



Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

DECEMBER 2018 - JANUARY 2019

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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

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CW Church Warden



Diary Dates

Friday 30th November

Wingfield Parish Council Meeting WB p40

Saturday 1st December and every weekend to

Sunday 16th December

Christmas Tree Sales, Hoxne p6

Saturday 1st December

Christmas Fair HVH p9

Quiz Night - Fressingfield Scouts HVH p9

Sunday 2nd December

Messy Church Party SWH p20

Tuesday 4th December

Hoxne Heritage Group, The Swan p17

Thursday 6th December

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HVH p39

Friday 7th December

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Xmas Meal HVH p16

Saturday 8th December

Knight and Spiers WB p10

Tuesday 11th December

Phoenix Group talk HVH p16

Friday 14th December

Film Night - The Bromley Boys HVH p9

Saturday 15th December

Christmas tree display, Hoxne Church p15

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market HVH p9

Thursday 20th December

Syleham Carol Singing, p6

Friday 21st December

Sports and Social club SWH p9

Monday 24th December

Denham Live Nativity, 'Nora's Yard' p20

Sports and Social club SWH p9

Tuesday 25th December

Father Christmas p7

Friday 28th December

Sports and Social club Bingo SWH p9

Saturday 29th December

The Muppits, SWH p9

Monday 31st December

Sports and Social club Disco SWH p10

Ceilidh with the Harbour Lights Band WB p10

Tuesday 1st January

Sports and Social club SWH p10

Thursday 3rd January

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HVH p39

Friday 4th to Monday 14th January

Christmas Tree Recycling, Hoxne p7

Tuesday 8th January

Phoenix Group talk & AGM HVH p16

Friday 11th January

Film Night HVH p9

Saturday 12th January

Annual Senior Citizen's Meal SWH p10

Thursday 17th January

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Talk HVH p17

Friday 18th January

Quiz Night SWH p10

Saturday 26th January

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market HVH p9

Wednesday 30th January

Denham Parish Council Meeting, p39

Thursday 31st January

Wingfield and District Gardening Club BVH p17

Saturday 16th February

Quiz Night - Hoxne Music Festival HVH p9

For Church Services and events, see p20 - 22

For Mobile Library, see p5

BVH Brundish Village Hall

DVH Denham Village Hall

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

Front Cover: Rose hips catch a winter morning frost in the Waveney Valley

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Letters to the Editor

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

We would like to thank all our friends for their love and good wishes on this special day and for the many cards and gifts given to us. Your friendship is invaluable. Thank you all so very much.

John & Margaret Brawn

HALLOWEEN COLLECTION

People around Hoxne Low St Green and beyond, got a surprise when answering the door to a well-dressed skeleton complete with homburg hat and a hangman's noose for a necktie. Instead of asking for treats, the skeleton was offering the chance to donate to Cancer Research UK. A grand total of £65 was gratefully received by two gallant "Pink Ladies" who run for Cancer Research UK. Thank you for your wonderful generosity.

"Skeleton"!

FULL HARVEST BREAKFAST

The sun shone on the Harvest Breakfast making it a most successful event. Highwaymen entertained the diners as they cleared the tables. The children and grownups were enthralled by the Punch and Judy. All of the food was eaten and the games played. The morning ended with a raffle that no one wants to win!

A total of £660 was raised which was divided between the Village Hall and Playing Field.

Thank you to all the amazing helpers who assist on the day and in the weeks before, and a big thank you to you all for coming once again. The Harvest Breakfast has been running for 42 years and some of you have been to every one!

Carole Smith

HELP IS AVAILABLE

If you have problems with: Getting around the house; Safety in the home; Obtaining financial assistance; then call **Age UK Advice** free on **0800 169 29 39** or talk to your local Age UK representative, Gloria Elsdon on **01379 668409**.

BORDERHOPPA WISHES

Borderhoppa would like to wish our passengers and everyone that has supported us through 2018 a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



HOXNE CHURCH BELLS

In reply to Wilf Whites notes on the church improvements in the August/September issue, I have to start by declaring an interest, I am a bell ring who lives in Hoxne.

The idea of restoring the church bells very much appeals to me. This is the one church improvement that reaches out to everyone as all will hear them ring. It will put the oldest artefact in the village (bell founded approx. AD 1420) back into a useable state, insuring its survival and that of the church tower itself.

It will require a community effort as this sort of work does not come cheap. The grants will depend on demonstrating the involvement of the village. Fortunately there is money available from a number sources and I would like to see it spent in Hoxne.

There are a few bell ringers living in the village who ring at nearby towers on bells of various quality. A restored six bells at Hoxne would be an enviable set of bells as they are a heavy six and would be a very 'good going' ring after restoration.

So we will need to start a Hoxne team of ringers. Bell ringing is a team, any age, either sex, a skilful art that can proceed to endless complexity.

Fortunately, it is unnecessary to go very deeply into it to produce a noise that is second only to bird song as quintessentially English. It does not require a lot of strength, but does require practise.

You will be controlling a mass of bell metal swinging though 360 degrees using a rope directly attached to the mass, so careful instruction is necessary at the beginning. After that, practise will enable the ringer to strike their bell at exactly the right time, in exactly right place and help produce the 'music' of bell ringing.

Recently I visited a tower in Wiltshire where they were teaching primary school children to ring and young people tend to learn faster than more mature individuals. Older persons, of course, can go to the pub afterwards, so all ages are welcome and practise time can be arranged to suit!

The objective is to get a band together and to start learning to ring in nearby towers so we are ready to ring after the restoration of our bells. If you are interested please contact me.

Andrew Castleden, 01379 668458
fal@castleden.co.uk

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST, SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE - UPDATE

Many thanks to all those who took part in the SHCT sponsored cycle ride and of course, thank you very much to all of the generous sponsors.

Across the Benefice we have raised £1969.50, a superb effort all round so thank you all for your efforts. The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust will receive £984.75 of this amount. The amounts per church are shown below:

Church	Visitors	Raised
St Peter, Athelington	27	£0.00
St John the Baptist, Denham	10	£949.50
St Mary, Horham	26	£140.00
St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne	14	£720.00
St Andrew, Redlingfield	24	£0.00
St Margaret, Syleham	11	£100.00
St Andrew's, Wingfield	12	£60.00
Total		£1,969.50

Thank you again on behalf of your local area organisers: *Evelyn, Sue, Daphne, Rhona, Joan, Mary and John.*

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham

Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**

Next stops: **20th December and 17th January**
 Hoxne, The Swan car park from 10:25 to 10:50
 Hoxne, St Edmunds House from 11:00 to 11:15
 Denham, Post Office from 11:25 to 11:35

Syleham and Wingfield

Calling every 4 weeks on **Fridays**

Next stops: **30th November and 28th December**
 Syleham, Wingfield Road (Junction with Weybread Road) from 11:40 to 11:55
 Wingfield, Post box from 12:00 to 12:20

What's On Here

Christmas Trees

Support the Playing Fields by buying your Christmas Tree in Hoxne. Once again, Christmas Trees will be sold in Market House drive, Low Street on **Saturday** mornings, **December 1st, 8th and 15th** from 10.00 - 12.00 and **Sunday** mornings, **December 2nd, 9th and 16th** from 10.00 - 12.00.

Nordman Fir and Norway Spruce will be available. Thank you for your support last year when over £1000 was raised.

To pre order a tree, telephone Carole Smith on **01379 668210**.

Syleham Carol Singing

Would you like to join us carol singing? Or would you like us to sing carols for you? We want to organise village carol singing once again

for the children's charity, EACH (East Anglia's Children's Hospices) on **Thursday 20th December**. If you would like to sing, please let us know on **01379 669320** and come and join us at **The White House Farmhouse, Whitehouse Lane, Syleham**, between 6.00pm and 6.30pm for a glass of wine and something to eat before we set off.

If you would like us to come and sing some carols, please give us a ring. Last year we had a good evening and raised £430. So why not come and join us or ask us to sing for you? We always like to welcome new people, so do get in touch; we're happy to go as far as **Wingfield or Weybread!** In the letter of thanks that we received from EACH, they said: *"Your support is invaluable, as it enables us to continue delivering care to local families."*

Jane and Adrian Knott





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cottagegardenccompany@gmail.com**

recycle

Your Christmas trees.

at

Hoxne Village Hall
car park



'Real' trees can be left at this site from 7am on Friday 4th January, until 6.30am on Monday 14th January.

Trees must be less than 7' tall & must have all decorations, stands & pots removed.

