priced as follows:

February 2018

Thu 1st - Beccles £10; Thu 8th - Lunch at The Old Ram, Tivetshall; Mon 12th - Cherry Lane & Goodies Farm Shop £7;
Thu 15th - Stowmarket £15; Thu 22nd - Lunch at The Half Moon, Rushall £6;

March 2018

Thu 1st - The White Horse, Stoke Ash £7;
Thu 8th - Bungay & Lunch at The Flixton Buck £10; Thu 15th - Lunch at The Chip Inn, Long Stratton £6; Thu 22nd - The Range, Norwich & Lunch at The Village Inn, Little Melton £15; Thu 29th Bury St Edmunds;

Fressingfield Scouts

The Gang Show, held in Hartismere School for the first time, went very well with the highlight being the Lion King pantomime by the Explorers. The District Commissioner presented top awards to young people in front of proud parents and training awards to two leaders, as well as two awards for special achievements.

Plans for our **Commonwealth Day Firework Display on Saturday 10th March** at Fressingfield Playing Field are progressing well. The Playing Field Committee, Parish Council, Social Club and neighbouring farmers have been very supportive in getting our plans in place. Details are: gates open at 6 pm, fireworks at 7.30 pm. There will be music, the Social Club bar, barbeque and food, plus attractions and sideshows for another couple of hours. For safety reasons, there

will be no parking available at the playing field. Tickets in advance: child £4, adult £5, family of 4 £15. On the night: £5, £6 and £18. Look out for posters.



There is little progress with the new headquarters except to say that the archaeological survey was completed before Christmas and nothing of interest was discovered.

In May we are putting on “The Three Cakes Challenge” this is very similar to the Three Peaks Challenge in Yorkshire. However, the Fressingfield event will involve a bit of walking and we will be tackling Cakes not Peaks! Further details will be posted nearer the time.

On the Scouting front, we are limited by the weather and dark evenings at the moment, but we have had plenty of Scout skills to brush up on and plans to make for summer activities.

Michael knights

Too Many Cooks!

Too Many Cooks, the Harleston-based singing group that performs outside at Harleston's Street Markets and other events, is happy to welcome new members to its ranks.

Currently about 12 singers, of varying levels of experience, meet under the direction of the excellent **Janet Koralambe** to learn old and new settings of traditional songs from different cultures. It is an informal and good-humoured group that has a lot of fun whilst also striving to create an enjoyable experience for our audience.

The group meets on **Friday evenings** from 6.00 to 7.30pm at **St John's Church, Harleston**. If paid on a weekly basis the fee is £5, if paid in a 6-week or longer block that drops to £4. Next rehearsals will run from **16th February** to end of April, with a break over Easter.



If you would like to find out more or register your interest in taking part, please contact Nicky Stainton.

nmstainton@gmail.com
01379 855235

St Edmund's Day Celebrations

It seems almost a distant memory now as we enter 2018, but I would like to thank and congratulate all those involved in the St Edmund's celebrations on Sunday 19th November. It was a delight to attend as a rather passive Dane invader, i.e. waving a cardboard arrow, and be part of a very special Hoxne village experience!

Hats off to the performers of the St Edmund story in the garden of The Swan (featuring a particularly impressive wolf) and to the roles played by Eleanor Goodison, Michael Womack, and, of course our Swan landlord, Darren.

The main bar was turned into an excellent pop-up "church", blessed by a blazing fire and a rousing singing of hymns chosen by individual members of the congregation; a great selection of old favourites.

I very much hope that this event becomes a firm annual date in Hoxne's



Eagle-eyed newlyweds spot the glint of King Edmund's golden spurs as he hides under Goldbrook bridge!



Danes capture the King and a volley of arrows plus a beheading await...

diary and look forward to joining the throng this year, again on the nearest Sunday to St Edmund's official Saint's day (20th November) - and to seeing an even greater proliferation of flags and bunting throughout the village.

After all, we can be proud that St Edmund is "our" very own Saint and not an obscure member of that select group, but very much at the forefront with national status.

Paula Ashworth



Above left: ...the Wolf protects the King's head before it's miraculously re-joined with his body - the sign of a true saint!

Many thanks to Darren, without whom it wouldn't have been quite the same memorable day.

*Pictures:
Helen Macdonogh (indoors)
Bones (outdoors)*

Village Voice



Reflections

Being Spiritual

It is accepted that spirituality is ‘a good thing’; conversely religion is ‘not good’; when presented with words such as authoritarian, rigid etc. people will assign these to religion, whereas words such as tolerant, loving are connected with spirituality. But who ‘invented’ spirituality, when and why?

The person who can be credited (if that is the right word) with the entry of spiritual and spirituality into the English language was Archbishop William Temple. When drafting the Education Act in 1944, he was well aware of the difficulties of talking about a religious component to education in what was already a multi-faith country. Spirituality was chosen as a deliberately vague word; if anything it has become steadily vaguer since! How curious then that such a ‘good thing’ has until the middle of the twentieth century been inseparable from now suspect ‘religion’.

But how can we settle upon an approach to spirituality? Especially in an era when we are swamped by the choice available?

For me, the answer to settling upon a spirituality- a way to guide and direct my life has taken me back into the ‘religious’ origins and framework in which it thrived for so long. In particular it seems to me that the approach of Benedict of Nursia (480-547) has a lot to commend it; very simply life has three components, hospitality, worship and study. All of these can be taken in a very broad sense. Part of my own hospitality and study here is to help you develop a spirituality that works for you, I suppose my prayer (worship) is that I am able to do that.

Michael Womack
01379 388889

hoxnebenefice@gmail.com



Pop-up service in the Swan bar!



What better location to celebrate St Edmund?

