

The background of the cover is a photograph of a church tower and part of the church building. The tower is made of light-colored stone with a crenellated top and two narrow, louvered windows. The church building is made of similar stone with a dark roof and a large Gothic-style window. In the foreground, there are several gravestones of various shapes and sizes. The scene is set outdoors with bare trees in the background under a clear sky.

Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2018

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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

C Chair
V-C Vice Chair
CW Church Warden

Diary Dates

Saturday 14th July - Sunday 2nd September

International Mini Print Exhibition WB p15

Wednesday 1st - Sunday 19th August

Annie Harbrow Exhibition WB p15

Thursday 2nd August

Hoxne Parish Council HPP p41

Friday 3rd August

Open Mic Night SWH p15

Wingfield Parish Council WB p42

Monday 6th - Monday 13th August

Scrap Metal Collection SWH p15

Tuesday 7th August

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan p18

Friday 10th August

Karaoke SWH p15

Saturday 11th August

Afternoon Tea, Breast Cancer Care, Syleham p8

Sunday 12th August

Garden Games & Kubbs, Denham p22

Tuesday 14th August

Phoenix Group, Royal Navy in WWI HVH p20

Saturday 18th August

Coffee Morning, St Peter & St Paul p29

Tuesday 21st August

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p9

Wednesday 22nd August

- Sunday 2nd September

Rhonda Whitehead Exhibition WB p16

Saturday 25th August

Produce & Craft Market HVH p17

Sunday 26th August

Red Feather Club Museum Open Day p19

Friday 31st August

Bingo SWH p15

Saturday 1st September

Flower, Craft & Produce Show HVH p33

Leveret in Concert WB p16

Sunday 2nd September

Hoxne Charities Clay Shoot, Oakley Park p8

Tuesday 4th September

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan p18

Wednesday 5th September

Syleham Parish Council SVH p42

Thursday 6th September

Hoxne Parish Council HPP p41

Friday 7th September

Open Mic Night SWH p15

Saturday 8th September

Ride + Stride, SHCT Cycle Ride p5

Tuesday 11th September

Phoenix Group Spanish Evening HVH p20

Friday 14th September

Film Night HVH p17

Karaoke SWH p15

Saturday 15th September

Coffee Morning, St Peter & St Paul p29

Sunday 16th September

Harvest Breakfast, Hoxne p9

Tuesday 18th September

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p9

Thursday 20th September

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Talk HVH p33

Saturday 22nd September

Harvest Supper, Wingfield p24

Reg Meuross in Concert HVH p17

Thursday 27th September

Wingfield & District Gardening Club BVH p33

Friday 28th September

Bingo SWH p15

Jimmy Aldridge & Sid Goldsmith WB p16

Saturday 29th September

Produce & Craft Market HVH p17

Red Feather Club Dance p19

Saturday 29th September

- Sunday 7th October

RPS Nature Group Exhibition WB p16

RPS East Anglia Exhibition WB p17

Sunday 30th September

Red Feather Club Museum Open Day p19

Hoxne Play Café, **every Wednesday**
during the school holidays HPP p8

For Church Services and events, see p22-24

For Mobile Library, see p13

BVH Brundish Village Hall

DVH Denham Village Hall

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

Letters to the Editor

CHURCH BOOST

Hoxne summer Church Fete was blessed with a good attendance of people enjoying the many activities in the lovely warm weather and beautiful garden at Abbey Farm, Hoxne. A children’s entertainer was a real hit with the children (and their parents) and all enjoyed the traditional fete activities. Special thanks go to our event sponsors Excite Solutions Ltd, Septic Tank Services and Joseph Flach & Sons Ltd. and of course to Wilf White for the use of his wonderful location. Thanks to all the hard work of everyone who contributed so much time and money which allowed us to raise over £1,900 for Church funds despite the event being an hour shorter than last year. For those that couldn’t make it, then please do try to come along and join us next year for a classic village event where you can meet with friends (old and new), relax with a cup of tea or a beer and enjoy games and fun in beautiful surroundings.

Ben Benton

PLANT PROFIT

Due to the cold weather this spring, there was only one plant sale this year. It was very well supported and all plants were sold within half an hour! A profit of £360 was made for the Hoxne Playing Field funds. Thank you for your support.

Carole Smith

FETE THANKS

We wish to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make the 2018 Wingfield Village Fete such a success. Particularly the helpers, but also the hundreds of people who came to listen to the music,

quaff the Pimms, and spend their money to raise funds for the East Anglian Children’s Hospice and St Andrews. Over £1200 pounds will be on its way to our chosen charities this year. A special thanks to Anna at Wingfield Barns for allowing us to hold the event there.

The Wingfield Events team

ANYONE FOR A NATTER?

If anyone would be interested in forming a Knit ‘n’ Craft ‘n’ Natter group in Hoxne, please let me know, email: gillocon@btinternet.com

Gill O’Connor

A Game of Two Halves

Hoxne’s own footballing encyclopaedia, Clive Baxter has bid ‘au revoir’ and headed for pastures new. Clive was captured on camera by Graham Turner for his departure from Hoxne - Yes, he really has gone...

A stalwart of local events and an unsurpassed contributor to the *Village Voice* over the years, Clive wasn’t to be rivalled.



Those of you who were lucky enough to



have been in the same Quiz Night team as him in the past, will testify to his uncanny recollection of sports round trivia! We wish him all the best for the future.

Bones

Ride + Stride

The Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride

You will soon be seeing the posters and, if travelling in Norfolk, some banners, for this years Ride + Stride event taking place on **Saturday 8th September.**

This annual event raises money to help maintain historic churches, chapels and meeting houses of all denominations across the country and some of our own churches have benefited from funds from the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

The money is raised by you being sponsored to bike ride or walk between participating churches or by acting as a recorder in the church. Being a recorder 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. All of our benefice churches participate in Ride + Stride as do many others in the area and the full list can be obtained from your local organiser (see below).

This is a great opportunity to do something special to help pay to keep your church structurally sound and thus open for worship and weddings, baptisms and funerals. So please do get involved. You can travel between as many or as few churches as you are able and also have an enjoyable day exploring the lovely Suffolk countryside, perhaps stopping at a pub on route.

Sponsor forms are available from your local organiser and if you are not able to walk or ride or act as a recorder, then



please do generously sponsor someone who is. Your local organisers are:

St John, Denham

Sue Roberts, 07713 157351
Email: scr@netcom.co.uk

St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne

Anne Swann, 01379 669322
Email: anneswann3@hotmail.com
Rhona Bertie, 01379 871850
Email: rhonabertie@gmail.com

St Margaret, Syleham*

Mary Lewis, 01379 669258
Email: mary.lewis43@icloud.com

St Andrew, Wingfield

John McCracken, 01379 384181
Email: vj.mccracken@gmail.com



Sue Roberts
07713 157351
scr@netcom.co.uk

*See front cover - could you be a sponsored rider or recorder for Syleham this year?

Hoxne Rocks!

An anonymous artist has been bringing a smile to the face of passers-by in Hoxne. Have you seen any of the enigmatic 'rocks' that have appeared on Church Hill or else where in the village?



Can you help us solve the mystery of the Hoxne skull?

The skull, which has been in Diss Museum for many years, was recently studied by scientists at Cambridge University. They found that it belonged to a woman who probably lived between 885 and 1015 AD. She had traces of leprosy in her DNA and may have been of Viking origin. They presented their findings at a fascinating lecture hosted by the Friends of Diss Museum last summer.



Now for the mystery. Nobody knows precisely where and when the skull was found or who found it. Somewhere in Hoxne there may be a Viking cemetery which would be quite a find. The skull is said to have been given to Diss Museum by someone living in Hoxne in the 1960s. There is a rumour that the skull may have been found in Low Street in the 1940s or 1950s, but there is also a story that it was found by some US airmen, when a nearby airbase was being developed during the war, and given to someone in Hoxne by them.

If you do find bones in you garden which you think may be human you must report them to the police, even if you

think they are ancient, and under the Burial Act 1857 you must not exhume human remains without a licence. So that may be why we don't know where this skull was found.

"Bones of antiquity" end up under the remit of the county archaeologist rather than the CID of course, but perhaps somebody found the skull who didn't know the rules and was worried that they might get into trouble?

Can anyone help us to solve this mystery? It would be wonderful to add to Hoxne's rich history with a few more Vikings!

If you do know anything more about this story - even if it is just another rumour - please do contact me at:

aewwhite734@btinternet.com

Wilf White

Celebrating the 1150TH Anniversary of the Martyrdom of St Edmund

This little note is to let you know what Hoxne Parish Church is planning to do to celebrate the 1150th anniversary of the martyrdom of St Edmund which falls on 20th November 2019. Of course there will be special services and events which we will tell you about nearer the time, but this note is just about the church building.



Our lovely parish church is a wonderful asset to the village, but it needs some repairs and we do need to improve its facilities. Work is already underway to put in a small kitchen unit and a new loo which are really essential and will enable the church to be used for more events.

These are essential works, but we also want to be more ambitious:

- We want to re-erect the lovely old Victorian screen that tells the story of St Edmund and to establish a St Edmund chapel in the church;
- We want to restore and conserve our beautiful mediaeval wall paintings and to redecorate the interior of the church;
- We want to replace the current displays which seek to tell the fascinating history of our village and, in partnership with the Hoxne Heritage Group and other interested people, to provide more engaging multimedia displays; and
- We would really like to restore the church's beautiful old bells and hear them ring again - one of our bells is as early as 1420, so has been ringing in our church since before the Reformation and when Agincourt was still a recent memory.

All this will cost money of course and we are seeking support from the National Lottery and other grant giving bodies, but the more local support we can show, the better our chances.

We are keen to work in partnership with anyone who shares our passion for the story of St Edmund and for Hoxne's heritage and history. Will you show us your support?

We'll be giving you regular updates about our progress so if you are interested and want to know more please do get in touch:

**Wilf White, Abbey Farm
Abbey Hill, Hoxne IP21 5AL
aewwhite734@btinternet.com**

VACANCIES WITH HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR

This is your chance to volunteer for a role of local government that is closest to the people. By taking on the role of Parish Councillor you will be involved with making decisions which effect the village and the people that live here. Training is provided.

VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN CO-ORDINATORS

The Parish Council owned VAS moves around three locations in the village. Volunteers are needed to move the VAS once a month, charge batteries and download data. We are particularly interested to hear from those parishioners that have previously lobbied for traffic calming on their roads. A risk assessment will need to be completed.

STREET CARETAKER

A salaried role for 20 hours per month. Equipment provided which is stored in the Parish Council garage. You will keep the pavements in the village clear from litter and fallen leaves and other debris, remove fly tipping and any other tasks which ensure that Hoxne always looks its best.