Please call 01449 778678 for further details



Hello to all the children of Hoxne

It is very cold here at the North Pole, so I am really excited about coming south in a few weeks time. As you know, I always make a special appearance in Hoxne on Christmas morning to deliver all of your presents. The elves have been extremely busy all year making some wonderful toys, so my sack is getting very full. As always, I have employed some local elves to help me and they tell me they are really looking forward to all those lovely mince pies and refreshments you kindly give us. Just remember, I need you to tell me if you have any visitors staying or I will deliver their presents to the wrong address.



I have filed a flight plan with the Airways Authority and expect Rudolf to land the sleigh in **Denham Road** about **6.00am**. This means we will reach **Nuttery Vale** about **7.00** and **Low Street** about **8.00**. Just in case we get lost(!), can you make sure all presents are marked with full name, address and telephone number.

Joan, my friend in the village shop, will advise and help you if needed. So please contact her before **Monday 17th December**. If you need a label please use the one shown, but Joan will have some spares.

*Lots of love and cheer,
Father Christmas*

Name
Address
Postcode
Tel. No.



The Daily Care Agency



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Hartismere Place, Castleton Way, Eye IP23 7DD
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Hoxne Village Hall

Film Nights continue **second Friday** of each month. Bar opens 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm with interval. Ice creams and pop corn available. Tickets in advance on **01379 668060** or from **Hoxne Tea Rooms and Deli**.

The Bromley Boys

Friday 14th December

A funny and touching coming of age football memoir played out to the sights and sounds of late 60's Britain. Based on the hilarious novel by Dave Roberts, it recounts the author's highs and lows supporting the worst football team in the country at the time - Bromley FC. (PG)



2019 Season 1 Films

The first season of 2019 starts on **Friday 11th January** and we hope to have the film choices available at December's film so you can vote for your favourites. Alternatively, have a look at the website for the options.

www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk or email hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com with your film suggestions.

Christmas Fair

Saturday 1st December

12 noon to 2.30pm. Meet Father Christmas, enjoy mulled wine, teas, raffle, cakes, savouries and indulge in a variety of stalls at this ever popular event.



Quiz Night

Saturday 1st December

Scout Quiz. 7pm for 7.30pm Teams of up to 6, to book call **01379 668060**.

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market

Saturday 15th December (note change of date for December) and **Saturday 26th January** 9.30am-12.30pm

Advance Notice

Another quiz for your diaries is on **Saturday 16th February** in aid of Hoxne Music Festival. Further details in the next edition of Village Voice.

Regular Events

If you have been inspired by Strictly Come Dancing, there are weekly ballroom dancing classes available at the Hall. There are also weekly Tai Chi classes, Morris Dancing, Yoga three weeks in the month and the new Badminton classes on Tuesdays are going well - so enough to keep you fit for 2019!

For contact details of the various organisations that use the Hall, please see our website for more information. For bookings, email Sharon and Sally on hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com or call **07876 215269**.

www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk

Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

The Sports and Social club Christmas opening times are **Friday 21st December** from 8pm, **Monday 24th December** from 8pm, **Tuesday 25th December** CLOSED, **Friday 28th December** from 8pm with Bingo in aid of Wingfield defibrillator.

The Muppits

Saturday 29th December

Doors open 8pm 'til late for one of the most popular party bands in the East Anglia area. See posters for details.

New Year's Eve

Monday 31st December

Doors open 8pm. Tickets now on sale at £5 for Sports and Social club members, £8 for non members. Wally's disco, Burger van.

New Year

Tuesday 1st January sees us open from 8pm, then back to regular Tuesday and Friday opening.

Annual Senior Citizen's Meal

Saturday 12th January

This is by invitation only - please get in touch if you would like to come along but haven't had an invitation as we don't always want to ask your age! We organise events throughout the year to raise funds for this social occasion. Starter and main meal by professional cook, Anne Fiddy.

Quiz Evening

Friday 18th January

Doors open 7.30 for 8pm start. Teams of 4 @ £5 each. In aid of hall funds.

The postcode of Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall for SatNav users is IP21 4LT.

*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

Knight and Spiers

Saturday 8th December, 7.30pm

On a summer's day in 2016, the organisers of FolkEast Festival masterminded one of the most intriguing and exciting collaborations on today's folk scene. Peter

Knight, legendary violinist and ex-member of folk-rock band Steeleye

Span was paired with leading melodeon player and ex-Bellowhead member, John Spiers, for a special one-off performance which left audiences in awe. With no space to be found in the marquee, people stood five deep in the pouring rain in order to witness the bringing together of two of the most genuinely gifted musicians in their respective fields. With a standing ovation and roars for more, and much to the delight of folk fans everywhere, Knight and Spiers decided not to leave things there.

The pairing of violin and melodeon is not a new one, but in the hands of Knight and Spiers, improvisation and invention meet the listener at every turn.

Together they have created a musical document that resonates with history, but also something that should inspire future generations of musicians to engage with Britain's folk dancing heritage, and the beautiful, mysterious tunes that can be found within that heritage.

On this special December tour, Peter and John will be incorporating some seasonal music gathered from the English tradition and beyond.

These uniquely gifted musicians make a sublime pairing, and create a live performance to be remembered for a long time. Tickets £15

New Year's Eve Ceilidh with the Harbour Lights Band

Monday 31st December, 8pm

Following the success of the last 2 years, we couldn't resist hosting another New Year's Eve ceilidh with the Harbour Lights Band. Caller Pam



Ross will be on hand to talk us through everything as usual, and tickets will of course include a two course supper and a glass of fizz at midnight. Come and dance out the old and see in the new with great company at Wingfield Barns. Why not bring your friends and family too? Tickets £22.50 - please advise of any dietary requirements when booking.

Other Events

As we enter the New Year with all our resolutions still fresh in our mind, don't forget we have our regular weekly classes here too:

Tuesdays

John Parker's Art Classes, 10am to 4pm, for more information email:

artistjparker@gmail.com

Pilates with Emma, 11am, all abilities welcome, email:

pilatesbodyharmony@aol.co.uk

Thursdays

Keep Fit with Emily, 10am, email:

emily@inthepinkfit.co.uk

For more information on all of the above, to book tickets and for details of all our upcoming events, please visit our website.

www.wingfieldbarns.com

Wingfield Barns | Church Road

Wingfield | IP21 5RA | 01379 384505

Fressingfield Scouts

The new term has got going really well with a wide range of activities taking place. Explorers have been spending a lot of time at the new site tidying, and trimming. They also used the camp fire to cook on, just to test it out! They visited Scaresville at Kentwell Hall for a Halloween "Fright Night".

At the other end of our age range, the Beavers have been learning about helping

people with dementia type illnesses, have been on a scavenger hunt and have been climbing.

Tiger cubs have been focussing on cycling and road safety and the Wolf Cubs have been air rifle shooting.

Pioneer Scouts have been having fun with the Photography Badge and have a portfolio of pictures on the theme of "looking up". Thank you to Fressingfield Church for accommodating us for this activity. A life saving skills session is planned at Stradbroke swimming pool.

Our fund raising team are producing a calendar with local views as the theme, look out for this on sale or contact any leader for a copy. Thank you to all who have taken adverts.

To mark the 100 year anniversary of the end of the Great War, the Wolf Cubs have created 33 painted stones and hidden them around Fressingfield. Each stone represents a soldier that fell during the two World Wars.

There are 28 stones for the First World War and five for the Second World War. The Cubs have painted a poppy and written a soldier's name on each stone. But where have we hidden them? Some are in easy locations and some are a bit more of a challenge.

We have created a Facebook page called "Fressingfield Rocks" if you would like to see all the rocks and some clues as to where we have hidden them. If you find one, please take a photo and let us know on the Facebook page. You then have a choice, you can either leave it in the same location or move it to a new hiding place. If you move it, please give some clues on the Facebook page.

Fancy joining the fun? We are on the lookout for more leaders. Pass on your experiences, knowledge or enthusiasm to the younger generation. It's very rewarding and we also have fun.

www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk



Catholic Parish of
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Church of St Henry Morse
Shelfanger Road, Diss IP12 4DX
Parish Priest: Canon David Bagstaff
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Mass Times:

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What's On There

Fressingfield

GRAND PICTURE SALE

Andrew Vessey has held several exhibitions of his Art since retiring to Fressingfield, much of it of local scenes and comprising pastels, ink drawings and oil paintings. He will be holding a GRAND PICTURE SALE at Fressingfield's Sancroft Hall, on **Saturday 1st December**, 10.00am - 3.00pm. Pictures priced from £10 - £100, most works are framed.