Celebratory gatherings at Goldbrook bridge



Tranquil reflections at St Edmund's Monument

Church services

Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Wingfield

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

Village contacts

Hoxne - Brian Chester, Flaxfield, Witton's Lane, tel.: **01379 669157**

Denham - Michael Reeves, The Brambles, Church Road, tel.: **01379 668179**

Syleham - Mary Lewis, Little Hemplands, tel.: **01379 669258**

Wingfield - John McCracken, Catelyns, tel.: **01379 384181**

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

Sunday 4th February

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 11th February

11.15am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday 14th February

7.30pm Deanery Service at Hoxne

Sunday 18th February

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

Sunday 25th February

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne Family Service

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

Sunday 4th March

10am Wingfield Morning Prayer

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Messy Church

Sunday 11th March - Mothering Sunday

11.15am Hoxne Mothering Sunday Family Service

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Sunday 18th March

8.30am Hoxne BCP Holy Communion

10am Syleham Village Praise with Wingfield

Sunday 25th March - Palm Sunday

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

10am Hoxne BCP Morning Prayer

11.15am Denham Family Service

6.30pm Wingfield BCP Evensong

Good Friday 30th March

9.30am Hoxne Putting out the Light

12noon Wingfield Hymns and Meditation

Church News

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Very many thanks to *Village Voices* for helping the well-attended service of Readings and Carols on 19th December go with such a swing - and to the six readers who delivered the Christmas message loud and clear. It is also good to report that the collection totalled £254 which was donated to the Children's Society. More people came to receive Communion on Christmas Day than in recent years, but the overall

attendance at the service was lower, possibly due to a number of reasons.

Now the new diaries are in use, it's a good time to look ahead and note a few important dates - annual parochial church meeting and annual meeting of the Friends of the Church, **Thursday 12th April** in the Village Hall; Village Fete, **Saturday 23rd June** at Abbey Farm; Lammas Service, **Wednesday 1st August** at the church; Village Christmas Fair, **Saturday 1st December**, Village Hall.

The search continues for new faces for the organising group (small) of the Christmas Fair. The format for the event has developed in recent years and is now well established, but new thinking is always needed. Please contact Brian Chester (**01379 669157**) with offers of help.

Easter is relatively early this year with Lent beginning with **Ash Wednesday 14th February**, to be marked with a service for the Hoxne Deanery at St Peter and St Paul at 7.30pm. A Family Service will be held on **Mothering Sunday 11th March** at 11.15am, replacing the usual second Sunday service of Morning Prayer. This Book of Common Prayer service will move to **Sunday 25th March - Palm Sunday**, at 10am. The service of quiet meditation, Putting out the Light, takes place on **Good Friday 30th March**, at 9.30am. It lasts for only about 20 minutes, but is an appropriate approach to the day. **Easter Sunday 1st April**, will be celebrated with a Family Communion at 11.15am.

Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mothers' Union meets on the **third Monday** of the month at 2.15pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne. New members are always welcome. Next meetings:

Monday 19th February

Monday 19th March

Contact Branch Leader Cathie McGregor
01379 668434.

Flower rota

4th and 11th February: Altar - Cathie McGregor.

18th February until 25th March is Lent when there are no flowers in church.

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

St John, Denham

Services at St John's are friendly and welcoming and are usually preceded by fellowship and refreshments providing a good opportunity to meet the congregation. You can join us for our Family Services on **Sunday 25th February** and **Sunday 25th March**, these services begin at 11.15am with fellowship from 10.45am.

There will not be a Communion service in February as the Ash Wednesday will be held in Hoxne on the 14th at 7.30pm, but there is an evening service in March at 7.30pm. On **Saturday 17th March** we are holding a **Quiz** at St Edmund's Hall in Hoxne. Teams of six are invited, at £5 per person. The doors are opening at 7pm and the quiz will begin at 7.30pm. Nibbles will be provided, but teams can bring their own picnic, the bar will be open.



St Margaret, Syleham

Christmas - **Carols with Amici**, a very popular tradition continued. Our grateful thanks to Adrian and the choir, who were in excellent voice; several commented 'the best ever'. It was a shame numbers were down, probably owing to winter ills, but this coming year the service will be on **Sunday 16th December**, so lots of prior notice!

Crib Service was hosted by Wingfield Church, but we all joined in and the picture shows the scene prepared to tell the story of the shepherds who 'went in haste'.



Christmas Day Service saw another tradition, as Kitty blew out the Advent candles - but this year she didn't need to be lifted up by her daddy!



Messy Church party was well attended and great fun, with the entertainer Steve Sausage generously funded by the Sports & Social Club. If you want to see your Rector in new guise take a peek at our Facebook page (hint: look for the clerical collar!) www.facebook.com/HoxneMC Our next sessions will be on **Sunday 4th February** and **Sunday 4th March**, usual time of 4pm.

Call my Bluff (Wine) - Saturday 10th March 7.15 for 7.30pm - a truly hilarious evening. You don't need to know anything about wine, (though it might help): just be prepared to pit your wits against some

very clever liars! Ticket price of £15 per person includes an excellent hot supper and all wines. To be held at the Village Hall with proceeds to church funds, but all enquiries and/or bookings to Colin Campbell, darrsville@aol.com or **01379 668306**.



Unless otherwise indicated, **contact** for any of the above: Churchwarden, Mary Lewis on **01379 669258**, email: mary.lewis43@icloud.com

St Andrew, Wingfield

It was a particular pleasure to host the Benefice Crib Service at St Andrew's on Christmas Eve. We are very grateful to the many individuals who helped to organise the Crib Service and to make all our celebrations of Christmas so joyful: decorating the church, providing live music, leading our worship, and providing refreshments.

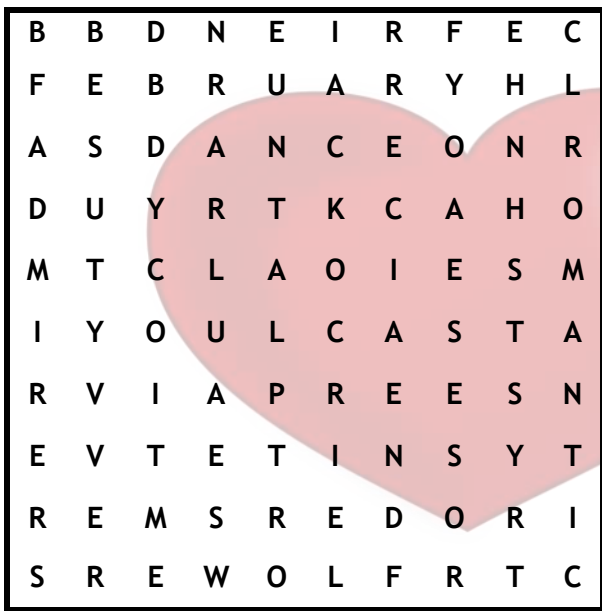
We will continue our recent custom of holding a service of Compline at 6pm on Friday evenings in Lent. Compline is a short service lasting a quarter of an hour, and provides an opportunity for reflection before the start of the weekend's activities. The first service of the season will be on **Friday 16th February**, and the last service will be on **Friday 23rd March**.