To discuss any of the above in more detail, please contact any of the Parish Councillors or telephone or email the Parish Clerk.

Tel: 07554 733621

Email: pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk

What's On Here

Play Café

Once again the Play Café is opening its doors on the Hoxne Playing Field every Wednesday afternoon from 2.30 - 5.00pm, during the school holidays starting on July 25th. Bring your children, grand children to play on the equipment while you meet friends for a drink and chat, or just come yourself for tea and cakes. All profits will be for the upkeep of the play equipment.

Hoxne Charities Annual Clay Shoot

We are looking forward once again to this great event on Sunday 2nd September, 11am 'til 4pm at Oakley Park, IP21 5AU. If you have been before, you will know that the setting is really fantastic - looking out

over the Waveney valley, with beautiful oak trees and a deceptive breeze at times. The competitive part of the event is specifically for licence holders to take part in using Fibre wad cartridges, as the land we use would normally have cattle grazing. There is also a Have-a-Go stand where those younger/less experienced (age guidance) can try under instruction. The area is open to all during the event only, so if you want to pop along, have a look, eat a hot dog, just come along. The area has some restrictions for safety reasons, but these areas are obvious, although any children coming along must remain in direct supervision of their accompanying adult.

We have raised about £2000 each year in the last few years, which has been distributed to Hoxne charities including the Playing Fields and the Primary School PTA. We still have opportunities available for those able to offer a couple of hours help. This involves marking the score cards of the participants as they hit the clay pigeon. Helpers work in pairs,

Let's get together for an Afternoon Tea

To celebrate the care

On: Saturday 11th August

At: 3pm - 5pm

Where: Little Hemplands, Syleham IP21 4LT

RSVP to: mary.lewis43@icloud.com or 01379 669258

Help support people facing
breast cancer.



so if this is not an activity you are familiar with you will be paired with someone experienced. Please contact Julie on j.thompson@wvpschools.org or text 07929 794636.

Harvest Breakfast

This years Harvest Breakfast will take place on Hoxne Low Street Green on **Sunday 16th September** from 10.00 - 12.30. There will be a full breakfast, music, entertainment for the children and games. This event has taken place on the third Sunday in September for over 40 years. Come and meet with family and friends and enjoy the morning. Profit from this event is divided between the Village Hall and Playing Field funds.



Rural Coffee Caravan

The Rural Coffee Caravan will once again be visiting **Wingfield** at Castle Crescent, 10am - 12pm on **Tuesday 21st August** and also on **Tuesday 18th September**. The caravan delivers information and friendship to rural communities across Suffolk. To get in touch:

Telephone: 01379 855338
ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk



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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)

Website : www.sthenrymorse.com

(Info: Ellen Pitt Tel 01379 668308)



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What's On There

Summer Treasure Hunt

Take part in the Harleston Summer Treasure Hunt and put your detective skills to the test. Buy a leaflet for £1 from Robinsons Traditional Stationers or the Swan Hotel and have a chance of winning a £25 prize voucher. Closing date is **Friday 31st August**.

The leaflet will guide you on a trail round the town and you will need to answer some questions and identify some photographs where the answer will be in the nearby surroundings. Finally, you will need to look at the beautiful **GoGoHare** sculpture situated at St John's church and answer a question about the hare. The Treasure Hunt can be taken by one person or by a group (only one leaflet is needed by a group). Good luck!

More information about Harleston events and news can be found at:

www.visitharleston.org.uk

A Hare For Harleston Is Here!

The campaign to have a *Harleston Hare* over the summer has been successful and she was unveiled, sitting on a plinth outside St John's Church in June, for the start of the **GoGoHare** Trail around Norfolk.

The exciting initiative to raise money for the local charity, **Break**, sees

beautifully decorated hares located all around Norwich and the county, with just a few in South Norfolk. It will help put Harleston on the map and draw people into the area. We have produced a **Welcome To Harleston** leaflet, paid for by



many of the local businesses, to encourage the visitors to stop awhile.

Our thanks go to ScribblyRoo, the local artist who designed and painted our *Harleston Hare*. She incorporated many locally significant elements such as Redenhall Church, the River Waveney, magpies and our beloved swifts. Can you find them all? See more of her beautiful work at www.scribblyroo.co.uk. Thanks also to all those businesses and individuals who have given donations to make this possible.

We have *Harleston Hare* till **Saturday 8th September** when she will be auctioned, with all the others, to raise money to enable **Break** to continue its valuable work with children at risk or with



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WHERE: DODGEBALL
Stradbroke High School Field

AGES:
10-19 years old

Suffolk Positive Futures
@suffolkpft



disabilities by providing children's homes, fostering service and other support. You can still support this initiative and Break by donating online at

www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com/GoGoCountyHare but make sure you click on the third box, where it says *Bringing the GoGoHares Trail to Harleston*. Or put a donation in one of the **Break** collection tins around town.

Further information can be found at www.visitharleston.org.uk, from harlestonsfuture@gmail.com or on 01379 855235.

Billingford Mill Open Days

Each month, from April to September, Open Days include free events and mill tours plus light refreshment from the Shepherd's Hut. Mill tours approximately 45 minutes: Adults £3; Seniors £2; Children over 3 years free. Special opening for clubs, groups etc. can be arranged.

Saturday 18th August, 11am-4pm is the annual Teddy Parachute Jump (12 & 2pm) with prizes for teddies travelling furthest from the mill. Make your own parachute and enter as many teddies as you wish @ 50p a go!

Sunday 16th September 12 - 4pm is the final opening for our traditional Celebration of Harvest with music by Diss Salvation Army Band (3pm).

Come and see the restoration progress and parts of the mill you are unlikely to see again. Further information from Julie & Herbert, Mill Custodians 01379 853967.

Eye Arts Guild

Local artists have a new exhibition on the theme of "The Natural World" running throughout **August** and **September** at the Earsham Wetland Centre, Old Harleston Road, Earsham, Bungay NR35 2AF.



www.eyeartsguild.org.uk

"We will remember them"

World War 1, 1914 - 1918: "It will all be over by Christmas" such was the optimism in the autumn of 1914, but history and many programmes on television tell us it was an altogether different story.

Over 8 million served and lost their lives in the service of their country and freedom. Thousands more returned home maimed and continued in their suffering. From cities, towns and villages like Fressingfield, young men and women responded to the call 'Your country needs you'. Ordinary everyday people who worked on farms and trades people leaving homes and loved ones. On land, on the sea and in the air, men and boys, nurses and women working in ammunition factories and others, all were caught up in events beyond their imagining.

To commemorate and honour those who died from Fressingfield and those who

Mad Hatter's TEA PARTY

Don't be Late!

Join us on
Friday 10th August
12.30 - 3.00 pm



For Afternoon tea
(£3.00 children U10, £5.00 Adults)
Fun and Games



Have your picture taken
with Alice and the Mad
Hatters!

The Walled Garden

Beyond the Wall, Thornham Magna,
Eye, IP23 8HA

www.beyondthewall.org.uk



served, we are launching the book 'Sons, Husbands and Fathers' compiled and written by three members of the Fressingfield Local History and Archive Group, and are holding an Exhibition of photographs and stories from that time on **Saturday 25th August** in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield from 10am to 4pm. Teas and coffee will be served. We hope to see you there. Copies of the book will be on sale price £10.00. A percentage of the profits will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

Harleston Choral Society

After a very successful concert in June, HCS is now on its summer break. We pick up our scores again on **Monday 10th September** at 7.30 pm (7.00 pm on start date only for collection of subs) in The Church at London Road, Harleston, when we'll be singing Handel's Messiah Part 1, Telemann's German Magnificat, and a selection of carols, in preparation for our Christmas Concert on **Saturday 8th December**. Come and join us - we're a friendly, non-audition choir, we welcome all singers and would-be singers, and music is provided free. More information about all our activities is on our website www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk or from our Chair, Jo Curry, jo.curry@sky.com



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Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham

Next stops: **2nd August, 30th August and 27th 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

Next stops: **10th August and 7th September**

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

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

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Calling every 4 weeks on **Fridays**

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Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

The Jive Club meets at the hall on a **Tuesday** when we're open for 'club nights'. Pop along and have a drink, watch the dancing, join in if it's your thing or just chat in the bar area.

Annual 'subs' for membership of the Sports and Social club are now due - year runs July to July - at only £3.50, or £3.00 for concessions, membership allows you to come along each **Tuesday & Friday** and also to our member events. Just ask at the bar.

On the **last Friday** of the month we run Bingo sessions in aid of locally nominated charities and good causes. The last few months have seen an amazing amount donated to Meningitis Now and for the Fressingfield Scout's visit to Mother Mercy Orphanage. The Bingo sessions on **Friday 27th July** and **Friday 31st August** will be raising funds for Waveney Food Bank (charity no 1151679). Do come and join us! The **first Friday** of the month sees Open Mic, while the **second Friday** is Karaoke.

We will be holding a **Scrap Metal Collection** from **Monday 6th August** to **Monday 13th August**. A special 'skip' will be placed in the car park of Syleham and Wingfield village hall (postcode for SatNav users is **IP21 4LT**) where all metal objects can be placed, with the exception of fridges.

Thank you all for supporting for our various events as well as our regular evenings.

*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*

Wingfield Barns

International Mini Prints

Gallery 2 - **Saturday 14th July** to **Sunday 2nd September**. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

One of the highlights of the year in East Anglia is the International Mini Print exhibition at Wingfield Barns which has been running annually since 1995. It is curated by Ian Chance who is director for the MA Creative Entrepreneurship course at the University of East Anglia.

The exhibition has been shown annually in L'Etangd'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. This year sees 690 prints from over 50 countries worldwide.



Annie Harbrow

Watercolour and Mixed - Media Artist
Gallery 1 - **Wednesday 1st** to **Sunday 19th August**. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

Annie was brought up in the countryside and consequently her inspiration comes from the natural world, woods, fields, trees and hedgerows. Her home was Leechpool Farm and the patterns, shapes and colours of the surrounding landscape now influence her painting.



Rhonda Whitehead

Colour Field Paintings

Gallery 1 - Wednesday 22nd August to Sunday 2nd September. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

Rhonda Whitehead is an artist who knows how to marry a feeling for place with the formal freedoms uncovered by Colour Field Paintings. In the course of much travelling her eye has been repeatedly caught by corroded or distressed surfaces, mostly caused by weathering. She takes photographs to record this information, but then plays with it, allowing the zoom lens to create spatial ambiguity, so that it remains uncertain whether we are looking at a detail or an entire view.