Harleston

CHRISTMAS MARKET AND LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

On **Saturday 1st December** there will once again there will be a Christmas Market from 9.30am till 6pm with stalls selling all manner of edible, decorative and useful goodies. Favourites such as the fruit liqueurs and preserves, cakes, pies, bread and pastries, hand stitched aprons and craft items, locally reared meats, cider and apple juice will be joined by new stalls such as Gabriel's Garden and Tudor Bakehouse. There will also be delicious drinks and street food to help keep you warm and seasonal songs from *Too Many Cooks*.

Father Christmas will be welcoming young visitors to Santa's Grotto at Harleston Information Plus during the afternoon, and there will be a Christmas Bazaar at St John's Church in Broad Street during the morning.

From 4pm, The Thoroughfare will be closed for children's rides and other entertainments, including a fabulous Snow Globe, community stalls and

performers. The East of England Brass Band will provide lots of familiar and seasonal tunes. We are thrilled that comedian, writer and performer **Ben Langley**, best known as a star of Britain's Got Talent and the Christmas panto at Norwich Theatre Royal, will do the official Switch-on of the lights on the Christmas tree and around town, at 6.30pm.

Harleston Choral Society

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This years concert is on **Saturday 8th December** at 7.30 pm in **St John's Church**, Harleston. We'll be performing - with professional soloists and the Dargason Ensemble - Handel's *Messiah* Pt 1, Telemann's *German Magnificat*, and a selection of carols, some with audience participation. Tickets £12.00 (accompanied children free) from choir members, Harleston Information Plus, and on the door on the night.

Our Spring Term begins on **Monday 7th January** at 7.00 pm in **The Church at London Road**, Harleston, when we begin rehearsing for our Summer Concert next June, *An Evening with Henry Purcell* - come and join us, there are no auditions and music is provided free ! More information on the HCS website www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk, or from our Chair: jo.curry@sky.com

Beyond the Wall

WINTER FAYRE

Come and join us at The Walled Garden, Thornham Magna, Eye, IP23 8HA on **Saturday 9th December** for our Winter Fayre, 1pm to 3.30pm. Craft stalls, Cakes and Pastries, Refreshments, Lucky Dip, Games Raffle, Produce stalls, LIVE MUSIC, FREE ENTRY.

www.beyondthewall.org.uk

The Burgate Singers

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This will be held at
Eye Town Hall on
Saturday 15th

December at 7.30pm.

They will be performing
'*L'Enfance du Christ*' by Berlioz,
perhaps best known for the chorus *The
Shepherds Farewell*. The soloists are all
professional singers chosen for their
musicianship and voices by Musical
Director Alain Judd. The orchestra is the
Burgate Sinfonia, likewise composed of
professional musicians. Tickets are £18
(£16 for under 18's) and available on the
door or from 01379 677333.



Harleston and District U3A

The Harleston U3A Ukulele band
recently had the privilege of
participating in two of the town's
end of W.W.1 commemorations. The first
concert, held on 19th October at the
Leisure Centre, raised £110 towards the
cost of refurbishing the war memorial
area. The second (British Legion
service), held at the Methodist/URC
Church, on 27th October, was an
intensely moving experience involving
prose, poetry, songs and instrumentals,
remembering both the soldiers, sailors
and airmen who fought and also the men
and women back home who kept "the
home fires burning"

We meet every Tuesday in the
Methodist/URC Hall. Anyone who enjoys
singing is welcome to join us since, with
the ukulele, the vocals are just as
important as playing the instrument. We
have about an hour's practise and then
some refreshments and social time
together. We are an all ability group who
do not take ourselves too seriously. What
we do take seriously is ENJOYING

OURSELVES! And count the morning a
success if everyone leaves with a smile!

Find out about your local U3A by
contacting Membership Secretary, Kim on
01986 788149 or log on to our website at
www.u3a.org.uk. You can also come
along to one of our monthly meetings
which are held on **third Wednesday** of the
month at 2pm in the Masonic Rooms
(except for the December Christmas
Party). It can also be a good idea to
sample a "taster" session at one of our
many interest groups before joining.

Save the Date

An evening of traditional folk music
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Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

As anticipated, October was a very busy one for the Friends. The excellent Harvest Lunch was held in the village hall and this was followed, later in the month with a concert by the Castleton Band in the church, a fantastic evening of excellent music by this award-winning band. It is such a shame that it was not better supported by people from our village.

In November we held a quiz, as usual well supported and our thanks go out to Jenny for running this again for us.

Our next event, while not having the intention of being a big fund raiser, is more to provide a Christmas display in the church. Local organisations have been asked to provide a decorated Christmas tree, these are due to be erected in the church on **Saturday 15th December** and will be on show right up to Christmas. More exhibits are welcome from clubs, associations or even local families, so why not have a go. Contact Rhona Bertie on **01379 871850** for more information.



Finally, the day has almost come, as I write, the kitchen units are waiting to be fitted, the drainage is being installed and hopefully by the time you read this they will be in use.

In addition to all of the above we will continue to hold our monthly coffee mornings and book sale on the **third Saturday** of the month. Tea, coffee, cakes and lots of books, 9.45 to 11.15am.

John Brawn, 01379 668352
Chair of the Friends committee



Hoxne Phoenix Group

In September, we held our Fund-raising Evening in the form of a Spanish Paella Evening which was a success and we were able to send a cheque for £400 to Headway Suffolk. This included a donation from the lady from La Casa Azul (originally with a shop in Eye but now selling on the internet) who donated her profit from the sale of goods that evening. We were all very interested in the demonstration given to us by the representative from Headway (Sophie) with her dog Hope. It is good that we were able to help someone else to be slightly more independent.

In October we were entertained by Joy Evitt who told the fascinating story of Lucile, Lady Duff-Gordon who survived the Titanic Sinking and became an international dress designer.

The daughter of a civil engineer, she spent her early life in Canada and England, marrying for the first time in 1884. Divorced in 1893 from her alcoholic husband she started working from home as a dressmaker to support herself and her daughter. In 1990 she married Sir Cosmo Duff-Gordon, a Scottish baronet, landowner and sportsman. Eventually she opened a shop, Maison Lucile, which became highly successful, and formed a company Lucile Ltd in 1903. She is widely credited with training the first professional fashion models as well as staging the first catwalk style shows.

In 1912 Lucile travelled to America in connection with the New York launch of Lucile Ltd on the Titanic. She, her husband and maid survived. Lucile also had another close call after surviving the Titanic. She should have been on



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the RMS Lusitania which was sunk by a German torpedo on 7 May 1915, but cancelled her trip due to illness.

Following the reconstruction of Lucile Ltd in 1918-19 her connection with her design empire disintegrated and by September 1922 she had ceased designing for the company. She died in 1935 aged 71, on the fourth anniversary of her husband's death.

Our next meeting on **Tuesday 11th December** is a demonstration of Christmas Flower Arrangements. On **Tuesday 8th January** (our 12th Birthday) we are having a talk entitled the History of Lingerie & Swimwear, and on **Tuesday 12th February** we have our very brief A.G.M. and a social evening.

Anyone who would like to come to a particular evening, without wanting to join Phoenix, you are very welcome. All we ask is for a Visitor Fee of £2.00 to cover tea/coffee and biscuits.

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

Hoxne Garden & Social Club

What a wonderful Autumn we have had, and the time change to GMT came as quite a shock! September's meeting gave many reasons for making our Gardens more wildlife friendly. October brought a change of speaker, and Matthew Tanton-Brown held a very interesting Gardener's Question Time, much appreciated by some new members who had just moved into the village. Lots of good advice for all!

Roger and Jenny lead a very successful and enjoyable Ramble in October, and they are planning another one in early spring, watch this space!

At our November meeting Ian Limmer from Peter Beale's talked about Climbing and Rambling Roses and we are all looking forward to our Christmas Party on

Friday 7th December in the village hall. We are having a Hog Roast [+ vegetarian options] followed by “*Perennial Mr Potter*”. It is in the Village Hall and starts at 6.30 for 7pm.

On **Thursday 17th January** at 7.30pm, Justin, a local Beekeeper, will be talking about “*Bees and Beekeeping*”.

Our AGM is in March [21st] and maybe the last meeting of the Hoxne Garden and Social Club. We have a possible Treasurer and one other person willing to help, but they cannot do it on their own, ideally we would like three more helpers. If any of you would like to help or find out more, please speak to me at a meeting or contact me by phone or email, see below.