Our service to celebrate **Mothering Sunday 11th March** will be at 11.15am. We will have a service of hymns and meditation for **Good Friday 30th March** at noon.

*Benefice Crib Service - the Revd Eleanor Goodison
Interviews Mary and Joseph*



St Valentine Word Search



Find all the words listed below in the grid. They could be running horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. Once they have all been found, rearrange the remaining unused letters to find the hidden message...

- Admirer Friend
- Beauty Hearts
- Card Kiss
- Chocolate Love
- Cupid Red
- Dance Romantic
- Dart Roses
- February Trysts
- Flowers

St Edmunds School

Christmas, with its singing, nativity, fun and festivities has passed. The tinsel and lights are safely packed away until needed again. Resolutions are being made and new beginnings are being discussed.

Despite the winter weather, our Acorn Class will be participating in Wild Discovery outdoor learning. Warm clothing and wellington boots will be worn as, undeterred, our pupils will be out in the green area, learning about keeping safe outside whilst playing, looking at the nature surrounding us, making art, team building and using nature to help with learning basic skills.



Rowan class are studying the Victorian era, Beech class are investigating chocolate (its properties and the journey of a cocoa bean) and the pupils of Oak Class are taking their learning to infinity and beyond as they create their own super heroes (whilst learning about the qualities of real life heroes and heroines).

VACANCY: St Edmund's Primary School is looking for a **Breakfast Club Leader** 7.45 - 8.45 each weekday during term time. This role involves preparing and overseeing breakfast and supervising activities suitable for children before the start of their school day. If you are interested, please contact the school office for more information on **01379 668283** during school hours or email: officehoxne@wvpschools.org



In The Garden

Allium ursinum (wild garlic)

The first signs of spring are quickly upon us at this time of year. Aconites and snow drops will have poked their heads above ground in January, but February and March see the full rise of the “spring bulb” season, and it’s a perfect time to order and plant spring bulbs “in the green”. Many spring flowering bulbs are small and dry out, so don’t develop or even grow. However, planting “in the green”, although a bit more expensive, gives far better results and you can get a mass effect much easier. It’s a perfect way to plant snowdrops, wild garlic, bluebells, aconites and wild daffodils.

Do it now?

If you have been feeding the birds over the winter, make sure you keep the feeders clean and topped up with food, fresh water is also helpful if the ground is frozen.

Clean the glass of your cold frames and greenhouses to let in as much light as

possible. Check for drafts and re-secure any insulation if necessary.

Re-defining lawn edges with a half-moon edger is a good idea to tidy the area up, soon you will need to start regular cutting, so book your mower in for a service and blade sharpen if you haven’t done so already!

General Maintenance:

Roses: Pruning roses can be a bit daunting, given the number of books that have been written on the subject! But trials in the 1990’s showed that modern bush varieties respond well to a simple and “brutal” approach and you will be rewarded with lots more flowers. The trials compared traditional techniques with cutting back by half with a hedge trimmer and the hedge trimmer cut plants with their snagged and ripped shots performed just as well if not better! So large-flowered (hybrid tea) and cluster-flowered (floribunda) roses can all be cut back to around half their length, but I would use a pair of secateurs if you only have a few plants! Miniature roses need little or no pruning, but if congested, remove any thin or weak growth. Climbing roses fall into two

Narcissus pseudonarcissus 'lobularis' in the green



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main groups loosely described as climbers and ramblers. So, if you have a modern variety that produces lots of small flushes of flowers this is a climber and you can prune it now. If the plant is less than two years old, just cut out any dead, diseased or damaged shoot. Then train out the stems onto horizontal supports. In subsequent years and for older plants, cut back the flowering side shoots to three or four bud and tie in the leading shoots. Ramblers produce one major flush of flowers and they are best pruned in the autumn, certainly before Christmas.

If you have a heated green house (heated to at least 15 °C to 20°C day & night), you can start off some of the slow developing veg seeds under glass. You should get a bumper early crop of chillies and sweet peppers, tomatoes need at least 16 °C. You can also start off slow to germinate bedding plants like begonia, gazania, lobelia and pelargoniums. Don't worry if you don't have heat, you can still grow these plants, you will just have to wait a bit or sow them on a warm bright windowsill in the house.

5 Minute Jobs

Watch out for ice and frost, check the local weather forecasts and keep fleece at hand to protect any new seedlings or shoots or newly planted shrubs.



Order your potato tubers and if you haven't planted onions and garlic, order them now too! Put out a cloche

or cover the area you want to sow early peas, beetroot or broad beans. Leave it covered for two or three weeks to warm the soil and replace the cover after sowing to help speed up germination.

In the veg garden

If you "dig" your vegetable garden, you should aim to finish this by the end of February, if you have raised beds, a gentle fork over will help to aerate the soil. However, if the soil is wet or frozen leave this job for another day as you could end up burying the icy layer making the soil slower to warm up in the spring.

Claire Horne - BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert



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Sunday : 9 a.m.

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Safe Rider Workshops

Motorcyclists across Suffolk are being given the opportunity to improve their riding skills and to have better awareness and ability while on the road at 'Safe Rider' motorcycle workshops to be held in 2018. There is an added incentive to those wishing to attend a course, as the first ten people who complete an advanced test following their attendance on a Safe Rider workshop, will have the £50 course fee refunded (thanks to the support of the Copdock Classic Motorcycle Club).

In an effort to encourage more riders under the age of 25 to take the course, they will be able to attend for half price (£25), which will be funded by the Safe Rider scheme. Safe Rider is a joint initiative between Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies aimed at reducing the number of motorcycle casualties across the counties.