Leveret

Saturday 1st September - 7.30pm.

Leveret is a unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians. Andy Cutting (button accordion), Sam Sweeney (fiddle) and Rob Harbron (concertina) are each regarded as exceptional performers and masters of their instruments. Together their performances combine consummate musicianship, compelling delivery and captivating spontaneity. Leveret's music is not arranged in the conventional sense and the trio rely on mutual trust and



musical interaction to create new settings of their repertoire in the moment, with no two performances alike. Their playing is relaxed and natural, drawing audiences in and inviting them to share in music making that is truly spontaneous and yet deeply timeless. Tickets £16/£14 concessions.

Jimmy Aldridge & Sid Goldsmith

Friday 28th September - 7.30pm

Jimmy Aldridge & Sid Goldsmith are one of the finest duos to have emerged onto the British folk and acoustic scene in recent years. Their unique ability to make old songs seem relevant and new songs sound ancient has brought them widespread critical acclaim.

For a limited number of shows, the duo



will tour with a special extended line-up featuring Tom Moore (Moore, Moss, Rutter/False Lights/Nick Hart) on Fiddle and Viola, Fred Harper (Me and My friends) on Drums and Twm Dylan (Pixie and the Gypsies) on Double Bass. Tickets £14/£12 concessions.

RPS Nature Group Members' Print Exhibition

Studio 4, Saturday 29th September to Sunday 7th October. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

A superb exhibition of prints displaying a wide variety of species and subjects, representing the diverse interests of the Nature Group Members.

RPS East Anglia Members' Print and Projected Image Exhibition

Galley 2, Saturday 29th September to Sunday 7th October. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

An exhibition of recent work by members, covering a wide genre of images.

Tickets are available via the box office on **01379 384505** or online.

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

Hoxne Village Hall

The Hall is comparatively quiet in July and August with Hoxon Hundred Morris Dancers and Tai Chi taking a Summer break and Village Voices Choir and Parish Council meeting elsewhere until the Autumn.

Sadly the weekly café at the Hall has now stopped, however Lisa is still running the monthly Hoxne Produce and Craft Market- last Saturday of the month- complete with café there.

Tai Chi is aiming to return on Wednesday mornings in September. Contact Cindy Engel c.engel@open.ac.uk or 07873 114682 for further details.

Additionally, fortnightly, on a Wednesday morning, is the Stained Glass workshop. Contact us at Bookings for more information. A reminder that the Hall is available to book for events such as parties - adult

and children's - with bar available (for the adult parties!)

Stephen Govier has kindly donated a portrait engraving of Sir Edward Clarence Kerrison who built the Hall as a Reading Room in 1880. This will be hung in the lounge - do have a look at it when you visit the Hall.

Events

There is no Film Night in August, but it's back **Friday 14th September**, 7.30pm. See posters and flyers for details of your choices.

Saturday 25th August, 9.30 - 12.30
Hoxne Produce & Craft Market.

Saturday 1st September, 2pm
Garden Club Annual Flower, Craft & Produce Show. Prizes and raffle at 3pm. Tea, coffee and cakes served all afternoon.

Saturday 22nd September, 7.30pm

Waveney Valley Folk Collective presents Reg Meuross + Support. Reg's imaginative lyrics have earned him the title of "Master Storyteller" (PennyBlack Music) and led Mike Harding to introduce him onto the stage of The Royal Albert Hall as



"one of the finest singer-songwriters this country has produced". Tickets on the door or online at:

waveneyvalleyfolkcollective.co.uk
Saturday 29th September, 9.30 - 12.30
Hoxne Produce & Craft Market.

For bookings, email Sharon and Sally on hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com or call **07876 215269**. Film night tickets also available from Hoxne PO Stores.

Sharon Knights
www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk



Hoxne Heritage Group

On Saturday 14th July you may have noticed a lot of activity in the village hall and around the village. The Heritage Group have been honoured to host 40 members of the Suffolk Historic Buildings Group to spend the day listening to talks about the fascinating heritage of our village and then to visit six selected houses with characteristics of historical interest and importance.

Julie Craven gave a comprehensive history of Hoxne through the ages and Chris Parkin gave an informative talk on the research we are carrying out on the Banham Walls, a unique feature of our village and surrounding area. We are indebted to the householders who have opened up their properties for us to allow this prestigious visit to go ahead and we are extremely grateful.

In **August** we are holding our first Summer Social with a visit to the Museum of Rural Life followed by lunch.

On **Saturday 10th November** we are participating in the Great War Exhibition which is being held at Worlingworth Village Hall, with a display of various aspects involving Hoxne villagers during WW1. Please let us know if you have any interesting memorabilia or documents that we could borrow for the day.

The aim of our group is to research and promote our village heritage but also to have fun doing so. Why not join us? We would particularly welcome some younger members to continue the custodianship in years to come. 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

Red Feather Club

The Red Feather Club Museum is now regularly featuring in prestigious tours from the USA. Two groups on *The Masters of the Air* tours from the US, organised by the celebrated National WWII Museum New Orleans, have already visited this year and a third is booked in for October.

The tours aim to be a “story of life in wartime England, in bombed-out London, and in the tiny hamlets ... brash young Americans completely transformed”.

Best-selling author and historian Donald L Miller leads the tours, which also visit the Cambridge American Cemetery, the Churchill Archives at Cambridge University, the 100th Bomb Group at Thorpe Abbots, the 94th BG at Rougham Airfield, The American Air Museum at Duxford, the Greene King brewery, the Churchill War Rooms, the Imperial War Museum London, St Clement Danes - The Central Church of the Royal Air Force, the RAF Club and the Bomber Command Memorial.

The itinerary says of its visit to Horham, that it is “home of the 95th Bombardment Group, one of the most decorated air units of the war. The villagers who restored the base will host a pub party ... with dancing to the music of their own Glenn Miller Band.”

Donald Miller and his book “Masters of the Air: America’s Bomber Boys Who Fought The Air War Against Nazi Germany” are the inspiration for the tour. “Masters of the Air” will also be the foundation for HBO’s forthcoming dramatic TV miniseries about the Mighty Eighth Air Force - of which the USAAF units stationed in Suffolk were part, produced by Tom Hanks and Stephen Spielberg. It is the final part of their epic Second World War trilogy, following the hugely successful “Band of

Brothers” (2001) and “The Pacific” (2010).

Donald Miller revealed that Tom Hanks, who is the proud owner of a Red Feather Club cap, was so enamoured by the idea of the restored 95th Bomb Group NCOs' club that the star and his friends have their own Red Feather Club group.

The tours are welcomed by committee members, re-enactors and volunteers and the Red Feather Club band Skyliner who provide 1940s swing music. The visitors also get a chance to sample the beers of Station 119 - the Eye brewery named after the Horham airfield home of the 95th, RAF Station 119.

Tour organiser Nathan Huegen from the New Orleans museum said: “Thank you for two amazing visits to Horham. I was not kidding when I said I would give up all my other tours to just spend every weekend there ... Everyone is so nice and accommodating and there are so many things to do and see throughout the visit. The smiles on all of the faces of the guests made all of the arrangements worth it.”

In June, the Red Feather Club celebrated the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the 95th Bomb Group with a series of events, held its annual Americana Day and held a 1940s dance.



Dancing to The Knightingales during the 75th anniversary weekend - picture: Janet Norman-Philips

The Red Feather Club museum, operated and managed by the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association, is open to the public on the **last Sunday** of the month from April to October, 10am-4pm.

The next open days are **Sunday 29th July** and **Sunday 26th August**. On **Saturday 29th September** the band Junction 55 and DJ Gypsy John will be at the Red Feather Club, 7.30pm. Tickets can be purchased on-line via the 95th website. This will be followed by our usual open day on **Sunday 30th September**. The final open day of the year, **Sunday 28th October**, is a bumper event with military vehicles, stalls and music.

The museum exclusively houses uniforms and memorabilia relating to the 95th Bomb Group who flew out of Horham during WW2. For info, email:

enquiries@95thbg-horham.com
Red Feather Club Museum,
Coldhams Hill, Denham IP21 5DG
www.95thbg-horham.com



Re-enactors listening to The Knightingales during the 75th anniversary weekend - picture: Janet Norman-Philips



Hoxne Phoenix Group

Things Never go to plan - in June our speaker had to cancel at two days' notice so what do we do - we were told of a lady who could give us a talk on seven years at Sea. Well what an adventure this lady had had. She became engaged to a Royal Navy Commander and the day AFTER their wedding her husband suggested that they were going to sail around the Oceans for several years although she had no sailing experience whatsoever - what a honeymoon! So that was the start of the learning process for her.

After several years of preparation, Wendy and her husband left Ipswich (his home town) and set off down to Morocco. With only the two of them on board this meant that one had to be on "watch" while the other slept - except when Wendy had to wake her husband if she had or suspected a problem! Despite suffering with sea sickness virtually every day, they carried on down to Morocco. The Trade Winds were right for Antigua via the Canaries so that is where they headed for next.

Having spent a few enjoyable months in the West Indies, they set sail again for South America. All the time they were trying to stay south of the hurricane area (for obvious reasons). Seven years later (2007) they sailed back to Ipswich having

travelled approx. 20,682 nautical miles in 2,668 days! Not bad for a novice! This was a honeymoon to remember. Since then Wendy has never stepped on another boat, but they are still happily married!

This article has to be written before our July meeting so (hopefully) next month I can report on *History through Village Signs*. The following meeting on **Tuesday 14th August** at 7.30pm will be a talk on "The Royal Navy in World War I" given by Mark Mitchels. Men are invited to this meeting as there may be some who would be interested.

Our Fundraising Evening will be a Spanish Evening on **Tuesday 11th September** (open to

everyone so make a note now). Needless to say with the Phoenix Group, there will be plenty of food including paella and sangria (plus soft drinks!) and a display of hand painted Spanish Ceramics for sale from La Casa Azul (previously in Eye).

Our chosen Charity this year is the Headway Brainy Dogs Project. This project involves rescue dogs from Felixstowe Blue Cross that are trained by prisoners to become companion dogs to people with a brain injury or





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9.00am - 12 noon

neurological condition. Sometimes after a brain injury people can experience a personality change which may result in them losing friends and family. The dogs fill the gap that this leaves. We are hoping that a special dog will visit us - Billy - who is one of the trained dogs. Some dogs live with the clients, but others stay at the Centre and visit the clients on a regular basis so that a rapport is built up through them being groomed and fed by the person suffering with the injury. This Project also benefits the prisoners in that they feel they are doing something constructive while they are serving their time in prison. As it is a Fundraising Evening, tickets are on sale for this at £7.50 (which includes supper) and the evening starts at 7.00pm. Please contact Viv Bradford (01379 668551) or myself (details below) if you would like tickets for the evening - all in a good cause.