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

The next meeting of the Wingfield and District Gardening Club is on **Thursday 31st January** at 7.30pm in Brundish Village Hall and will be a talk by Thorncroft Clematis. Non-members welcome - £3 at the door. For further information, please contact:

Priscilla Williamson, 01379 388034
priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com

Busy Time for Hoxne Heritage Group

Members of the Heritage Group had a successful excavation in September when searching for the old Lodge in Lodge Hill behind Low Street. With guidance from Suffolk archaeologist, John Craven we were

fortunate to hit on an area that revealed some exciting archaeological features. Please see the report submitted separately on page 35. We are enthusiastic to extend the excavation area at a later time when the weather is warmer and learnt so much from the expert, John. If you are interested in joining us, you would be most welcome.

By the time this is published we will have held our public talk on what the geophysics revealed on Lodge Hill which led to the dig - evidence of the past that we were not expecting. A full report will follow.

Some of our members interested in local military history have been busy putting together a display relating to Hoxne in WW1 as part of the commemoration of the end of the war held at Worlingworth on Nov.10th. We hope that this will be displayed in Hoxne in due course.

Finally, our focus now is arranging our Christmas social at the hall with our usual feast and free-flowing nectar, with the Harbour Lights group providing some ‘historical’ music. This is the time to join us!

Finally, a reminder that our regular meetings are usually held on the **first Tuesday** of each month at The Swan Inn.

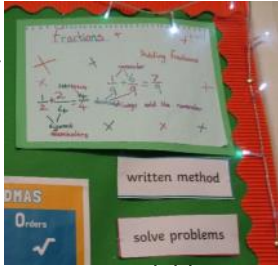
Margaret Sillis
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

St Edmunds School

Leaves are revealing their autumn colours as this edition of Village Voice is being compiled. By the time you are reading this, Autumn Term at St Edmund’s will be coming to a close. A joyful harvest celebration in October lead us to more sombre moments of study in November as we participated in the Royal British Legion’s Commemoration of WWI. Rowan Class in particular, will have considered the conditions

experienced by soldiers in the trenches, listened to poetry compiled by Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen and written their own pieces of prose. Poppies were made by other members of the school and all of us participated in the minute silence.

We were very pleased to welcome family members who joined us for a morning of maths; finding out how numeracy is taught in our school and the positive way in which we can encourage our children to become engaged in maths that features so heavily in our lives.



Nursery has also been inviting visitors to join us for stay and play sessions. These are a good opportunity for those with

three and four year olds to witness our nursery and meet Mrs Mansfield. More sessions will be available in 2019; look out for promotional posters.



December is always a busy month in any school and St Edmund's is no exception. The seasonal festivities are embraced and incorporated into the curriculum with art, craft, music, logistics and Rowan Class' Enterprise Sale. Our younger members perform their annual nativity; this year's production is The Inn-Spector. With a copious array of tinsel and tea towels, the audience's delight is



guaranteed. Our older pupils will visit members of the community at St Edmund's House and The Depperhaugh to

sing carols. Singing around Hoxne's Christmas Tree, our carol evening at Hoxne Church and Mrs Fisher's Christmas lunch will have us all in festive spirits.

Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year, from all at St Edmund's Primary School.

If you would like more information about St Edmund's Primary School and Nursery, please visit waveneyvalleypartnership.org or email officehoxne@wvpschools.org or telephone 01379 668283.



November also saw the launch of our twitter feed @EdHoxne - join us if you tweet!

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Reflections

In the midst of it all: Peace

At the beginning of November, Mary and I went to visit our son in Seville; Seville and the whole Spanish region of Andalusia is fascinating, steeped in the history of the long struggle of the Islamic Moors and the Christians.

One essential site of this interaction is in Cordoba and it's unique Cathedral Mosque. Here a mosque was built over the site of an earlier church from the Roman Empire. Times changed and a cathedral was built inside the mosque; inside not in place or on top of it! So today you can wander in the column lined avenues of an ancient mosque, yet stop to peer into numerous side chapels dedicated to various saints. And then, you come across a cathedral right in the middle of it.

And in this building where different faiths have jostled for superiority, there are now hundreds of tourists jostling for the best view, the best chance to hear the guide, the best photo. Where in it all, I wondered, was the chance to sit and pray and attend to the gentle voice of the Divine?

Then, I saw her, one solitary lady sitting in the unmistakable way of someone meditating and praying; there she was in the midst of it all! In the midst of all the tourists and voices, activity and weight of history! Sitting and communing with God. Easily we bemoan that Christmas has lost its meaning and has been swept away by commercialism, but perhaps that is an excuse that comes easily to all of us. I've seen, with my own eyes, a lady sitting in the midst of it all, at peace. May it be that all of us make the effort to encounter the Prince of Peace this Christmas.

Michael Womack, 01379 388889
hoxnebenefice@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

Sunday 2nd December

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

4pm Benefice Messy Church Party, Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Sunday 9th December

11.15am Benefice Family@Church, Denham

2.00pm Wingfield Baptism

Sunday 16th December

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

11.15am Syleham Christmas with the Amici

3pm Denham Carol Service

4pm Wingfield Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 20th December

7pm, Hoxne Carol Service

Sunday 23rd December

11.15am Denham Holy Communion

Monday 24th December

2.30pm Denham Live Nativity at 'Nora's Yard'

Tuesday 25th December

9.30am Syleham BCP Communion

11.15am Hoxne Family Communion

11.15am Wingfield Family Communion

Sunday 30th December

11.15am Benefice Communion, Wingfield

Sunday 6th January

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion

11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion

4pm Syleham Benefice Messy Church

Sunday 13th January

11.15am Benefice Family@Church, Denham

Sunday 20th January

10am Syleham Village Praise

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion

Sunday 27th January

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion

11.15am Denham Holy Communion

11.15am Hoxne BCP Mattins

6.30pm Wingfield Benefice BCP Evensong

Community Carol Services

Hoxne Beer and Carols

Date and time TBC, contact Michael Womack

Wednesday 12th December

Red Feather Club, Denham, 7.30pm (with the Salvation Army and the 95th Bomb Group)

Monday 17th December

Wingfield Carols on the Green, time TBC

Church News

St John, Denham

Live Nativity is back!
The churches of the
Hoxne benefice will



be presenting a live nativity again this year on **Christmas Eve**; as with last time it will be in 'Nora's Yard' on the road between Hoxne and Denham (on the left just as you enter Denham), starting at

2:30pm. Again there will be 'actors', live animals and hopefully a babe in arms (the vicar's still looking for Jesus!).

To try and relieve the parking at Nora's Yard, please park and walk from somewhere else unless you have passengers with limited mobility. We're very grateful that Fressingfield Scouts will be helping with a 'Park and Ride' mini-bus shuttle. Look out for details on posters and flyers.

Family@Church

In December, the churches of the Hoxne benefice are launching a new service. Family@Church, is a short church service for everyone; hopefully with 'something for everyone!' There's a warm welcome and refreshments before and afterward (even during if you want), an activity and thoughtful talk to go with it and songs and a prayer-time. All this in a short service.

It's on the **second Sunday** of every month in Denham church, so the first ones are **9th December** and **13th January** at 11:15 for about 40 minutes.

Contact Michael Womack **01379 38889**, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com for more details or just come as you are - all are welcome in God's family.

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Father Christmas will make his first appearance at the Christmas Fair on **Saturday 1st December**, 12 noon to 2.30pm at the Village Hall.

There will be mulled wine, teas, raffle, cakes, savouries and a variety of stalls.

We have a Christmas Tree display organised by the 'Friends' from the **Sunday 16th December**. Many village organisations are contributing to this and together with the Christmas flower displays the church will be resplendent for the Carol Service on **Thursday 20th**

December at 7pm to which everyone is welcome.

The electrical and plumbing work for the tea point for the parish church has been carried out in preparation for the installation of the cabinets.

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 17th December - Branch meeting in Hoxne;

Monday 21st January - Annual General Meeting in Hoxne;

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

Flower rota

December is the season of preparation - Advent Candle.

20th December: Carol Service - Festival flowers through distributed rota;

23rd December, Christmas Day & 30th December: Christmas flowers;

6th & 13th January: Altar, Cathie McGregor;

20th & 27th January: Altar, Eleanor Hart;

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

Our Harvest Supper in October was most successful, with excellent food and a very enjoyable atmosphere. We made £750 towards the redecoration of the church.

The Harvest Festival on the following day saw the



church beautifully decorated as always - thank you so much to all who contributed. We shared the collection with Waveney Food Bank and were able to send them £95.50.