To date in 2017, 31 people have been killed on Suffolk's roads, six of which were motorcyclists. In 2016, a total 32 people died on the county's roads, six of which involved motorcyclists, with five riders dying and one pillion passenger.

The two day workshops will run from April through to October, the months when it is considered the number of motorcyclists taking to the roads increases due to more clement weather. The workshops are aimed at all fully qualified riders who want to improve their skills to become better and safer riders.

PC Kevin Stark, of Suffolk Constabulary's Serious Collision Investigation Team and who is organising the workshops, said: "Reducing the number of people who are killed or seriously injured on the county's roads remains a priority for us and the number of fatalities overall so far this year is just one less than in 2016, with those involving motorcyclists representing almost 20% of total deaths."



"The underlying message of the workshops is that education is key, not enforcement. They give motorcyclists greater awareness of the hazards they may face when out and about to help them become better and safer riders. I hope that the financial incentives being offered will encourage more riders to attend a course - particularly in the under 25 age group, from which we tend to not get as many participants."

Safe Rider courses are aimed at riders living in Suffolk and are run with the support of Suffolk Roadsafes and Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, with funding provided from Copdock Classic Motorcycle Club, along with Lings Motor Group, Bowers Motorcycles and Orwell Motorcycles.

The workshops cost £50 per person, or £25 for those under 25, and are held at Suffolk Police Headquarters, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich. They start at 7pm on a Friday evening with classroom sessions on the system of road craft, with particular attention given to positioning and cornering.

The next morning, there will be an escorted ride out session with a Class 1 police motorcyclist. A maximum 3:1 ratio ensures an accurate and personalised assessment of riding performance.

First aid sessions take place on the Saturday afternoon provided by Suffolk Fire and Rescue. The workshops dates are:

April 6/7	May 11/12
June 29/30	July 13/14
August 17/18	September 21/22
October 5/6	

For further course information visit the Suffolk Police website:



www.suffolk.police.uk/services/safe-rider-workshop or if you would like to register, call *The Motorcycle Casualty Reduction Team* on 01473 613888, Ext 3722 or PC Kevin Stark on 01473 613888 Ext 3395 or email: safesrider@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

In the Kitchen

Cooking a meal is one of the most personal and social gifts you can share. Whether it is a romantic Valentine meal for two, or an Easter lunch with friends and family: whether you are an experienced cook or new to the kitchen, why not try the following three course menu.

Piedmont Roasted Peppers

1950, a lifetime ago since the publication of Elizabeth David's first cookbook, "A Book of Mediterranean Food". After years of rationing, she introduced post WW11 Britain to a bright new world of Mediterranean food and ingredients that have now become an essential part of our cooking. There are many variations of this recipe, here is mine. Serves four as a starter.

Ingredients

- 4 large red or orange peppers (green are not suitable)
- 6 medium tomatoes, quartered - or equivalent cherry
- 8 tinned anchovy fillets, halved or crumbled feta cheese
- 2/3 cloves of garlic, peeled and finely sliced
- 16 pitted olives (optional)
- 8 tablespoons olive oil
- Ground black pepper
- Basil leaves

Method

Preheat oven to 180C/350F/Gas mark 4/AGA Roasting oven 3rd shelf down. Cut peppers in half, removing seeds but retaining stalks if possible. The stalks are not edible but help the peppers to keep their shape. Place the peppers, cut side up, in a large shallow baking tin. Divide the garlic slices between the peppers and



top with 3 x quarter medium tomatoes or 3 or 4 cherry tomatoes. Tuck into each pepper half, 2 olives and 2 halved anchovy fillets. Spoon one tablespoon of olive oil into each pepper half, followed by ground black pepper. If using anchovy fillets do not add salt. Place the pan in the oven for 45 - 60 mins. Remove the pan from the oven and baste peppers with juices. Gently transfer the peppers to a serving plate and garnish with basil leaves. Serve with some good bread to mop up the juices. Best served warm or at room temperature.

Maple Salmon en papillote

Salmon and vegetables with aromatics steamed in their own juices. Serves 2

Ingredients

- Mix together first 6 items for marinade:
- 80g maple syrup
- 4 teaspoons soy sauce
- 2 cloves of garlic, peeled and chopped
- ½ - 1 red chilli, thinly sliced and deseeded if preferred
- Small thumb of fresh ginger, peeled and finely chopped
- Juice of 1 lime





2 salmon fillets (about 180g each)
 6 spring onions, trimmed and cut into matchsticks
 1 small carrot, peeled and cut into matchsticks
 1 bulb of Pak choy, root trimmed and leaves chopped
 OR 12 individual broccoli florets
 Half a pepper cut into matchsticks

2 pieces of non-stick baking parchment cut into 38cm x 30cm, folded in half
 1 large baking sheet

Method

Preheat oven to 200C/400F/Gas mark 6/AGA roasting oven 3rd shelf down. Place the salmon in a shallow bowl and spoon over the marinade. Leave for 15 - 30 minutes, turning salmon once. Divide and assemble the vegetables on one half of each parchment square, then place a salmon fillet on top and spoon over marinade. Fold the top half of the square over the bottom half and fold the edges of the parchment several times to seal to form into an airtight packet. Place parcels on the baking sheet and bake for 20 -25 minutes. Place each parcel onto a warmed serving plate - I prefer to serve the parcels unopened. If you wish you could accompany with rice or noodles served separately.

Easy Chocolate Ice-cream

Ingredients

475ml double cream
 397g of full fat sweet condensed milk
 125g cocoa powder
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract (optional)

Method

In a medium bowl, stir together the sweetened condensed milk, cocoa powder and vanilla extract if using.

Piedmont Roasted Peppers Maple Salmon en papillote Easy Chocolate Ice-cream & Honeycomb

Using a mixer, whip the cream until it forms firm peaks for about 1.1/2 min with a hand whisk. Don't overbeat. Gradually fold the whipped cream into the chocolate mixture ensuring it is mixed thoroughly. Pour into a lidded plastic container and freeze for at least 6 hours or overnight. Remove from freezer for about 30 - 40 minutes to soften before serving.