If you are interested to come along to any of the Phoenix group meetings please contact me, or any of our members. If a particular topic interests you, come along - all we ask is a £2.00 Visitors Fee (to cover tea or coffee and biscuits).

Reflections

Holiday Reading

In the Old Testament of the Bible, God often asked the prophets to do some very strange things, especially when he wanted them to get a point across, so really his command to Ezekiel to 'Eat this scroll (or book)' was mundane! The point was really very simple, some books are to be read, marked and inwardly digested! Which got me thinking about what books are on my holiday list ready for the summer travels and here are my top three.

Hired: six months undercover in low-wage Britain - I came across a review of James Bloodworth's book in a magazine and promptly went on-line to order a copy. I've only dipped into it so far, but already I've made a point of avoiding one well-known internet retailer of enormous size!

It's said that you can never capture the spirit of Africa, but it can capture yours, so over 20 years since we came back from Tanzania, East Africa still fascinates me; **The Ghosts of Happy Valley** by Juliet Barnes is part history of the notorious British aristocrats of 1930s Kenya and part travelogue, I anticipate a fascinating time ahead.

Finally, who can resist a £15 book marked down to £3? Especially if the author is an expert in their field? Ian Bradley shares my interest in stripping away the 'romanticism' of much neo-Celtic and Celtic-revival Christianity and tracing it back to its roots; in **Colonies of Heaven** he outlines a way that ancient Celtic Christianity could be so important in providing effective churches in this century.

As you pack your holiday reading this year, give it some thought; will it be airport page-turner thriller or something thought provoking and longer lasting than the sunburn on your nose?!

Michael Womack, 01379 388889
hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

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

Church services

Denham, Hoxne, Syleham and Wingfield

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

Village contacts

Denham - Rev Michael, **01379 388889**

Hoxne - Guy McGregor, **01379 668434**

Syleham - Mary Lewis, **01379 669258**

Wingfield - John McCracken, **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

Wednesday 1st August

6pm Hoxne hosts the Addington Fund service for Lammas, a traditional celebration of the first harvest combined with a modern reflection on a key farming charity

Sunday 5th August

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

Sunday 12th August

11.15am Hoxne BCP Mattins
11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Tuesday 14th August

7.30pm Denham Simple Communion Service

Sunday 19th August

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion
10am Syleham Village Praise

Sunday 26th August

9.30am Syleham Holy Communion
11.15am Denham Village Service
6.30pm BCP Evensong

Sunday 2nd September

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

Sunday 9th September

11.15am Hoxne Harvest Festival
11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

Tuesday 11th September

7.30pm Denham Simple Communion Service

Sunday 16th September

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion
10am Syleham Village Praise

Sunday 23rd September

9.30am Syleham Holy Communion
11.15am Denham Harvest Festival
6.30pm Wingfield Harvest Festival

Church News

St John, Denham

On Saturday 30th June Denham PCC held a very successful Summer Fair. The weather was glorious and there were lots of plants, books and delicious cream teams on offer. The church yard looked beautiful in the sunshine and it was lovely to meet so many smiling faces and two dogs! We would very much like to thank all those who came to support the event as we raised nearly £350 of much needed funds.

The next event is the garden games and Kubb tournament at 12 Hoxne Road in Denham on **Sunday 12th August** at 2pm. For those of you who haven't heard of Kubb, it is a team lawn game where the objective is to knock over wooden blocks by throwing wooden batons at them. Kubb can be described as a combination of bowling and horseshoes. Play takes place on a small rectangular playing field, known as a pitch. Anyone can play

so come along and have a go! There will be scones and Pimms. It is £5.00 for adults and children are free. For more information, contact Helen Joslin on 07894 562172.

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Thank you to all who contributed in any way to the church fete which was successful, enjoyable, and blessed with sunshine and warmth. Many folks worked extremely hard and a big thank you goes to them and Wilf White for the use of his glorious garden.

Some masonry has fallen from the church tower, possibly due to nesting birds. As a precaution, the tower has been taped off, so please keep outside this cordon until the tower has been inspected and safety ensured. Take care as you walk around the tape as the ground is uneven.



Harleston Community Choir during rehearsals for the Hoxne Music Festival at St Peter and St Paul - picture Jenny Knight

Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mothers' Union meets on the **third Monday** of the month at 2.30pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne. New members are always welcome. Next meetings:

Monday 20th August - Branch meeting;

Monday 17th September - No meeting in Hoxne; Annual meeting in Swansea; Contact Branch Leader Cathie McGregor **01379 668434**.

Flower rota

5th & 12th August: Altar, Suzanne Lewis;

19th & 26th August: Altar, Jenny Looome;

2nd & 9th September: Altar, Pru Day;

16th & 23rd September: Wedding Flowers;

30th September & 7th October: Altar, Sue Thornett;

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 Margaret, Syleham

St Margaret's saw good use during July, with Zoe and Alex's happy wedding on 7th and Violet's baptism on 15th, in addition to our regular services. We do enjoy sharing our church!

Church Re-decoration Appeal - There has been a good response to the appeal, with just over £4000 raised, including generous donations from a wedding family and from a Circles of Art event at Monks Hall. With grants so far of £4500, funds carried forward, and expected other sources, we are about two thirds of the way towards the £15,000 needed. We are so grateful for the support.

Garden Lunch - A big 'thank you' to all who supported our lunch in May, despite the day turning out to be the only damp and chilly day of the week. We are particularly grateful to our generous and meticulous hosts, Jim and Liz Woodger. Proceeds totalled £1050.

Sponsored Swim - Special thanks to Ruby and Nancy Ife, Rosie Goodwin, Donna Baker and Angela Wright for joining me to swim on behalf of St Margaret's, and to everyone who gave sponsorship. Ruby and Nancy had the added satisfaction of 'personal bests' in their swims - well done! All swimmers were well supported and





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between us we have raised to date at least £800, some of it gift aided: a final figure in next Village Voice. We are grateful to Stradbroke Leisure Centre for their cooperation, and for allowing us to book the pool for the reduced charity rate.

Harvest Supper - CORRECTION - Apologies for misinformation in last Village Voice - we are holding the traditional Saturday evening harvest supper rather than the Sunday brunch we once considered. It will be on **Saturday 13th October** at Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall.

Harvest Festival - This will be on **Sunday 14th October** at 10am. Sarah Buckley will welcome offers to decorate the church as usual.

Contact for all above: Churchwarden Mary Lewis on **01379 669258** or email mary.lewis43@icloud.com

St Andrew, Wingfield

We're very grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make the Wingfield Summer Fete a great success. It was a very enjoyable occasion attended by a large number of people.

A future date for your diary is **Saturday 22nd September** when we will be holding our Harvest Supper. Please contact Sharon Alldis on **01379 384854** to book tickets.

At the time of writing, work is due to begin on repair to the seat in the choir that was damaged as a result of the storm in May last year. Work is also due to begin to the downpipe by the North door to clear the blockage and remove the greenery from the wall.

The Parochial Church Council has approved the planned repairs to the North and South doors and their arches, and work will commence once the Diocese gives the go-ahead.

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St Edmunds School

Our pupils had a very successful residential visit to France. It was an opportunity to practice the French taught in school, try new foods and culture and enrich their knowledge of another country.



World Cup fever has gripped the nation and St Edmund's Primary

School. We had a special lunch and made world flags bunting for Halesworth Bookshop. Our own sporting calendar culminates with the Waveney Valley Partnership Sports Day at Hoxne village playing field. The day begins with a

parade of teams waving their flags and banners.

Families set up their deckchairs for the day, ready to cheer on their children and enjoy

the delicious refreshments organised by the Hoxne School Association.

All children participate in a variety of track and field events with Year 6s also taking part in a triathlon (swimming, shooting and cross country running). Our teams; Deben, Dove, Orwell and Waveney all hoping to be awarded the house cup. Sports Day is embraced at WVP. It is wonderful to see the pupils doing their best for themselves and their team and being supported by family and friends.

July brings joy as we recount the many learning experiences of the year, the trips, the School Council and School Parliament sessions and the School performances. Our summer production is being rehearsed at the time of writing, props being made and costumes

assembled. The end of the academic year also brings a little sadness as we say goodbye to our Year 6 children for whom we wish all the very best as they move onto high school.

We are grateful to the many visitors to our school. The Open the Book team are regularly welcomed to our assemblies. Recently the High Suffolk Rotary Club came to inform us all about water filtration systems used in developing parts of the world and presented us with 24 beautifully illustrated dictionaries; a great addition to our library.

We're looking forward to another engaging year ahead. September will see us welcoming new

families to our school community, elections being held for School Council Members, Head Boy and Head Girl, developing further our



wellbeing programme and learning about the world around us. In the meantime, we wish everyone a lovely summer.

For a taste of life at St Edmund's Primary School, please view our website www.waveneyvalleypartnership.org

For further information, please contact the school office 01379 668283 or email officehoxne@wvpschools.org

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George Rayner

Born 1836 ~ Died 1916

The story of George Rayner, my Great Great Grandfather came to light while I researched our wider family tree. Fortunately there are a large number of online resources available which provided a fuller picture of his life than is often possible to be produced for our ancestors of the Victorian period.

George started life in Hoxne, the son of a shoe maker and for the greater part of his life he continued to live in Cross Street although his final years, according to 1911 Census, has him living in Oakley but dying in Hoxne in 1916 at the grand age of 80. He led an 'interesting' life which was probably the cause of much village gossip!

George Rayner married Mary Hall, from Horham in 1857 and they had two daughters-Mary Eliza (1859) and Florence Alberta (1873). Mary Eliza died at the age of 20 and is interred in Hoxne Churchyard. This portrait of her shows a very well to do young lady. Her grave surround is also of high quality and was once quite imposing.

Her father, George, had continued in the family tradition of shoemaking but also moved on to being a Corn Chandler-selling grain and flour one presumes-and living at the Windmill in Cross Street of which there is now no trace remaining

although the cottage is still there end on to the road. George employed one man to help with the work and seems to have traded both within the village

and to a wider customer base as he travelled to Diss regularly on Fridays at least.

In 1886 the local paper - Diss Express - and several publications across the country tell us a little more of a 'melancholy occurrence' which happened in The Sun Inn on Mere Street (now the Waterfront). It seems that previously to this occurring in March 1886, he had felt threatened by some men, and had a lamp and whip stolen, on his way home and had been offered a revolver which he carried with him on his next visit to Diss. Having left his horse and trap at the Sun Inn he clearly went about his business in the town before returning to the pub.