All ages gathered in St Margaret's Church for a Remembrance Day Service led by Revd Eleanor Goodison. Following the placing of the poppy wreath, a candle was lit by David



Goodwin (great-nephew of Roy Goodwin who died in the Second World War) for



each name read from the war memorial. The children glued poppy seeds to cut-out paper poppies, which we shall plant in the churchyard to provide, we hope, a lasting reminder of the sacrifices of past generations.

Messy Church in December will be a party at Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall, with an entertainer generously funded by the hall's Social Club, start time 4pm.

For a true Christmas experience, all are most welcome to the new **family@church** services and to the **Live Nativity** on Christmas Eve, see the Denham report for full details.

Carol Service - Sunday 16th December at 11.15am. Once again, Amici will join us and it is always a very popular service: there will be mulled wine to warm us all up afterwards.

Christmas Day will see a Communion Service in the church at 9.30am (Please note that there is no service on Sunday 23rd December).

Messy Church in January will also be different from usual, as we are going to

have a Christingle Service in St Margaret's Church on the afternoon of **Sunday 6th January**. All very welcome to join us in making Christingles, learning something about the Childrens' Society and consuming a scrummy tea!

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

St Andrew, Wingfield

Our popular service of Carols by Candlelight at 4pm on **Sunday 16th December** will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine at Wingfield College by kind invitation of Jane and Peter.

Please note the change to the monthly cycle of services at St Andrew's - in particular the move of the Communion Service from the **second Sunday** of each month to the **first Sunday** of each month.

We are very grateful to Mel and all who contributed to the exhibition in the church to remember the servicemen from Wingfield who lost their lives in the First World War. Many of the people who visited the church remarked on how moving they found the information about the men's lives.

We are pleased to be able to report that the stonework to the archways of the north and south external doors have been repaired. The plasterwork in the North-West corner of the church will be replaced once the wall has thoroughly dried out, but the timetable for this is heavily weather-dependent.

We were pleased to welcome Simon Snell from Christian Aid to Evensong in October. Simon gave an outline of the activities of Christian Aid and said how grateful they were for the significant donations that the parishes of the Hoxne Benefice have made to help fund this important work.

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Hoxne War Heroes

This is a list of soldiers from the village, recorded on Hoxne War Memorial in St Peter and St Paul's church. Many of the 1st World War soldiers had their photograph taken by Mr James Knights the village photographer, in the garden of his cottage in Low Street, near to the old butcher's shop, before they went off to fight.

1. **Walter Reginald Aldred.** 1882 - 1917. [14208] Walter was a private in the 8th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment and resided at Cross Street, he was the son of Walter and Ellen Aldred. He died on the 12th of October 1917, aged 35 and is recorded on the Tyne Cot memorial in Belgium. [C.W.G. panel 40 - 41. 162 - 162a.]

2. **Frank Stanley Brame.** 1893 - 1917. [14571] Frank Brame was a Lieutenant Sergeant in the Suffolk Regiment and enlisting in 1914; he was killed on the 12th of March 1917, aged 24. Frank was the son of Edward and Annie Brame of Low Street and the husband of Minnie Elmer of 20, Suffolk Street in Chester. He is recorded on the Thiepval memorial in France. 1893 - 1917. [C.W.G. Pier and Face 1c / 2a.]

3. **Henry Butcher.** [18439] Henry Butcher was the youngest son of George and Jane Butcher of Low Street and joined the 1/4th Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment as a private. He was suffering from pneumonia and died in the German Hospital as a soldier and prisoner of war aged 20, he died on the 20th of October 1917, being buried at the Niederzwehren Cemetery in Germany. 1898 - 1918. [C.W.G.VI. H. 2.]

4. **Albert Copping.** 1894 - 1914. [13660] Albert played in the Hoxne Band and was a drummer in the Grenadiers, he was the

first soldier from the village to be killed and died on the 14th / 16th of September 1914 and is recorded at La Ferte - Sous Jouarre in France. He had resided at 44 Low Street, with his parents Albert William and Anna Malona Copping, Albert was only 20 years of age when he died.



Henry Butcher and WWI Soldiers at Hoxne

5. **Alfred Copping.** 1917. [65236] Alfred was a private in the Machine Gun Corps and was killed on the 3rd of October 1917; he was possibly a relative of Albert Copping and resided at the Little Green in Burgate, Suffolk. His details are to be found recorded at Etaples Memorial Cemetery in France. Alfred was the son of John Copping of Burgate. [C.W.G. XXVII. D.2.]

6. **Arthur Ivan Gilman.** 1894 - 1918. [377029] Arthur was the son of Arthur Gilman and Edith Thrower and resided at 49 Low Street, with his family. Edith died in childbirth and Arthur was brought up by his stepmother Florence [Butcher] Gilman. Arthur went to work in Yorkshire and married Lilian Clarke of Bilbrough, near Tadcaster, he joined the Manchester Regiment as a private and was killed on the 21st of March 1918. His details are recorded at the Pozieres Memorial Cemetery. Arthur was aged 24 when he died and resided at Bilbrough, working on the local farms. He wrote letters and sent postcards to his family whilst on active service in France. [C.W.G. Panel 64 - 67.]

7. **Sydney Kirby.** 1916. [G / 60822] Sydney was possibly born in Norwich, Norfolk and joined the 24th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He was killed on the 13th of November 1916 and his details are recorded on the Thiepval Memorial in France. Sydney lived and worked at Hoxne. [C.W.G.Pier and Face 8c and 16a.]

8. **Frederick Mutimer.** 1914. [207009] Frederick was possibly born at Denham and worked as a carter for a wine and spirit merchant. He joined the Royal Field Artillery and served as a gunner. He died on the 2nd of September 191* and his details are recorded at the Hem Farm Memorial at Hem -Moncau in France. [C.W.G. II. A. 30.] [C. Bty. 235th Bde.]

9. **Michael Miles.** 1892 - 1914. [10244] Michael was possibly the brother of George Miles M.M., who resided at Hoxne and was married to Edith Gilman. The Miles family were thatcher's, who were well known in the area. Michael joined the 2nd Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment as a private and was killed on the 3rd of November 1914 aged 22, his details are recorded at the Boulogne East Cemetery. Michael was the son of Michael and Ellen Miles. [C.W.G. III.a. 34.]

10. **Reginald Mills.** 1916. [24028] Reginald joined the 1st Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment as a private and was killed on

the 4th of September 1916; his details are recorded at the Flatiron Copse Mametz Cemetery in France. [C.W.G. I.I.8.]

11. **Ernest Oakes.** 1916. [26349] Ernest joined the 13th Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment as a private; he died on the 7th of July 1916 and is remembered at the Thiepval Memorial in France. The Oakes family were millers and publicans in Denham, which is the neighbouring village with Hoxne. [C.W.G.Pier and Face 3c and 4a.]

12. **Henry [Harry] Oakes.** 1892 - 1916. [23655] Harry joined the Suffolk Regiment as a private and was killed on the 20th of July 1916; his details are to be found at the St. Sever Cemetery in Rouen, France. He was 24 years of age when he died and his family came from Denham. Harry was the son of Charles and Ada Oakes, of Denham in Suffolk. [C.W.G. A.34.10.]

13. **Arthur Read.** 1917. [240575] Arthur was a private in the Norfolk Regiment and died on the 14th of December 1917 and his details can be found at the Bagdad War Cemetery in Iraq. He was a resident at Hoxne. [C.W.G. North Gate XXI. V. 31.]

14. **John Read.** 1888 - 1917. [3168] John was aged 29 when he died on the 2nd of October 1917, being a driver for the Australian Field Artillery; his details are recorded at the Hooze Crater Cemetery in Leper, Belgium. John was possibly the brother of Arthur Read. John was the son of Edgar and Mary Read of 329, Battle Road, Hollington, St. Leonards - on - Sea, Sussex. [C.W.G. I.F. II.]

15. **Alfred James Patterson.** 1892 - 1916. [GS / 17284] Alfred joined the Royal Fusiliers as a private, he resided at 36 Low Street and died on the 8th of April 1916 aged 24 and his details are recorded at the Hoxne Church Memorial. Alfred was



Florence Gilman, Land Army at Hoxne

the son of James Patterson of 36, Lower Oakley and the late Mrs. Patterson.

[C.W.G. Hoxne.]

16. Samuel George Shemming. 1895 - 1916. [13155] Samuel Shemming, joined the 7th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment as a private, he died on the 3rd of July 1916 and his details are recorded at the Thiepval Memorial in France. Samuel was 21 years of age when he died and had lived at Cross Street in Hoxne. Samuel was the son of James and Eliza Shemming of Church Hill, Hoxne. [Pier and Face 1.C and 2 A.]