Honeycomb

Ingredients

2 tablespoons golden syrup
 75g caster sugar
 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
 A large tray covered with non-stick baking paper



Method

Put the syrup and sugar into a large and deep saucepan and stir continuously over a low heat until the sugar dissolves and mixture turns a golden caramel colour (about 8 minutes). Remove from the heat and tip in the bicarbonate of soda and stir well until it is foaming. Tip mixture onto the paper. Do not spread or touch. It will be hot. Cool for about an hour. Smash the honeycomb as desired, and scatter on top of the ice - cream. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

*Enjoy.
 Gill O'Connor*



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Wingfield & District Gardening Club

Our next meeting on **Saturday 17th February** is a Willow weaving workshop starting at 10.00 am. This is followed by the subject of **Low maintenance plants** on **Thursday 22nd March** at 7.30 pm. Both meetings take place in Brundish Village Hall. For further information, contact Priscilla Williamson on **01379 388034** or email: priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com

Hoxne Garden & Social Club

The Club held its annual Christmas Dinner at The Hoxne Swan again this year and whilst it was a successful and enjoyable event, it was only attended by 18 stalwarts compared with the 40+ last year.

By the time this article is published we will have had our first evening talk of 2018, but there are still two further meetings of the Club year.

Thursday 15th February brings David and Jane Gook to Hoxne, with some of their Owls, to talk about 'The Hawking Experience'.

I know some people find birds close up a bit scary, but there are many of us who find birds of prey mesmerising and I am sure that it will be a fascinating evening.

Ben Potterton from Blacksmiths Cottage Nursery returns on **Thursday 15th March**, this time to speak on 'Woodland Perennials'. This talk will be followed by our AGM.

In last month's Village Voice I stated that our Treasurer, John Langley, will be moving away from the village and that



now looks like being in early February so we will then be 'Treasurerless' if I may create such a term! The Club's future looks increasingly in jeopardy if more support is not forthcoming as both myself and the Secretary, Val Thompson, will not be standing for re-election at the AGM.

The future of the Club might be more secure with the infusion of new blood into the membership from people with the enthusiasm and energy to move it forward. So, if anyone out there feels able to breathe fresh life into the Club by all means let me or any other committee member know.

You don't have to be a member to come to a meeting, you just pay £2 rather than £1 for the privilege and you will be very welcome! All meetings start as 7.30pm.

*Gordon Lacey, Chair
01379 668565*

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Our next fund raising event is our Family Quiz on **Saturday 3rd February** in St. Edmunds hall. Tables of up to six, £5 per head, bring your own picnic supper, the bar will be open! Contact Margaret on **01379 668352** to book your table.



Just a reminder, book sale and coffee morning, every **third Saturday** in the church from 9:45 till 11:15.

If you would like to join the Friends and help us to maintain the fabric of the church, then contact Maureen Johnson **01379 668478**. Annual membership is only £12.50.

*John Brawn, Chairman
01379 668352*



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Hoxne Phoenix Group

Since the last issue, Hoxne Phoenix Group has had a quiet time. Our November meeting was our Open Fundraising Evening in aid of SERV (Suffolk Blood Runners). Our speaker that evening was Mark Mitchel, whose talk was entitled "The Cretingham Murder Mystery". He left us all in suspense as to who committed the murder and, to this day, there are people who visit Cretingham (in Suffolk) to see if that throws any light on it. Mark is an excellent speaker and about 70 people came along to the Main Hall that evening. The total raised was £400 which we were able to send to SERV.

Unfortunately our December meeting had to be cancelled due to the snow that descended that afternoon, which turned rapidly to ice. Not only were some of our

members from outlying villages unable to get to Hoxne, but some of the handbell ringers in villages around Harleston not able to get here either!

We meet on the **second Tuesday** of each month, normally in the Lounge at Hoxne Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Our **February** meeting is a demonstration of "Hats" - our speaker, Margaret Sims, will have about 100 hats to be 'modelled'; this will be followed by our A.G.M. In **March** we have a speaker advising us on how to avoid fraud and scams and in **April** Dr. Ian Bedford is giving a talk on "Butterflies".

Anyone interested in any of our meetings is welcome to come along and join us for that evening. All we ask is for a Visitors Fee of £2 for the evening.

*Pat Green, Secretary, 01379 668379
patandbryan1@gmail.com*

The New Reeding Woods Group

As everyone knows, growing and managing a native British woodland is a task of many lifetimes and the New Reeding Woods Group is still looking for support to oversee Pound Lane Wood in the years to come.

A recent recruitment drive has resulted in an encouraging number of new supporters, but more youthful enthusiasts would ensure care for the longer term future. At the woodland, supporters of all ages could learn about all aspects of managing a small wood. Over the coming year we will be conducting small mammal, wildflower and bird surveys and investigating the newts in our pond, as well as maintaining the rides and hay

making. There will be plenty to learn about the husbandry of a small community woodland. If you are interested in any aspect of maintaining this woodland, please do get in touch.

The newly installed notice board at Pound Lane Wood requests that visitors record the wild life observed, and the entries are interesting and varied, but those particularly causing amusement include: a woolly mammoth by the pond, and 12 reindeer and a man in a red suit with his wife! All entries, including the facetious, remind us that the woodland is a well-used local amenity.

Volunteers are always welcome to join the group and activities will be listed on the notice board, so keep recording your observations and watch out for working party dates.

*Mike Reeves
01379 668179*

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Happy New Year from Hoxne Heritage Group

By the time this issue is published, the group will have held its latest public talk on *The history of Wallpaper*. This promises to be a fascinating insight into an area that we take for granted these days.

Our next talk will be presented on **Thursday 8th March** by Kevin Knights about George Rayner, one of his ancestors and former miller and photographer of Hoxne. Watch out for ticket information in due course.

You may have noticed some unusual activity in the meadow behind Low Street to the northwest. We have enlisted the help of some archaeologists who are using a technique called LIDAR, similar to geophysics, in our search for the 'lost' lodge building on the former Oakley Park. To date they have found a lot of exciting evidence of former buildings on the site, but it is believed that these are more likely to be WW1 military buildings rather than our lodge. Further work will be carried out in the next few weeks. When the work is complete we hope that the team will be willing to give a talk to the village about the technique and how they have drawn the conclusions from the scans.