He met with Arthur Robinson who offered him a drink as they knew each other well it seems. Arthur's daughter, Bessie, came to join them and asked George if he had any treats for her.

George took the revolver from his pocket and showed her but unfortunately while doing this it went off with the bullet killing Arthur! George panicked and began running around the pub still waving his revolver until another customer took it from him - although it had gone off again fortunately not hitting anybody this time.

Needless to say George Rayner was arrested and the very next day the County Coroner appeared and swore in a jury who met at the Ship Inn - where Greggs the Bakers is - to decide on the fate of Miller Rayner. The evidence was all clear. George had a revolver. He pulled the trigger. Arthur was killed in front of his daughter and other witnesses by George Rayner.



Mary Eliza Rayner



After careful investigation and cross examination the verdict, in the words of the jury foreman, was given

'We find a verdict of Accidental Death arising from the use of a pistol in the hands of a man ignorant of its deadly nature and also ignorant of the way in which to use it: and we think the Coroner should censure him severely for carrying it about.' So George was cleared of blame - other than stupidity!

The following year George had a serious accident while returning home once again from Diss. He was with two companions when his trap hit a 'heap of something lying on the side of the road'. The trap overturned and was left upside down in the road. Mr Phillips, a surgeon from Hoxne was called in and found George

"I am 65 years of age, and am generally known as 'Miller Rayner' although I gave up milling some time ago."

with 'no bones broken but one of his hips was much injured and being a very heavy man he was also much bruised and shaken'. One of

his companions, Mr Churchyard, was later taken to Norfolk and Norwich Hospital with a dislocated arm while the third person, despite being trapped under the carriage, recovered with barely a bruise to show!

In the next few years George goes from being a Miller and Corn Merchant to merely working for his remaining daughter, Florence, as a Chandler. Florence had a little trouble with this career path but that is another story! George's wife Mary had died in 1895 and his mother in 1900 so he was living with Florence at this time.

George next appears in the press in 1903 when an article which very much appears to be a report of him recovering from the results of an accident which affected him badly which I presume to be when his trap overturned. He also

claimed to suffer from serious increasing deafness. On further reading it seems that this article was merely written as an advert for "Dr Williams' Pink Pills" which George claims not only cured his deafness but also his other problems which had affected his ability to carry heavy weights.

George was listed in 1911 Census as a Boot Repairer on his own account so in his final years he returned - or perhaps had always continued with - his original trade. He died in 1916 and was laid to rest in the churchyard.

There is another strand to George's life however. He is listed in many Directories of the period as a photographer - sometimes as Junior but also Senior. These listings have him variously placed in Hoxne and Scole which is interesting. I think all the listings were him rather than his father who was also a George. But George senior had a middle name of 'Algar' which is the surname of a well-known local Victorian photographer so there is more to discover yet! He does not appear to have had a studio - at least we cannot find any photo frames with his name on - but merely worked as a jobbing photographer. The family have a collection of photographs which may, or may not, have been taken by George. Unfortunately there is no proof either way!

Kevin Knights



Fressingfield Scouts

Cub numbers have been steadily increasing, so we have now formed a second Pack which after a successful three months is becoming established. We have called the new pack Tiger Cubs (Monday evenings) and the other pack Wolf Cubs (Wednesday evenings). They are working hard to achieve their Outdoor Challenge badge so the term has included camp, water sports, shooting and fencing along with some pioneering and camp skills.

Our Fund Raising focus at present is on two fronts. The Explorers have a range of events and activities to gather funds for the Kenya trip next Easter, and the Group is promoting our "Building on Community Foundations" appeal to fund the foundations of our new headquarters. This is an appeal for sponsorship from individuals, families, organisations, businesses and community groups to sponsor metre squares for a donation of £50. If you are able to help us with sponsorship all you need is on the fundraising page of our website.

On 13th June the Group provided a Barbeque Team for the Women's Cycle Tour event in Stradbroke, and sold a large amount of Burgers and Hotdogs.

Lastly a little "job advert": Would you like to have huge amounts of fun whilst putting back into your local community?

1st Fressingfield Scout Group is currently seeking Scout Leaders for our Beaver (aged 6-8) Colony.

We are in the process of fundraising for our new headquarters and we have some really exciting times ahead. We can offer you a full training package that may include nationally recognised accreditations in outdoor pursuits. The group takes part in international as well as national activities. As well as this, you

will have a uniform supplied along with the most amazing team to work with.

This is a voluntary position and all applicants must be 18 + and be prepared to have an enhanced DBS check before commencing.

For more information about Scouting in the area please visit our website.

For an informal discussion about joining our team or for a form for the fundraising appeal, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne on **07908 262623**.

Michael knights

www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

The Friends held a very interesting trip to Shugborough Hall, Lichfield and Coventry in May. Not only was it enjoyed by all, but it also raised just under £500 for our funds.

Whilst on the subject of fund raising, several people have asked for a report on



the money we raise and what we do with it, this is a very fair question and so in our recent letter to our members we listed all of the donations made to the Parochial Church Council for various projects concerned with the fabric of the church and its surrounds. We do not have sufficient space here to list them all

here but the total since 2014 comes to approximately £17,000.

By the time you read this, the kitchen cabinets will have been delivered and work to install them started, as well as the drainage for the toilet. Again, the cost of these is being covered by the Friends at a cost of £25,000, so you can see why our fund raising is so important and why we need the support of the whole village to preserve our beautiful church.

Our next big fund raiser will be the concert in the church by the award-winning Castleton Band in November, details to follow.

May I also, on behalf of the Church, thank all the volunteers who are doing a wonderful job keeping the East side of the churchyard so neat and tidy.

Finally, do not forget our monthly coffee mornings, **third Saturday** of the month in the church - tea, coffee, cakes and lots of books, 9.45 to 11.15am.

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

Next Stop Symi

Since we last wrote, the van has arrived back from Samos having delivered much needed items to support the dignity of refugees and give them some hope. One of the NSS trustees John Coop is photographed with



the very dedicated Samos Volunteers supporting the refugees. On the weekend of the 23rd /24th June, a fundraiser at Marie and Gerry Lagerberg's Wild Flower Meadow featuring the work of artist Rachel Pedder-Smith, benefited Next Stop Symi's funds by a surprising and very welcome amount. Our grateful thanks to them. On the 30th June our Greek Night in Hoxne Village Hall raised over £3,000, which will enable us to plan further runs to Samos and other areas of need in the Dodecanese.

Reports received in recent days record that refugees continue to make the journey through dangerous waters to the islands. On Samos alone, where we provide some support, a camp built to house 780 now holds 3,887. Our work continues because of the support from up and down the country. We are proud and grateful for the continued generosity and support that our local base here in Hoxne continues to provide.



Phil and Sue Flagg
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In the Kitchen

Food plays a significant part in our lives. It has the potential to be comforting and nurturing. Food can lift us when we are low and can also make a great gift to share with others, whether it is an elaborate affair or a fish and chip supper. How many of us have channelled our inner Delia, spending the day cooking up a storm and trying to wow everyone with our kitchen skills only to leave ourselves completely exhausted. Simon Hopkinson feels there is nothing more tedious than hearing how your host managed to stuff a carrot into a hollowed out courgette and Rachel Allen suggests that even simple foods can inspire a happy social occasion.

In the hope that we still have many fine days for al fresco dining to enjoy, here are some dishes that can be made the previous day enabling you to spend time with your guests - together with perhaps by a tureen of hot buttered new potatoes, a selection of bread, cheese and summer fruits - a veritable feast. So here's one I made earlier.

Coronation Chicken

Constance Spry and Rosemary Hume are credited with the invention of this dish for the banquet of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, which may have been inspired by jubilee chicken, a dish prepared for the silver jubilee of George V in 1935. There are many variations of this dish. Here is one. Do taste the dressing as you go and adapt to suit yourself
This will serve 6

Ingredients

1.5kg cold cooked chicken

If you are starting with raw chicken, poach in a lidded pan with a little olive oil, a cup of water and seasoning which



achieves a very moist meat with stock which can be frozen for future use
2 - 3 tbsp mango chutney
4 heaped tsp good curry powder
2 tsp Worcester sauce
150 ml mayonnaise mixed with 150 ml Greek style yoghurt
2 tbsp sultanas or finely chopped, ready to eat, apricots
50g toasted flaked almonds
Small bunch of chopped coriander leaves
Salt and pepper

Method

Chop the chicken into small bite size pieces. Toast the almonds until golden brown. In a large bowl add the mayo/ yoghurt, chutney, sauce, fruit, half the almonds, half the coriander and a pinch of salt and pepper. Mix thoroughly, taste and add more seasoning if required. Fold in the chicken. Pile into a serving bowl and decorate with the remaining coriander and almonds.

Courgette Terrine

Pre-heat oven to 180C, Aga baking oven middle shelf. Serves 8

Ingredients

200g brown mushrooms, chopped
370g courgettes coarsely grated



250g freshly processed dried breadcrumbs (commercial breadcrumbs are too fine)
200g strong cheddar coarsely grated
2 tbsp olive oil
Large knob of butter
1 medium onion, finely chopped
3 cloves of garlic crushed
3 eggs, separated
2 heaped tsp of dried herbs or 4 heaped tsp of fresh herbs
Salt and pepper

Method

Grease a 2lb loaf tin and pre-heat oven to 180 C, Aga baking oven, middle shelf. Melt the knob of butter and add the chopped mushrooms. Add a little olive oil if necessary and fry until cooked and all the liquid has evaporated. Cool. In a large bowl add the cooled mushrooms, onion, garlic, courgettes, cheese, breadcrumbs, herbs, S & P, olive oil and egg yolks. With your hands (this is the best way to do it) mix thoroughly. Whisk the egg whites until they peak and gently fold into the terrine mixture. Pile into the loaf tin and press down. If you wait and press down again, leaving it domed, you should get it all in! Place the loaf tin onto a baking sheet to catch any spillage and bake for 1hr 15 mins to 1hr 30 mins until the terrine feels firm and is golden brown. Cool thoroughly in tin before turning out. NB You may need to run a palette knife around the edge of the terrine and tin a couple of time before turning out.

Orange Honey Baked Salmon

Pre-heat oven to 180 C. Aga low shelf roasting oven
Oh not more salmon you may say but, this is so simple, tasty and looks so pretty when garnished with orange slices.