17. Herbert Tibbenham. 1896 - 1917. [C/ 4689] Herbert Roys Tibbenham was born at Brockdish in Norfolk and joined the 16th Kings Royal Rifles Corps and served as a Sergeant, he was killed on the 23rd of April 1917 and his details are recorded at the Arras Memorial. Herbert resided at Syleham and the Tibbenham family farmed at Corner Farm, Green Street, Hoxne. He was the son of Pleys Robert and Rosa Alice Tibbenham. [C.W.G. Bay 7.]

18. Harold Ward. 1916. [22614] Harold was a private in the 11th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment, he died on the 3rd of August 1916 and his details can be found at the Caterpillar Valley Cemetery in Longeval in France. [C.W.G. XVI. H. 40.]

19. H. Ward. 1917. [241063] H. Ward was a private in the 1st / 5th Battalion of the Norfolk regiment, he died on the 19th of April 1917 and his details can be found at the Jerusalem Memorial in Israel. [C.W.G. Panels 12 to 15.]

20. F. Watson. 1918. [40611] F. Watson was a private in the 7th Battalion and died on the 9th of March 1918 and his details can be found at the Anzac Cemetery in Sailly - Sur - La - Lys in France. [C.W.G. III.C.1]



Arthur Ivan Gilman with Watermill Millers Cart

21. F.W. Watson. 1918. [35986] F.W. Watson was a private in the 9th Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment, he died on the 29th of September 1918 and his details are recorded at the Brie British Cemetery in France. [C.W.G. IV.D.II.]

22. George Wilby. 1904 - 1916. [20111] George was a private in the 4th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment; he died on the 1st of November 1916 aged 20 and was possibly born at Stoke Ash, but resided at Mayhews Corner in Stradbroke. He was the son of Henry and Emma Jane Wilby [stepmother] of Stradbroke. He is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial in France. [Pier and Face 1C / 2A.]

23. Robert Gray [7116] was born at Snape in Suffolk and was the son of Frederick and Mary Elizabeth Gray of cross Street, Hoxne. Robert was a corporal in the 1st Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment and had enlisted at Diss in Norfolk. Robert was killed in action and died on the 30th of October 1914 and is remembered on the Le Touret Memorial in France, but not on the memorial at Hoxne.



*Albert Copping
WWI Drummer*

2nd World War Heroes

1. **William Barber.** Suffolk Regiment 1st Battalion. 5824391. William was a private within the Suffolk Regiment and was a reservist, called up in 1940; he was killed on the 29th of May 1940, aged 36 and was buried at Noordschote Churchyard in Belgium. He left a widow Elizabeth and young son called Raymond.

2. **Gerald Goddard.** Cambridgeshire Regiment 1st Battalion. 5827286. Gerald was a private in the Cambridgeshire Regiment, he was aged 24 when he died on the 7th of December 1943 and was buried at the Chungkai War Cemetery in Thailand. Many of the soldiers and prisoners of war, buried her worked on the Burma-Siam Railway, being constructed by the Japanese.

3. **Harold Leslie Knights.** Suffolk Regiment 1st Battalion. 5825043. Harold was a private within this regiment and was killed between the 28th and 29th of May 1940 being aged 28 years old, his body was lost on the battle field at Dunkirk and his name is inscribed on the Dunkirk Memorial in France.

4. **William John Scofield.** Suffolk Regiment 4th Battalion. 5829800. William was a private within this regiment and was the son of William John Scofield and his wife Elsie Gladys Scofield of Hoxne. He was killed on the 13th of September 1943 and was buried at the Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma.

5. **Ronald Mervyn Sheehan.** Royal Armoured Corps, 4th /7th Royal Dragoon Guards. 323519. Ronald was a lieutenant within this regiment and died on the 30th of March 1945 aged 20 years old, he was buried at the Jonkerboss War Cemetery in the Netherlands.

6. **Harold Tyler.** Suffolk Regiment 9th Battalion. 5828594. Harold was a private within this regiment and died on the 30th of December 1940 and was buried at Hoxne, aged 22 years old. Harold was the son of Olga Mary Tyler and grandson of Mrs Elizabeth Sparrow of Hoxne.

7. **Henry Thomas Tyler.** Royal Armoured Corps, 11th Hussars. 7907694. Henry was a trooper within this regiment and was killed on the 29th of October 1943, aged 27 he was the brother of Harold and son of Olga Tyler. He was buried at the Naples War Cemetery in Italy.

8. **George Bourne Peter Mager [1916-1944]** was the eldest son of Leonard and Adele Mager of Elm House Hoxne. George was a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery [165 Field Regiment] and was killed on the 22nd of July 1944 in Italy, being buried at the Arezzo Cemetery. He left a widow Meriel Townshend Mager of Tiverton in Devonshire. Although the Mager family came to Hoxne after the 2nd World War, George's name is not recorded on a memorial in England.

During the 2nd World War, Hoxne was to lose seven men serving in various theatres of war abroad, in Belgium, Burma, France, Holland and Italy. This impacted on the families left behind especially the widows and children, parents, brothers, sisters, friends and relatives of the deceased.

All of their names are recorded on the Hoxne War Memorial, within the church. Harold Tyler's grave can be found within the churchyard and was typical of the design adopted by the Government. Details compiled from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, The Royal British Legion [Hoxne and Denham] Section and other sources.

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New Reeding Woods Group

David Flowerdew, Tree Warden and past Chairman of Denham Parish Council was an enthusiastic supporter of the idea of locally owned community woodlands as suggested by the Green Light Trust, and he became the founder Chair of the New Reeding Woods Group. Now that this woodland is thriving the Group decided that to honour his contribution he should be designated as our Patron and the information board at the wood will be redesigned to acknowledge his ongoing support.



In September a Barn Owl box was positioned in an oak tree in Pound Lane Wood as a memorial to his wife, Jacki, also a founder member of the group. In November an unveiling ceremony was planned, but the event was thwarted by the discovery that an owl had already taken up residence, another example of how the community woodland is becoming a sanctuary for wildlife.

For 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

Village Voices

Village Voices Community Choir led by Janet Koralambe took the plunge and organised a singing adventure weekend in Brancaster Staithe,

North Norfolk. Besides singing, dancing, story telling, acting and the playing of musical instruments, we had the time to wander around the pretty village, stop for coffee at the local cafe and visit the wildlife shop.

We went on a guided four mile walk to see the excellent views out to sea from Barrow Common and visited the site of Branodunum Roman Fort with its wildlife and wild flower meadow. Some of



our intrepid group went swimming in the still warm October sea - they are now called the 'Brancaster Bathing Belles'.

During Saturday late afternoon we sang in St. Mary's church with its amazing acoustics.

After a perfect day we were all ready for our excellent evening meal at the Jolly Sailors Pub.



The Village Voices are a community choir, open to all, regardless of ability or previous singing experience and without audition. Songs are taught by ear and there is no need to be able to read music. Lyric sheets, sound files and scores are used to support learning. We enjoy a wide repertoire covering many different music genres and have commissioned work from contemporary British composers. We are based in Hoxne and have members from seventeen villages. We meet in Hoxne on Mondays 7.30 - 9pm at St. Edmunds Hall (winter venue) and St. Peter & St. Paul's Church (summer venue). Join the fun. Visit our website for further information:

www.thevillagevoices.weebly.com

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Holiday Word Search

Find all the words listed below in the grid. They could be running horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. Once they have all been found, rearrange the remaining unused letters to find something we'd like more of!

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S	N	D	N	I	W	E	F	G	I
N	E	B	G	I	B	V	I	G	T
R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	I	S
Y	N	A	H	P	I	P	E	S	L
C	H	I	M	E	S	X	W	N	O
U	R	A	I	N	D	R	O	P	S
Y	R	A	U	N	A	J	O	B	I
H	L	A	P	L	A	N	D	E	S

- BIGBEN
- BOXINGDAY
- CHIMES
- EPIPHANY
- EVE
- FIREWOOD
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- HOGMANAY
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Members Outings

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

December 2018

- Thu 6th, The Range, Norwich & The Village Inn, Little Melton £15;
- Thu 13th, Bury St Edmunds £15;
- Thu 20th, Christmas Lunch, Price & Venue TBC

January 2019

- For January outings, please give us a call on **01379 854800**
- or visit our website page at:
- <http://www.borderhoppa.org/outings>

In the Kitchen

The mere mention of smoked fish, potted meats and dried fruits might evoke thoughts of Christmas but many foods were originally produced using these methods as a means of preservation. Storing the harvest has always been an intrinsic part of survival and cupboards would be stocked with foods of all kinds. During the middle ages, Nordic fishermen had a way of curing salmon by salting and lightly fermenting it by burying it in sand above high tide. The Scandinavian word Gravlax comes from gräva/grave and lax/laks/salmon. Curing salmon and trout at home by smothering the raw fish in a mixture of salt, sugar and any one of many flavourings including beetroot, gin and spices is easily done and inexpensive. The recipe I offer here, is trout with simply salt, sugar and citrus zest. Serve with pickles, dill mayonnaise or a slice of brown bread and butter.