We are honoured to have been asked by the Suffolk Historic Buildings Group to host one of their day conferences in Hoxne this summer. We are indebted to those villagers who have agreed in principle to allow members of this group to visit their historically-interesting houses.

From a social perspective, we finished the year's activities by holding yet another successful Christmas party and are hoping to organise a summer social trip to combine a visit to a significant site with a lunch event.

If you are interested in local history and enjoy a social get-together, then why not join the group. See the contact page on our website. Finally, a reminder that our regular meetings are held on the **first Tuesday** of each month at The Swan Inn.

Margaret Sillis
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxon Hundred Folk Club

Hoxon are practising **every Wednesday** in St Edmunds Hall, Hoxne between 7.30 and 10.00 pm. Our practises include Cotswold tradition and North West tradition. For the final half hour we relax and do social dancing, which is either Playford or Country, where the aim is to have fun and not worry about precision. We are always looking for new dancers and musicians.

We have booked our annual Ale for **Saturday 3rd March** at Roydon Village Hall and if any Cotswold dancers are interested in attending, please contact me as shown below.

Further ahead, in the summer amongst other events, we are looking forward to dancing at the Hoxne fete on **Saturday 23rd June** at Abbey Farm.

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Parish Council Reports

Please see page 2 for contact details and website addresses for all Parish Councils.

Denham

MEETINGS - Denham Parish Council had a successful meeting in St John's Church at the end of November. As this issue of Village Voice goes to print, our January scheduled meeting will be taking place at Hoxne playing field pavilion. At this meeting, the schedule of meetings for the year will be agreed. This information will be published on the four noticeboards in the village and on the Parish Council website. Members of the public are welcome at all meetings.

VILLAGE HALL - The hall has been closed temporarily to allow the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee to explore options for renovation. The building is part of the World War II heritage of the area, being the Guardroom for the USAAF base at Horham Airfield until 1945. It was later donated to the village by a local landowner to be used as a Community Hall for the Parish.

Due to the age and construction of the building, essential repairs are now needed to ensure that it can continue to be used for this purpose. Tania Farrow, Chair of Denham Parish Council has said "The Parish Council are looking at options for

securing funding to renovate the existing building and to maintain it's character. It needs to be brought up to modern standards to ensure its continued use as a community building, but we will be looking at all the options available to achieve this without losing sight of its heritage. We are looking to work with the Hall Management Committee to achieve this as quickly as possible and we will provide updates on progress as soon as we can. This is an exciting opportunity to improve this village asset and we hope that local residents will support the Parish Council to deliver the best outcome for the village". Anyone wishing to get involved in supporting this initiative should contact Tania Farrow, tgfarrow@btinternet.com

Sarah Foote, Clerk

Hoxne

DEFIBRILLATOR - This is now fully commissioned and in its case on the outside wall (to the left hand side of the front door) of St Edmund's Hall. In the unfortunate circumstance that you need to access the defibrillator, your first action **MUST BE TO DIAL 999**. The ambulance service will then provide you with the code you need to open the case and access the defibrillator.

AN ILLUMINATED CHRISTMAS - Thanks to Alan and Joan Garnham and all the residents around Low Street Green who

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provided such a wonderful display at Christmas. Comments were received from far and wide.

VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN - Will take place on **Sunday 18th March**. All volunteers should meet at St Edmund's Hall for 10am. Please come along and support the work of the small team who arrive every year to collect litter, wash signs and keep your village tidy. Equipment will be provided, but please bring your own gloves.



ROADS, HOLES AND SIGNS - The Parish Council continues to lobby for improvements to the roads in the village. At the time of going to press, it is evident that our roads are not in a great state of repair and there are various potholes that need attention. Please do feel free to report these directly to the County Council by using their online reporting tool at www.suffolk.gov.uk/highways

We have been informed that some resurfacing will take place in the village during the summer, namely the Oakley Road bend where the surface has deteriorated in such a way that it has been slippery and accidents have occurred. The Traffic Calming scheme, a County Council project, has not been without its teething problems, particularly the continued displacement of the signs. Clearly vandalism or accidental damage to the warning signs could result in a danger to drivers. If you witness any incidents at this location please contact Suffolk Police on 101 or report the damage via the Suffolk County Council website as detailed above.

MEETINGS - The Parish Council meets on the **first Thursday** of the month. The next meetings will be held on **Thursday 1st February** and **Thursday 1st March** at St Edmund's Hall and commence at 7.30pm.

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES - We are still looking for new Parish Councillors. Please come forward and ask the Clerk for further details.

STREET CARETAKER - As reported last issue, the Parish Council are seeking to appoint a new Street Caretaker from April. If you are interested or wish to find out more, please see the job advert on page 5.

Sarah Foote, Clerk

Syleham

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will take place on **Thursday 8th March** at the Village Hall, 7.30pm start. Members of the public are welcome at all meetings.

David Young, Clerk

Wingfield

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will take place on **Friday 2nd February** at Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm start. Members of the public are welcome at all meetings.

David Young, Clerk

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AFC Hoxne

The last two calendar months of 2017 saw three wins and three defeats for middle of the table AFC Hoxne.

On 11th November we played at Grundisburgh for the first time and performed superbly for a 6-2 triumph. The home side were very fine hosts.

There were even more goals at Hoxne the following week in a Suffolk Senior Cup, 3rd round tie, against leading Ipswich side Achilles. We had drawn 3-3 at home with them earlier in the season. However, in the cup tie, we lead 4-2 with 15 minutes to go, but they staged a great comeback to win 5-4.

Hoxne then bounced back to record back to back home wins against Bramford United (3-2) and Ransomes Sports (2-0).

The rest of December saw two home matches postponed (vs Capel Plough and Henley Athletic) because the pitch was unfit, and 4-0 defeats away at both Henley Athletic and Achilles.

Overall, however, it has been a very credible performance in our first season in the top division of the Ipswich League. All credit to manager Ben Wilby, his coaching staff and the players.

In the Bob Coleman Cup, we entertained Felixstowe Harpers United on 6th January, but unfortunately lost 3-1.