Coronation Chicken Courgette Terrine Orange Honey Baked Salmon Cobb Salad

Ingredients

9 small salmon fillets
Large parchment lined baking sheet
6 tbsp honey
4 tbsp fresh orange juice
Zest from 1 medium orange
Salt and pepper
½ slice of orange per fillet

Method

Dry the salmon and place the fillets side by side on the baking sheet. Mix the honey, juice, seasoning and zest then brush liberally on each fillet. The dressing should be thick and cling to the salmon, if not, add more honey. Bake for 15/20 minutes basting halfway through.

Cobb Salad

Homer Simpson said “You don’t win friends with Salad”. He has obviously never eaten a Cobb Salad. In America this salad is usually served as a main meal with ingredients typically consisting of cubed chicken, crispy bacon, avocado, blue cheese, hard boiled eggs and tomatoes which are placed in rows on a large serving platter. Of course you can make this dish your own. For instance I served quartered hard boiled eggs, chopped beetroot, blue and cottage cheese, chopped tomatoes with olive oil, a carrot, cumin and sultana salad and basmati rice with mint, spring onion and cucumber.

Enjoy

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New Reeding Woods Group

The community woodland in Horham is held in trust for all the residents of Denham, Horham and Athelington. At a recent meeting of the New Reeding Woods Group new trustees were appointed as after thirteen years the original trustees had all decided to stand down. The new trustees are Geoff Hoad (Chair) Lisa Finch and Peny Conway. Geoff Hoad thanked the retiring trustees David Flowerdew, Nigel Blandford and Ian Bushnell for the work that they had done in acquiring the land and overseeing the establishing of the woodland.

Our June spring walk around the woodland preceded a masterclass in the formative pruning of some of the taller trees to enhance their potential as mature trees. This mainly involved cutting back side growth to ensure a strong leader, years from now some of these trees will have a commercial value and it is in our best interest that they grow tall and straight.

For more information about events see the notice board at the wood, and to join the group please contact our Secretary Peny Conway on 01379 870165.

Mike Reeves

Hoxne Garden & Social Club

Looking back at my last report I quoted 5°C as the temperature outside my back door, today it reads 28°C! What a difference two months make, now we are all getting fed up with the lack of rain, and dare I say it, BBQs!

It was a great shame we had to cancel our outing to the RHS Garden, Hyde Hall in Essex, because of the lack of numbers. It is such a lovely garden, well worth a visit if you are in the area.

When you read this we will have had our Garden Party in Mr and Mrs Coop's garden, it is a good evening with a chance to see how other gardens look. Also Roger will have led another Ramble, based around Sibton, these are always good walks exploring different parts of Suffolk.

We don't meet in August, but we are arranging a walking Treasure Hunt in Harleston one evening during the month for anyone who would like to come. Please ring me for details.

Our Annual Flower, Craft and Produce Show is on **Saturday 1st September** at 2pm, prizes and raffle at 3pm. Tea, coffee and cakes served all afternoon. Entry forms are available through myself or Hoxne Post Office Stores, [thank you David and Joan]. It is open to anyone who lives in the villages of Hoxne and Denham as well as members of the Club. It would be good to see some new faces entering and we are happy to give advice if needed.

On **Thursday 20th September** at 7.30pm we have a talk by David Hack on "*The Importance of Gardens for Birds and Other Wildlife*".

New members are always welcome, we usually meet on the third Thursday of the month [except August] in Hoxne Village Hall. Please contact myself or any other committee member for details.

*Sue Flagg, 01379 668258
sue.flagg@hotmail.co.uk*

Wingfield & District Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 27th September** with Luci Skinner from Woottens of Wenhaston presenting a talk on Hardy Geraniums. Starts 7.30pm, Brundish Village Hall. Non-members welcome -£ 3 at the door.

*Priscilla Williamson
priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com*

In The Garden

At the time of writing we have not had any real rain for over six weeks. Most water butts have been emptied, washed and refilled with grey water a few times over! Grass is brown, and I wonder how it's ever going to come back to the "normal" lushness that requires cutting each week! Farmers are irrigating and harvesting all at the same time. In general, deep rooted plants like established trees and fruit bushes will survive, but unless you have been able to water and shade your vegetables, many may have run to seed or just given up the ghost! Some plants are doing their thing early and some late or not at all! You may need extra holiday cover to help water your bedding plants, pots and baskets this season. Until we get

some reliable amounts of water from the sky it's going to be an essential if you're planning to go away and want to come back to any late summer colour at all. Many garden companies supply trickle irrigation or some sort of delayed watering system which can make taking a few days away a little less of a struggle for those left behind.

Do it now?

Now's a good time to take note of any plants that need replacing or moving in your borders. You should be able to see any holes or gaps in the borders and see if there are any thugs that need to go, or lifted and split in the autumn or spring!

It's also the time to think about ordering spring bulbs. If you find that too scary in the middle of the summer, just get in the catalogues ready!

General Maintenance

Dead heading and trimming back summer flowering plants can be done now. If you have been regularly dead heading roses and summer bedding this should be encouraging new flowers. A good watering and some liquid potash feed, followed by a mulch will not only tidy the plants up, but encourage stronger growth.

Now is a good time to think about trimming your hedges. By now most nesting bird will have moved on, but its



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always worth checking during the main nesting season of March to August just in case. It is after all, illegal to knowingly disturb an active birds nest. Always start trimming at the bottom of each side and work upwards, leaving the top till last.

After all the sun we have had, blanket weed is likely to be a problem in most garden ponds, especially if you have needed to top up the water levels with tap water. Raking it out to the side and leaving it to drain for a day will allow any trapped creatures to escape. You can add blanket weed to your compost bin, mixed with dryer material.

To insure your wisteria puts on a fabulous show of flowers next spring, August is a perfect time to cut back all the new whip-like growth so that you just leave five to seven sets of leaves. Doing it now will allow it to mature before the winter. Then in the winter you need to cut back the same stems to just two buds. These stubby spurs will sprout and flower in the spring.

5 Minute Jobs

Look out for powdery mildew, after the dry spell, this and other fungal disease are going to be much worse as plants are already stressed. Try to keep susceptible plants like Michaelmas daises, phlox, sweet peas and roses well-watered, and avoid getting water on the foliage as this can make matters worse.

In the veg garden

Pick cucumbers at least twice a week. Leaving maturing fruits on the plant will inhibit flowering and fruit production.

If you haven't done so already, now's a good time to remove the tips of your tomato plants. This should help the development of the trusses that have already formed, especially on outdoor varieties before the days cool and shorten too much.

There is nothing worse than picking something like sweetcorn too early or too late! This goldilocks plant, need to be left till the tassels shrivel and go brown and when you press you nail into a kernel, the liquid need to be creamy not clear. Then the cobs are ready to harvest.

Plant out winter brassica and salads, don't forget to cover with bird netting or erect a network of sticks and string, covered with strips of silver foil to discourage pigeons.

Claire Horne - BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert



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Village Walks...

The Dove & Historical Oakley

This comfortable afternoon walk is a touch over four miles and takes us through the glorious Suffolk countryside. It is also a historical walk down memory lane, recalling Oakley Park Mansion, formerly Hoxne Hall - which was demolished nearly a hundred years ago.

Start and finish from either the village hall, whose original benefactor was Sir Edward Kerrison, the last incumbent of Oakley Park, or the Low Street Green, where refreshments are available from the Swan Inn or the Hoxne Post Office & Stores.

To enhance your enjoyment of the walk, visit the Hoxne Heritage Group website and check out the history at: www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Start & Finish: Hoxne

Distance: 4.2 miles

OS map: Explorer 230

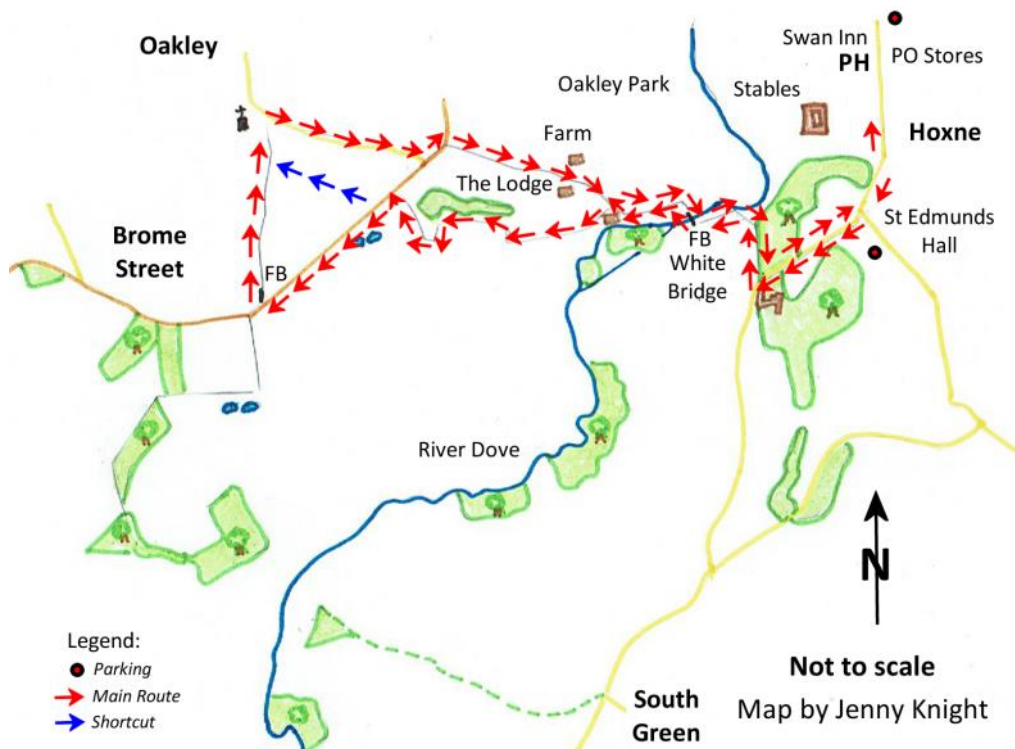
At the T junction close to the Goldbrook Bridge, you will see the high wall of Garden House. This was the walled garden providing victuals for the big house.

Take the Eye road. There is no pavement, so take care.

Just past The Willows on the left, take the footpath on the right. This runs along the side of the former Pleasure Grounds of the grand Tudor estate.

Follow the field edge and drop into the Dove Valley. Catch glimpses through the hedgerow on your right of the magnificent building, formerly the stables to the Oakley Park Mansion.

The path wanders through woodland to the "White Bridge", now wooden but



remnants of the decorative ironwork (once painted white) remain.

Cross the River Dove, through the gate and pass through a narrow, fenced path. Continue ahead on a track uphill.



View down to the Dove valley and the White Bridge

Near the top of the rise, catch views through the trees of the Old Laundry sited on the River Dove, below. All the washing of the great house was sent here.