Gravad Forell (cured trout)

Ingredients

1 rainbow trout filleted, skin left on, pin bones removed (after curing remove the bones running down the centre of the fillets with tweezers)

Mix together:

70g each golden granulated sugar &

coarse sea salt flakes

Zest of 2 lemons & 1 lime

1 tsp ground white pepper

Method

Place one of the fish fillets skin side down in a shallow dish, scatter the sugar, salt, lemon and lime zest and pepper on top. Place the second fillet on top, skin-side up, and cover the dish loosely with cling film. Lay another tray or a piece of card over the fillets and weigh down with



cans to help squeeze out any surplus liquid. Place in the fridge and leave for between 16 and 24 hours. Turn the fish fillets over after about six hours. When ready, remove from the cure and gently rinse under cold water and dry with a clean tea towel. Remove pin bones and with a sharp knife trim along the belly and back if necessary and wrap loosely in cling film. Chill and slice thinly, discarding the skin.

Potted Cheese

Potted food is descended from the medieval pie. Piecrust was often thick and inedible, but the point was to protect the food inside from the air - like medieval cling film. Potting was simply a pie without a crust which was replaced by butter - a variety of meats; fish and cheeses were pounded and enthusiastically seasoned. This recipe is a good way to use up leftover cheese. Oatmeal biscuits are a delicious accompaniment.

Ingredients

250g of grated cheese e.g. Cheddar,

Lancashire and Stilton

90g softened butter

2 tbsp port

¼ tsp each cayenne pepper & ground mace



½ tsp mustard powder or prepared mustard
Splash of Worcestershire sauce

Method

In a processor blitz cheese and butter into a paste. Add spices and port blending until thoroughly incorporated. “Pot” and top with walnuts or shape into a cylinder and roll in chives.

Wrap either option in cling film and chill for 24 hours. Alternatively to keep longer pot and cover with a layer of clarified butter.

Panforte

Panforte is not really a preserved food but will keep for a month if wrapped in baking parchment and a layer of baking foil. Dating back to the Crusaders, and now a traditional Italian cake packed with nuts, fruit, honey and spices.

Ingredients

100g each whole blanched almonds, whole blanched hazelnuts, chopped dried apricots, mixed peel and walnuts.
150g chopped dried figs
175g runny honey
200g dark muscovado sugar
¼ tsp each ground cloves & ground nutmeg
1 ½ tsp ground cinnamon

Gravad Forell Potted Cheese Panforte

2 tbsp plain flour, plus extra ½ tsp
175g ground almonds
Butter for greasing & icing sugar for dusting

Method

Preheat oven to 160C/gas mark 3/Agal lowest shelf baking oven.

Line a baking sheet with baking paper, add the whole hazelnuts and almonds and toast lightly for 5 - 6 minutes. Be aware these can easily burn. Cool. Grease and line the sides of a 20cm springform cake tin with non-stick baking paper. Line the base with rice paper (optional) or more baking paper. Place apricots, mixed peel, walnuts in a food processor and pulse until finely chopped. Add figs and pulse briefly. Place honey and sugar in a large saucepan and gently heat until dissolved. Bring to the boil, add cloves, nutmeg, 1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon, 2 tablespoons of flour and stir to combine. Take pan off the heat and add the hazelnuts and almonds, ground almonds and chopped fruit. Stir to combine; the mixture will be quite stiff. Tip the mixture into the prepared cake tin and press down until it is level. Mix together remaining ½ tsp ground cinnamon and ½ tsp flour and spoon over the top of the mixture. Bake for 30-35 minutes until cake has risen slightly.

Leave to cool completely in the tin. Place on a serving plate, brush off excess flour and dust with 2 tsp and 2 tsp cocoa powder mixed.

Enjoy and a happy Christmas to all.

Gill O'Connor

Times Past

The following thought-provoking advertisement appeared in the Ipswich Journal in February, 1797.

To be disposed of... from Michaelmas 1797 at £5.5s rent:

“ALL that Messuage, Tenement, Apothecary’s shop and Premises, pleasantly situated in Hoxne, Suffolk, now the residence of Mr Smith, surgeon, apothecary and man midwife, who is going to leave Hoxne, consisting of a parlour, shop, 4 chambers with closets and attics, garden, paddock, 3 stall stable, and other suitable outbuildings; likewise a detached pightle (pigsty) of about ¾ of an acre, at a small distance from the other premises. The premises have lately been completely repaired and improvements made at a considerable expense fit for the reception of a small genteel family, and a good situation for a surgeon, &c, Hoxne having been the residence of one upwards of 60 years. The fixtures in the house and shop, with drugs, chemical preparations, &c, to be taken at a fair valuation. For further particulars, enquire of Mr Green, Hoxne, near Eye, who will shew the premises.”

From the mid 17th century, surgeons had been encroaching on an area of medicine traditionally controlled by women - normal

childbirth. The public, though, had its reservations, and much controversy was stirred up. The caricature by Cruikshank, for a 1793 pamphlet against man-midwifery, describes him as a split figure.

Where was his shop in Hoxne? Probably in Low Street. Please let the author or the Heritage Group know if you have any ideas.



Chris Johnson

Denham Detectorists

On a very warm August day, 38 metal detectors from the Norfolk Heritage Recovery Group descended on to a field in Denham. By the end of the day they had uncovered several artefacts, including part of a Roman brooch.

Group members pay for the use of the field, the proceeds of which is passed onto a local charity. In this instance the monies are to be donated to Denham Church. The club and landowner would like to give a special mention to Mike Greatbatch, whose assistance in introducing the various parties, meant a successful day went off without a hitch.

For further information on the NHRG, visit their website at:

www.norfolkheritagerecovery.org

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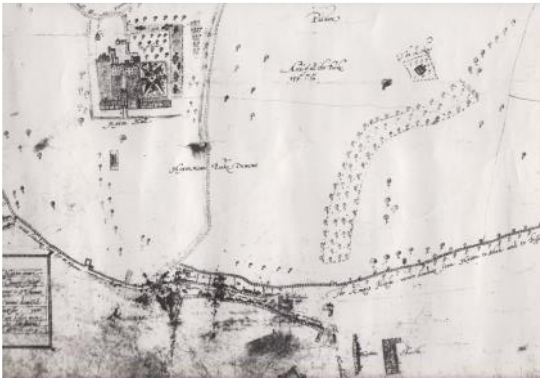
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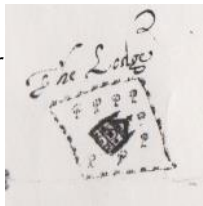
Godfrey Pratt, chairman of NHRG, presenting a cheque for £500 to Bingy for the upkeep of Denham church

The Lodge Report

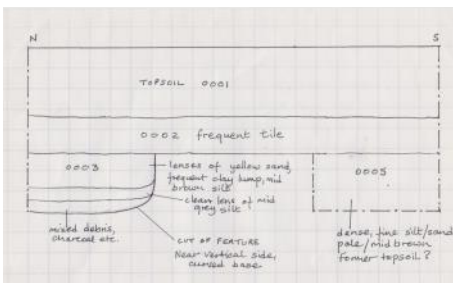
Hoxne Heritage Group has been interested for some time in rediscovering the location of The Lodge (probably a hunt-standing) depicted on the 1619 map of Hoxon Newe Parke [Suffolk Record Office ref. HD 40:422]. It was apparently a 2-storey building with an ornate roof within a wooded enclosure, but no trace of it remains above ground.



A geophysical survey of part of the Park was carried out for us during the winter of 2017/18 by John Rainer and members of the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group. It revealed a variety of anomalies, some of which may relate to World War 1 military



Schematic diagram of the excavated trench



buildings, and others to traces of the lodge.

On 22nd September 2018 (by permission of the landowner) following advice given by John Craven of Suffolk Archaeology CIC, who also provided GPS positioning equipment, a small team from the Hoxne Heritage Group opened a 1m x 2m trench across one of these anomalies.