The second XI are having another great season. At the time of going to press,

they topped their reserve group "League A" that they won last season and in the process they have scored 51 goals. Again, due credit to the players and the guys who have managed the team this season, Barry & Steve Garland, Lee Tricker and Jamie Scales.

The next Senior Division fixtures during this issue of the *Village Voice* are:

03/02	14:30	Home	Haughley United
10/02	14:30	Away	Benhall St Mary
24/02	14:30	Away	Wenhaston United
03/03	14:30	Home	East Bergholt United
17/03	14:30	Home	Capel Plough
24/03	14:30	Home	Felixstowe Harpers
31/03	14:30	Away	Coplestonians

Matches may be subject to change, so please check before travelling:

<http://touchlinesil.co.uk/fixtures>

Clive Baxter, President

Hoxne Veterans

In the Norfolk & Suffolk Veterans League, Hoxne are top of their group as we go to print. Despite rallying to a 4-4 draw at home to Kirkley & Pakefield Reserves, their other two league matches saw credible home wins against Waveney (5-0) and Cromer Crab (4-1).

The League cup 2nd Round match against Coplestonians Reserves was postponed until January.

The next Division One (North) fixtures during this issue of the *Village Voice* are:

04/02	14:00	Away	Kirkley & P'field Res
04/03	14:30	Away	Newton Flotman
25/03	14:30	Home	Wealden

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The Lunch Bunch Visits...

After the indulgences of Christmas and New Year, the Lunch Bunch bravely headed out to try another local eating place on your behalf. The welcome was warm as was the building which on a grey and drizzly lunchtime was very pleasing. We had booked a table by phone and changes to numbers were easily made.

We walked into the eating area to start with, but were shown to the bar to order our drinks. There is plenty of comfortable seating in the bar (and outside in the garden in the summer) and you could easily while away an hour or two, just remember only children over the age of 8 are welcome in both the bar or eating area, this is a grown-up's place. As the pub filled with lunch time dinners we realised we must have picked the day that "ladies lunch" as there was a good number of tables filled with just such!

We collected our drinks, a nice varied offering here, complete with Adnams on tap and perused the menus. The fixed offerings are traditional pub food, but it was to the specials board our eyes were drawn. Lots of interesting and varied dishes to choose from. Chicken braised in white wine, veggie curry, cottage pie to name just a few. While we could have easily ordered starters, the pudding menu was longer! So, we opted for the two-course lunch deal.

We were brought water and a basket of warm bread for us to nibble on while we waited for our meals. The Ivy House prides itself on home cooked fresh food and we weren't disappointed. Soon, a

bowl of perfectly cooked seasonal vegetables was brought to the table



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along with our main courses. The fish pies were filled with big chunks of real fish in a lovely rich sauce, topped with "proper" mashed potatoes and cheese. The steak pie was filled with big chunks of steak swimming in glossy thick gravy, topped with a crispy flaky pastry top and big hand cut chips!



The meals were hot, delicious and deceptively large, but we still managed to clear our plates and when offered the dessert menu we did hesitate, just for a minute! Crumbles, steamed puddings, pavlova, cheesecake, Ice-creams. Even a cheese board! So, we just had to dive in. Steamed treacle puddings with custard and cheesecake and cream ordered along with coffee. It was all devoured in double quick time, the treacle pudding and custard velvety, smooth and reassuringly indulgent and the cheesecake, light and tangy and just perfect!

When we received the bill, we were surprised at how reasonable the total was and it took a little convincing that our desserts had not been left off the list! Reassured, we remembered the amazing two-course lunch deal! Two courses for just £12.95 each, certainly our lunches were well worth the money.

Non "specials" starters were from £5.95, mains from £9.95 / £11.95, deserts £5.95. Check for days for special two and three course deals.

The Lunch Bunch

A Word from Wingfield

Run-Up to End of Empire

Part One - The Kabaka's Exile

I feel easier about this piece when I read from Sir Andrew Cohen's *British Policy in Changing Africa*: "there was no-one in the Colonial Office who was expert on the subject of native administration, and I remember being surprised early in my service at being asked to write a note describing our policy on this".

At a family gathering in 1980 intended to commemorate Andrew's life, Professor Ronald Robinson told us that he joined the Colonial Office in 1933 when the British Empire of Tropical Africa was expected to last forever, and became Head of the African Division in 1947 at the age of 39. With his Labour Minister, Arthur Creech Jones, in effect he produced the Durham Report for the great changes we were to experience in tropical Africa. Described by Harold Macmillan in the famous "Winds of Change" speech, the entire continent is now in transition.

It was in 1951 after Creech Jones had planted his first seeds and then fallen from office, that Andrew Cohen came out to govern Uganda, in Robinson's words, "to cool his radical heels in gubernatorial

boots". I was District Commissioner Bunyoro when he came on his first safari to witness native administration first hand.

He and Helen stayed with us in Hoima in our guest house down the garden, and we concluded a hectic week with a revised Bunyoro Agreement, which no doubt presaged the dramatic changes that were to follow in Buganda. Owen Griffith was a most able Private Secretary and the ideal interlocutor for a green-horn Governor who had not come up through the ranks of district officers.

Andrew was a remarkable person and coped very well with practice as well as theory, despite his impracticalness. He dominated situations because of his overpowering intellect, and not by rank or status. He treated everyone as equal which was fine if you could respond to his demands for information, ideas or opinions. I became a disciple from the start and a fervent admirer throughout the rest of his life, which ended abruptly just after he and Barbara Castle (known as "the Elephant and Castle") had set up the Institute of Development Studies in Sussex.

He had no 'side' whatsoever and his naiveté encouraged a protectiveness. He was a man of vision who knew what the world was about and certainly where Africa was heading. Generally he did not get on well with officials and preferred his friends at Makerere university. I felt privileged to be in his circle and to be invited to meet his unusual friends at pool-side parties. We were offered his Oxford house to stay in during the second Devonshire Course.

One extraordinary, but no doubt typical occasion was his farewell to the Stonehouse family at Government House. During dinner John was smuggled out to the plane by the back door while the Special Branch was waiting to arrest him at the front door.