After the track bends right at the top of the hill, take the track that leads off to the left.

Where this turns left through the trees, continue straight ahead along the field edge to the corner of the field and follow the path to the right. This zig-zags along the left edge of woodland until it meets a road. Turn left.

After a hundred yards, there is a footpath on the right that cuts about a quarter of a mile off the route. Continue on the road.

As the road begins to bear to the left, look for a footpath sign on the right. Cross a footbridge and follow the hedgerow on your left, heading toward Oakley Church.

[The short cut joins this path after a few hundred yards]

At the end of the hedgerow a path leads through trees to the church gates. There is a bench to rest on in the church grounds, close to the door.

Turn right onto the road that runs past the church. Follow this to a T junction. Turn left.

In a hundred yards, where the road bears left, Turn Right into a lane.

In a few hundred yards, you will reach a four pronged fork. Take the track that runs to the left of the bungalow on the right, The Lodge, (look for the small, circular footpath sign).

Continue on this track, keeping the farm on your left.

The view on your left would once have been graced by the Tudor hall on the far side of the valley. Soon you reach the entrance to the old laundry (where you turned left earlier).

Retrace your steps back across the Dove to Hoxne for some well earned refreshments.

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Parish Council Reports

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

Denham

The Annual Parish Meeting in May saw a lively and constructive discussion about the future of the Village Hall. Three options were on the table.

The first (option 1) was to return it to a state where it can be used as a public building; the second (option 2), was to turn it into a heritage site along with the Museum and Red Feather Club, based on its origins as a WWII guard room; the third (option 3), was to dismantle and replace it entirely.

The hall was originally gifted to the Parish Council, which is ultimately responsible for it. A Management Committee would run it on behalf of the Council and make regular and detailed reports. After a full discussion of the options, a vote was taken of those present which showed a clear majority of 15 in favour of Option 1, though there was some support for 2. One resident had written in favour of 3, but the meeting did not favour that option.

Costs need to be established and volunteers are sought for a new management committee (since the meeting a number of people have come forward). The work cannot be funded out of the Parish Council's precept, but Cllr Gibson-Harries agreed to fund a quantity surveyor to the sum of £2,000, and renovation funding may be available from the District Council.

Meanwhile a new insurance policy has been taken out, and a structural survey has been commissioned from Stroud Associates which shows that while much work is needed, the basic structure seems sound. The owner of the land behind the Hall has kindly agreed to maintain it while future plans are developed.

The Parish Council is meeting again on 25th July at 7.30 in the Red Feather Club. Please check the noticeboards and website for confirmation of future meetings and venues.

If you would like to help with the renovation of the Hall, or to contact the Parish Council about anything of concern, our Clerk Rod Caird will be happy to hear from you.

Hoxne

Housing Supply and Demand - there are not many monthly meetings when the Parish Council does not consider a planning application. Occasionally there are applications for new housing to be built. What type of housing do we need in the village? How many people currently living in the village are looking to upsize or downsize? How many young adults would like a home of their own within the village? These are all questions the Councillors would like to know the answer to in order to inform their recommendations on planning applications. The Parish Council will be considering a housing needs survey in the future.

Highways - repairs are taking place on the Denham Road and the Oakley Road. It will include resurfacing of part of the B1118. The County Council Highways website is a good way to report your

concerns about potholes, verges, road signs etc and this can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/highways

A Tidy Village

- we would like to thank all the farmers and landowners who have kindly cut back the verges in the village.
- please walk our many footpaths. The more these are walked, the less they will become overgrown. Pop a pair of secateurs in your pocket and cut down any obstructing brambles as you enjoy the fresh air and perhaps a blackberry or two!
- 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 read old news. Where possible use the noticeboards to publicise your events in the village hall car park (by the picnic bench) and at Cross Street. 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 2nd August** and **Thursday 6th September** at the Playing Field Pavilion starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.



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Syleham

At the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 16th, Malcolm Flounders and Glori Elsdon were reappointed as Chairman and Vice Chair and the remaining councillors agreed to continue to serve the village for another year.

As the Chairman said in his annual report, housing development has been and will continue to be the major issue facing the village. Although MSDC's new Joint Local Plan (JLP) confirmed Syleham's status as countryside, it is no longer a total guarantee against development. This country has a housing crisis and MSDC are committed to delivering its share of new homes.

To protect the village against unwanted building the Council has decided to conduct a review of the existing settlement area, as defined in the JLP, to identify potential infill sites and a housing need survey amongst residents. In this way we can fashion a development plan that best serves the needs of the community.

We ask all residents to complete the survey, which should be distributed before year end. This will be of particular interest to older people who want to downsize but remain in the village and the children of residents seeking affordable housing. MSDC have offered to pay for the survey and refer to its findings in any future planning applications.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday 5th September** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wingfield

Our outgoing Chairman, Mike Allmey, gave his final report at the Annual Parish Meeting held on June 1st. He was proud to announce that the Council had never held so many meetings (ten), received its highest income ever and spent the most

on village refurbishments and improvements. The number of meetings increased because of the volume of contentious planning applications. A situation that is unlikely to abate in the current housing crisis. Council coffers were swelled by grant funding from MSDC that almost doubled our precept income. Our thanks to MSDC councillor, Gibson-Harries, for her support.

We hope the money has been put to good use with actions such as refurbishment of the telephone box, a new parish website, oak tree planting on the Green, acquisition of a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign, two new benches for the churchyard and establishing a £400 fund to buy a village defibrillator.

Our thanks for Mike's chairmanship over the past two hectic years. The job is not an easy one and we are grateful to Michael Harvey for stepping up to fill the position at least for the next year. We also would like to thank all those who put themselves forward to fill the two vacancies on the Council. In a close-run contest for selection, Rosemary Elliott and Robin Feaveyear were co-opted as new councillors.

Our new year will be no less challenging than the last and we welcome the support of residents who we hope to see at our next scheduled meeting to be held on **Friday 3rd August, 7.30pm** at Wingfield Barns.

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Flying Start to Bowls Season

With a host of new members and a new league to play in, it was a busy first half of the summer for Hoxne Bowls Club. However, with experienced hands giving coaching sessions to keen beginners, a positive air has driven the club to more wins than defeats.

At the midway point of the season, our teams lie first in the Border League, second in the Mid-Suffolk League and mid-table in the Upper Waveney League, second division. Plus we remain in all three cup competitions.

On a glorious Sunday in June, three of our players (pictured) represented the club at the annual Fressingfield Tournament and came out winners.



Spectators are always welcome at home games. To check our fixtures and to follow our results, see the poster in the village shop.

Roger Knight
01379 668403

AFC Hoxne

It was the end of an era on the 22nd May 2018, when the Hoxne football team, AFC Hoxne, was disbanded after 20 seasons. The 1st XI had just completed a successful first season in the top Suffolk & Ipswich League (Senior Division), but a shortage of players and no manager for the coming season were the main factors behind the decision. Also, the secretary and chairman would not have sought re-election on health grounds.

Club President Clive Baxter said, "It was a sad day for the village". His late father Reg, formed the club in 1946. Anyone wishing to follow the league next season should visit:

<http://touchlinesil.co.uk>

AFC Hoxne Veterans

On a positive note, the Sunday veterans team intend to continue under the management of Colin Mayhew. Colin says: "AFC Hoxne Veterans are always looking to recruit new players, so if you're 35 or over and fancy playing football again, please contact me".

The team are now entering their 3rd season having gained promotion from the bottom division and reaching the quarter-finals of the league cup in their first season.

Last season they continued to build and achieved league winners status of Division One (North) by a comfortable 11 points, semi-finals of the League Cup and finals of County Cup.

This year they look to compete at the highest of levels in the Norfolk and Suffolk Veterans' Football League Premiership, playing against ex professionals.

If you are interested in playing, Colin can be contacted on 07502 303336.

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The Lunch Bunch Visits...

It was the height of the heat wave and World Club fever when the Lunch Bunch pulled into the Red Lion's car park. This is not a gourmet concern, but they don't pretend to be. An honest, traditional, family pub is how they advertise themselves and they didn't disappoint.



We had booked a table and while it was quiet when we arrived, it soon filled up with small groups and families. The menu was on a blackboard over the fire place and we were told that they offered a weekday two courses special which we gave a try.

We sat down with our cold drinks and looked over the menu. I had a look for a vegetarian option, sadly there were none in evidence, but when we asked we were told there was "some" available, as well as gluten free options, so you will need to remember to ask!

We all made our choices and the very nice server brought vinegar, sauces and a jar of homemade tartar sauce for the fish and chips! The food arrived altogether and was hot and looked and smelt delicious. As I said this is not a gourmet establishment, but you couldn't fault the portion size, the appearance and taste of the meals. The chicken Kiev was moist and tasty and the salad that accompanied it fresh and beautiful. The chicken Korma

The Red Lion

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www.theredlionneedham.co.uk

with rice studded with pomegranate seed also looked delicious. The fish and chips, well you couldn't have got them better from a chip shop! Crisp chips and a thick and crunchy batter without any fat or oil left on the plate!

The main meals were filling, but we were tempted by the deserts, despite the heat outside, syrup sponge with custard and sticky toffee pudding and ice-cream were ordered and soon eaten! Coffee and re-fills on drinks offered and taken.

We asked for the bill and it was excellent value, which perhaps explained why the pub was so popular on a weekday lunchtime! So, we all agreed, this pub is great place for a quick bite to eat. Nothing pretentious, nothing over the top. Just good honest and traditional food, in a friendly and hospitable atmosphere. Other local pubs could learn a lot from what this pub does. They do lots of offers, including Wednesday Night Specials, and Early Bird Offers on Friday evenings, so it's not just at lunchtime but whenever you visit it won't break the bank. Just remember you may need to book, but worth the phone call. Open lunchtimes and evenings Tuesday to Saturday and on Sundays for lunch.

Our two course deals were £8.95.

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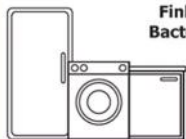
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A Word from Wingfield

The Way We Are Governed

As I meditate and muse, I recall a number of, what are to me, significant dates of events and major changes. It's a mixed bag of schoolboy history and happenings. Short term memory frays, but vivid old memories will survive until death do us part.

Latin required before university admission and reading about the return of Caesar to Britain "cum nave longae". The Normans, "1066 and all that". The Reformation and Luther. Revolution and our own Civil War. Our world-leading industrial revolution. Our fantastic Empire of 56 countries in red on the school map. The 19th century Reform Acts. Two world wars, and the miraculous survival of my father from the Somme albeit body incomplete. My short national service afloat in the Navy followed by the end of empire. Beveridge. Then, international efforts to cope with globalism, greed and electronic communication. And now, Brexit, Trump, Putin, et al, and our incapacity to find new ways to govern an ungovernable world, which was never easy.

I had a Damascene moment in Ceylon in 1946, when I decided to switch from teaching maths to Africa, despite, to my surprise, the publication of a short paper in the *Mathematical Gazette*, my final effort. The Colonial Office was re-manning overseas posts, emptied by the war.

We were posted to Uganda and our first born arrived there in 1949. That year, the Labour Colonial Secretary, Arthur Creech Jones, sent us all a copy of his 1948 despatch about preparation for intended changes in colonial self-government - the introduction of local government. Next Macmillan heralded independence with his "Winds of Change" speech. Most said it

would take at least another 25 years. But they were wrong. We signed off with Lancaster House Westminster constitutions which didn't serve the purposes of the new leaders for long. Fat cat wheeler dealers in cahoots with opportunistic milks their countries dry.

We are left with a sorry saga with the UN about to go the same way as the League of Nations, and closer to home, Europe in melt-down. And even their remarkable constitution is failing to protect our US friends from fascist tendencies.

Coming down to earth, I recall our industrious parish clerk, Mary Garton, bringing me the Council Minute book to inform the new Chair about our responsibility for Wingfield Green, and our local historian, Sheila Kent, lending me her the copy of Wingfield's local history, essential reading for Johnny-come-latelies. And now to my surprise, David Young, has rescued that fascinating minute book from a local garden shed which tells the story of early local government here, over-lapping Canon Aldwell's long Wingfield and Syleham incumbency. Yes, he enjoyed two £250 livings, but died on the day he retired just as he was being given a retirement purse by parishioners. A boy who was present on the occasion, once told me that he was laid down on a door as a stretcher but died before the doctor arrived from Fressingfield on his bike. Sadly, we had no NHS, A & E or village defibrillators in those days.

Before the Local Government Act of 1894, The Vestry was the popular assembly for local government as well as for ecclesiastical matters. Money was raised both by church rates and poor law rates, the parish being the primary unit for local government. Executive officers were appointed on a parochial basis, such as the Constable and churchwarden, or by the creation of new ones, such as the Overseers of the poor and the Surveyor of Highways. Control of the parish was

vested in the Justices of the Peace who sanctioned acts of the Vestry such as the raising of rates.

But things were changing. Turnpike roads and bridges were proving inadequate for transport. Untrue, but it was said that County Councils were needed to improve and open up roads for the new motor transport.

1894 saw the beginning of a gradual transfer of local power to the centre, a process that is now almost complete, except it has often become power without a display of responsibility (remember Crichel Down?). So, as required by the 1894 Act, the electors of Wingfield met in their schoolroom at 7pm on 4th December, 1894 “to bring the Act into operation”. Mr Mobbs, the Overseer proposed and the Rev Price seconded, that Mr Fairbrother take the chair who called for nominations leading to the election of seven persons, namely Messrs Barker, Bloomfield, Feveryear (misspelled), Filby, Huggins, Howard and Thirkettle.

Then on 13th December, the first meeting of the newly elected Wingfield Parish Council took place. The only item of business concerned obtaining the Harlings Dole of £1.5s.0 from the owner of Battlesey Green Farm so as purchase 24 stone of bread to be distributed to the people of Wingfield on 27th December. At the next meeting in 1895, Mr Stubbings of Gurneys Bank Harleston was appointed Treasurer. The next, a short statutory meeting on 25th March, postponed consideration of the repair of footpaths, and delayed the appointment of the Overseer and his Assistant (David Feavearyear, Farmer, and Robert Blomfield, Grocer respectively), with Jacob Filby as Clerk, who then proposed Nathaniel Thirkettle as the Highways Surveyor at a salary of £12 pa. His assistant to receive £10 pa.

Reading between the lines, the impression given by the formality of the

proposals and seconding's, and the way individuals retained power and authority did remind one of a male only mix of Dibley cum Warmington on sea.

After a series of power struggles, a decision was taken in 1896 that meetings should be open to all parish electors- local democracy had begun.

There was also a unanimous decision to write to all landlords of the parish and “the Lords of the Manor” asking them about their rights on the Green near the castle.

The Council took an interest in obtaining local Deeds and other documents after the vicar produced a copy of the Trower's will dated 7.10.1513 but was divided on whether the parish council should claim it. The vicar and three other members abstained, and the Chairman, who also acted as the parish clerk, had the casting vote, so the claim was not made, but the story did not end there. As the charity comprising Town Hall Farm was paying for post war government compulsory agricultural improvements which exceeded the controlled rent the farm was sold, and the proceeds invested in War Loan, sadly a diminishing asset. Fressingfield's Fox and Goose is a different story. It is said that the church still owns it.

In 1897 the vicar proposed the setting up of a committee to inspect cottages in the parish unfit for habitation, whose report was sent to Dr Smart, the MOH to pursue. This led to Mr Fisher, the Sanitary Inspector, being asked to look at water supply for the cottages and the pond near the Kings Head. A report was made on the annual distribution of the many loaves, 2-300?, from the bread dole.

My overall impression from the 75-year record is of a small group of volunteers undertaking the new formal responsibilities both old and new given to them at the close of the 19th century for local matters, still seen as a prime concern, and local democracy initiated and

implemented by leading locals under a new formal structure concerned about local welfare and conditions, not much impacted by the outside authorities. The Poor Law is a good example.

So, a final word on the monumental and meticulous Beveridge report which was commissioned in 1941 and emerged when the civil service was over stretched and focussed on victory. In his cover letter, Beveridge reports to the Minister concerned with post war reconstruction that the report was made by him alone. N.D Chester was his secretary, both a political scientist and an able administrator who marshalled the many memoranda submitted by organisations and related proceedings of meetings of the inter-departmental committee surveying the situation and the submissions.

Beveridge's genius was to master a complex of existing national schemes of social insurance including allied schemes including workman's compensation and to recommend.

I still have a copy, priced 2shs, of the Beveridge Report - Cmd 6404 with some 300 pages of small print. In those days the gross cost of £4625 for preparation was

published - £3150 being for printing and publishing which also covered the cost of the accompanying memoranda from organisations, of similar length - Cmd 6405, also priced 2 shs.

I see I wrote a note in my copy which reads "setting up of an NHS for every citizen was a corollary of reducing the cost of the comprehensive social security required for more than 3 million employed, mostly sick."

Inevitably today, one thinks of our political and administrative struggles with creating a seamless web between the NHS and Social Services; of the absence of a genius like William Beveridge to solve the Brexit problem; and the Parliamentary Select Committee report on the sad failure by IDS to simplify social security payments.

After he retired, Beveridge ended up in University College Oxford. I recall after the war sitting with him on the stairs of the Master's lodgings as he chatted informally with students. Norman Chester also moved to Oxford as Warden of Rhodes House. So Oxford is wrongly labelled as the city of dreaming spires and aspiring dreams.

Tommy Gee

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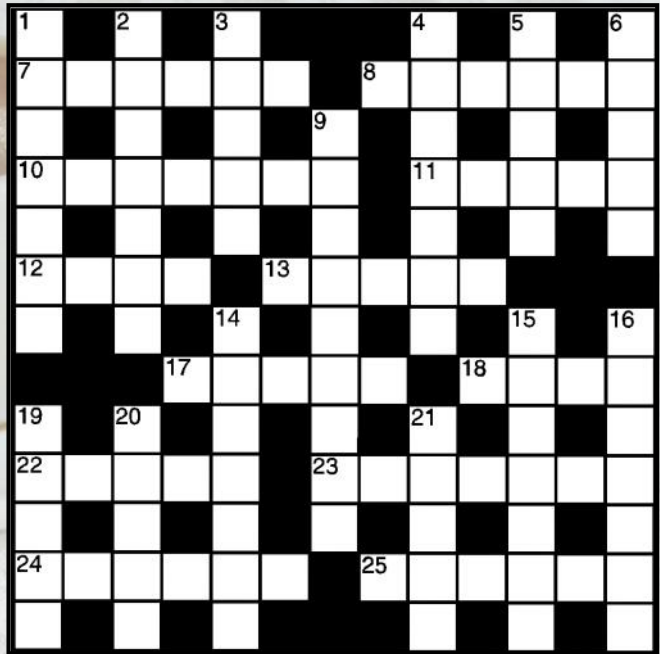
September 2018

Mon 3rd, Southwold £15; Thu 6th, Lunch at The Chip Inn Long Stratton £6; Thu 13th, Banham Zoo £7; Thu 20th, Sheringham £20;

Crossword

Puzzle No. 125

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 **Saturday 8th September** latest. *Don't forget you can email a photograph or scan of your entry too!



Across

- 7 Curse of hay fever suffers (6)
- 8 Initially East Anglian school in early results - Simple (6)
- 10 Reveals quiet a few in a mix up (7)
- 11 Favourite village spot for an ecologist (5)
- 12 Plunder a musical instrument I hear (4)
- 13 Sounds as if the directors have had enough (5)
- 17 Pass on information about the race (5)
- 18 Shape of a school class (4)
- 22 Artist quits terrain and becomes comatose (5)
- 23 Clever etching contains youngster (7)
- 24 Part of scarab sent away (6)
- 25 Put five into 22 across and turn upside down (6)

Down

- 1 Pets lie to unravel a long letter (7)
- 2 Raise to higher rank (7)
- 3 Carries large creatures (5)
- 4 Glad rag highlights the back marker (7)
- 5 Extra clause added for a jockey (5)
- 6 Candid sort of guy (5)
- 9 A low label is quite permissible (9)
- 14 Deny it's fate (7)
- 15 More gut may appear if you are one of these (7)
- 16 Copy an ape (7)
- 19 I call for colour change (5)
- 20 Apparently hired the smallest amount (5)
- 21 Sheepish characteristic (5)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 124 was: **Sasha Revell – Syleham**

Answers: **Across** 1) Plaice 4) Names 8) Oscar 9) Logical 10) Procure 11) Swan 12) Run 14) Byre 15) Edam 18) Let 21) Ache 23) Endorse 25) Curious 26) Erase 27) Loyal 28) Assent **Down** 1) Prompt 2) Anchovy 3) Carousel 4) Nigh 5) Macaw 6) Silent 7) Elder 13) Needless 16) Acreage 17) Rascal 19) Tease 20) Select 22) Hardy 24) Foil

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Joan and David at Hoxne Post Office & Stores have kindly agreed to accept copy and crossword entries on our behalf.

DEADLINES

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