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I went to Government House for a last meeting before going on leave to talk about Buganda. As I was about to drive away, Andrew put his head out of the office window and said, "I'm sorry that I was unable to do anything for you", which I assumed meant he could not find me a more exalted job than Assistant Resident, Buganda.

The final posting in my first tour, made to widen experience of the native administration, was to Buganda's Masaka District under the Irish Graham Moss, an experienced Field Officer who by example taught us the importance of acquiring a deep understanding, and a healthy suspicion, of secretariat officers without muddied boots. It was this spell in Buganda which qualified me for a posting to Kampala in January 1954 as an Assistant Resident, East Mengo, to help deal with the fall-out from the Kabaka's deportation that had just taken place.

This unhappy train of events stemmed from the impossibility of reconciling tribe and state - a dilemma thoroughly analysed in the Wallis Report. Cohen was well on the way to engineering a solution to this problem when the Secretary of State inflamed feelings in Buganda and resurrected an old ghost by an unfortunate reference to federation of the whole East African Territories in a speech to the East African Dinner Club on 30th June 1953. The suspicions which he created exacerbated a delicate situation and led to eventual deadlock, with the deportation of the Kabaka on 30th November 1953.

I think of Spike Milligan's record of his part in Hitler's war as I set down my own walking-on part in the much less memorable deportation affair. Indeed, when people discover that you have seen service in Uganda, it is of Amin they enquire, not Mutesa. But it is the Kabaka who signified most then, and perhaps again. Certainly the Baganda and their

culture have displayed great durability throughout the tribulations of the past-three decades.

So, we re-entered the Buganda scene when we were dumped in Kampala three miles out of town in a very indifferent flat designed by a government architect called Kenneth Begg. We had two very young children and very little money. I went straight off on tour with the car, leaving Anne stranded, my role being to persuade the Baganda that the Kabaka would never return. That was the very unpalatable official position to be made absolutely explicit in every *lukiiiko* meeting that I was to hold. And the more we repeated the message, the more unpalatable it became, and on some occasions one became apprehensive.

At one large gathering at Wobulenzi a large crowd surrounded us and one smart fellow managed to remove the keys from my car, leaving us stranded bar interpreter and Saza Chief. They had erected a ceremonial arch in the township and we had insulted the Kabaka by driving under it. Accordingly they wished to hold a kangaroo court to try us and to punish us for that offence. The Saza Chief was not unduly rattled, and no doubt felt responsible for the young officer in his domain. We managed to get away by a trick used by car thieves wanting an Austin car, which is done by moving the fuse to the middle of the board and shorting out the ignition. We drove off keyless whilst the crowd continued to argue about what they should do.

I have never experienced physical violence in the Third World, although I have witnessed it, and I have never ceased to marvel at the respect shown for the British people by our Third World Commonwealth fellow citizens.

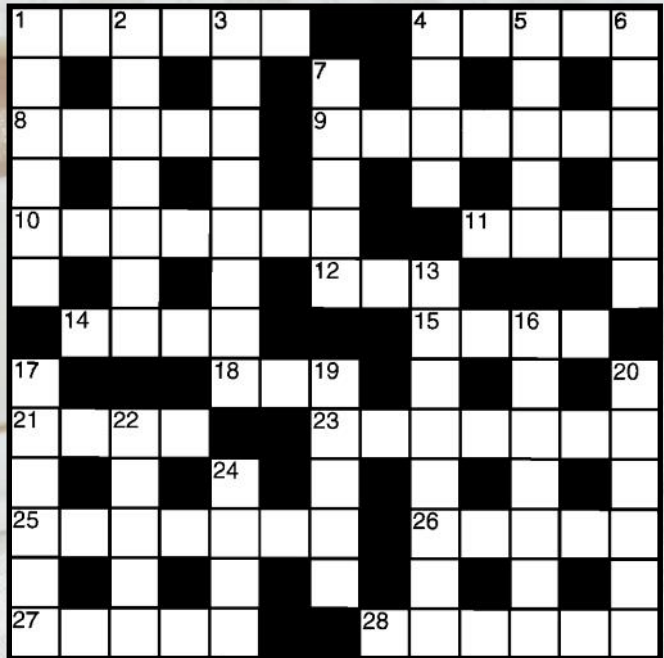
Tommy Gee

Crossword

Puzzle No. 122

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 5th March** latest.

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



Across

- 1 Astute form of sculpture (6)
- 4 Linger awhile when covered in pitch (5)
- 8 Bear down on the media (5)
- 9 Let exit lead to cloth (7)
- 10 I join the duty list and party (7)
- 11 Give way to the tennis star? (4)
- 12 Tease a young goat (3)
- 14 Trip up in 23 across (4)
- 15 Exist in the team as a wild goat (4)
- 18 Young newt is somewhat bereft (3)
- 21 Rear end of large dog in a minor row (4)
- 23 Originally the eighth month of the year (7)
- 25 Delicate cloth found in a folder (7)
- 26 Business deal from extra development (5)
- 27 Cathy designed a sailing boat (5)
- 28 Garnet can become a different colour (6)

Down

- 1 Splendid part of the Super Bowl (6)
- 2 Camera I mislaid in New York (7)
- 3 Let tunes disturb oneself (8)
- 4 Maybe a vehicle hired in Hackney (4)
- 5 Acoustically lift towards the sunbeams (5)
- 6 Gives way and harvests (6)
- 7 Stealthily approach a bird I hear (5)
- 13 Autocrat giving instructions to his P.A (8)
- 16 Cram bee into a cuddle (7)
- 17 Bunged up and straitlaced (6)
- 19 Audibly hauled along by an amphibian (5)
- 20 Red ant became passionate (6)
- 22 Candid sounding old currency (5)
- 24 Herb in pristine condition (4)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 121 was: Clive Baxter, Hoxne

- Answers: **Across** 5) Court 8) Knapping 9) Edits 10) Nurtures 11) Crate 14) Ant 16) Static 17) Within 18) Ego 20) Break 24) Constant 25) Cache 26) Aggrieve 27) Sense
Down 1) Skint 2) Pairs 3) Spout 4) Intern 6) Obdurate 7) Ratstail 12) Stargaze 13) Attaches 14) Ace 15) Two 19) George 21) Users 22) Tamed 23) Steer

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

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