The dig revealed a possible buried medieval soil level at a depth of ½ metre containing a pot sherd which may provide dating evidence. This layer was cut through at the north end by a trench/slot which had been infilled with loose building debris, mostly clay daub. This was in turn sealed by a layer rich in post medieval brick and tile (½ inch thick flat red clay tile) which may be related to a building in the near vicinity and associated with the demolition of the lodge. All this was sealed beneath a layer of topsoil.



Further excavation was prevented by bad weather. At this juncture it cannot be said that we have found the location of the lodge, but if the finds are associated with its demolition then it is likely the building was wattle and daub, probably plastered, with a red tile roof.

www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

In The Garden

This autumn has been surprisingly warm with many days filled with sunshine. This can fool us into forgetting to do the important tidying and planting jobs. Christmas is also creeping up on us and is the customary time to prune grapes and a number of other traditions.

Do it now?

Many people like to bring greenery into their homes in the winter. This winter



tradition has been around for years. It generally revolves around the winter solstice which falls on December 21st. The ancient Egyptians worshipped a god called Ra, who had the head of a hawk and wore the sun as a blazing disk in his crown. At the solstice, Ra would start to recover from illness, the Egyptians filled

their homes with green palm rushes which symbolized to them the triumph of life over death, the renewal of spring and all the new plants what would grow when the sun god's health returned in the summer. The early Romans marked the solstice with a feast to the god of agriculture. In Northern Europe the Druids, decorated their temples with evergreen boughs as a symbol of everlasting life. The fierce Vikings in Scandinavia thought that evergreens were the special plant of the sun god, Balder too.

But it's generally believed that we have Queen Victoria and her German husband Prince Albert for our decorated Christmas tree tradition. So, if you choose to bring a real tree in to your house to celebrate the winter solstice or Christmas or any other of the many winter holidays, remember to trim off the bottom inch or two off the bottom of the trunk and stand it in a bucket of water as soon as you can. Also, the longer you can leave your real tree outside in the cool the more likely it is to retain its needles when you bring it into your warm house. After Christmas, don't forget to recycle your tree - see page 7 for details.

General Maintenance

If the weather remains mild and frost free, then you can be planting bare rooted trees and roses. Don't forget the stake newly planted plants and water

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them in, even if rain is forecast in the next few days. The water helps the settle the soil around the roots and avoids air pockets. You can then top up and mulch the ground to keep the weeds down and keep the moisture in.

If you haven't cleared leaves from your lawn, now is a good time to do it. You can either get the lawn mower out and set it on its highest "cut" and run over the leaves, chopping and collecting them in the grass collector, or get out the spring time rake and gather them in to piles for collection. I like to rake them under hedges and on to borders where they act as a mulch and compost down. Our black birds have other ideas however and like to toss them in the air looking for hidden worms and bugs taking shelter.

5 Minute Jobs

Most gardeners like to see birds and other wild like in our gardens. Don't forget to keep your bird feeders filled and a bird bath filled with fresh water. Its also a good time to clear out bird boxes and hang up a few more. You can clean the boxes with boiling water and leave to dry, do not us insecticides or flea powders as they can cause the birds problems the following season.

If we get snow, its easier to sweep paths before its been walked on, so get out early and sweep your paths. Your post person and delivery drivers will thank you

for making their passage easier. Be careful with salt or grit. Using too much can make paths more



treacherous that a little ice! It can also wash into your flower beds and cause scorching and plant death! Knock any snow off brittle branches to avoid them snapping.

In the fruit and veg garden

If you managed to keep the pigeons and rabbits off your veg and fruit garden then you should now be making the most of the best vegetable for the year. Sprouts, kale, leeks, parsnips and other winter veg are best harvested after a frost or two.

If you have a cold frame or green house, you can plant some hardy veg like broad beans and early peas in trays or pots ready to plant out at a later date. I like to stand in my poly tunnel on a rainy and windy day looking out with a cup of tea in hand and note book in the other and prepare a few ideas or suggestions for myself later on in the year.

Claire Horne - BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert



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Parish Council Reports

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

Denham

The main business of the Parish Council over the summer has been to move forwards the decision of the Annual Parish Meeting in May to bring the Village Hall back to a state where it can be used by the community.

An architect's survey is now awaited any day which will tell us more about what needs to be done and it will give us the basis of costings for the building work required. We are very fortunate in having received a £2,000 grant towards the costs of these surveys from our District Councillor, Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, and a further grant of £500 is in the works from County Councillor Guy McGregor.

Once we have all the information, we will be able to start fund-raising so that we can get the necessary work done, hopefully in the Spring.

A lively work party of volunteers spent a day towards the end of October clearing vegetation from the base of the Hall walls, so that hopefully there will be less chance for damp to get in over the winter. The Parish Council now has a Facebook page (just search for Denham Parish Council) and we will post photos and updates there and on our website to keep people informed.

Another major preoccupation of the Parish Council is the knowledge that there are local elections in May 2019. At that point all the councillors stand down and will have to put their names forward for re-election if they wish. We know that two of our long-standing and much valued councillors, Margaret Reeves and Carol Rose, are planning to hang up their Agendas (so to speak), so we will be looking for volunteers to put their names

forward. It's a valuable service to the community and not too time consuming; if you are interested, just contact the Clerk for more info.

Our Chair, Tania Farrow, is also happy to talk to anyone about joining the Council. *"I didn't think I would enjoy being on the council as much as I have since joining 18 months ago due to a shortage of councillors. It has been great working alongside other residents and feeling more connected to the community. I am looking forward to working on the renovation of the Village Hall and re-establishing it as a community space for use by all local residents"* she said.

After November, the next Parish Council meeting will be on **Wednesday 30th January** - do please come along and have your say about the future of the village and the wider community.

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

Village Sign - an order has now been placed for the village sign due to be erected on Low Street green. The sign will depict St Edmund, but also the silver

tigress from the Hoxne Hoard and a Kerrison token. It is hoped that the sign will be completed and in place to commemorate the 1150th anniversary of the slaying of St Edmund next year.

Parish Council Elections - next May will see local council elections throughout England and Hoxne is no exception. If you would like to be considered for election to the Parish Council you will need to submit a nomination form to Mid Suffolk District Council. Further information is available locally from the Parish Clerk.

Footway Extension - the Parish Council has given early consideration to request an extension of the pavement from the junction of Goldbrook and the Eye Road to over the Chickering Beck bridge. This idea, which it is hoped would improve pedestrian safety, is currently being explored with Suffolk Highways.

Budget - the budget for the 2019/2020 financial year will be agreed at the January meeting. Your ideas on how the Parish Council should support the village and what facilities you would like to see are always welcome.

Meetings - the Parish Council meets on the **first Thursday** of the month. The next meetings will be **Thursday 6th December** and **Thursday 3rd January** at St Edmund's Hall. All are welcome to attend.



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Syleham

The Parish Council last met on 7th November with six residents present. This is becoming a trend of increasing public engagement with parish affairs. The Council very much appreciates this involvement and the chance of hearing village views.

There were two items on the agenda, broadband developments and the need for a new noticeboard outside the village hall:

A request by BT/Openreach for installing a green box in the village hall car park: This is the first step in making superfast broadband available to the village. Permission is required from the Church, as owners of the land, for BT to go ahead. This is now being processed by both parties and we hope to announce a successful conclusion very soon.

The noticeboard is in a bad state of repair and a survey earlier in the year concluded it was irreparable. Thanks to funding from MSDC it was agreed to replace it with a new one and if possible sourced locally.

Although there have been no recent reports of crime in the village, there remains concern with the lack of police presence. This will be taken up at the next police liaison meeting in Eye at the end of the month.

Our next meeting is not until the New Year so in the meantime the Parish Council would like to wish all Syleham residents a very merry Christmas.

Wingfield

Our last Parish Council meeting took place in September with our District Councillor, Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, in attendance.

Her report focussed on the area wide problem of “County Lines” drug dealing and asking all of us to report any evidence of drug selling or misuse to the

police. This spreading of the drug trade from metropolitan cities to the countryside can only be halted by everyone taking responsibility. On a happier note, Elizabeth made known that funding was available for community projects.

The meeting continued with a proposal by Mr Trevor Sparks to “grass meadow” sow the south side of Wingfield Green. The Council response was that the soil type was not suitable, and the grazing rights of residents had to be respected. However, this suggestion gave rise to an agreement that the south side should be “topped” and the scrub around the perimeter removed. This work should have been completed by the time you read this. Furthermore, it was agreed to re-establish the footpath that ran alongside this side of the Green thus creating a “memory walk” linking the proposed commemorative tree planting and Jubilee Wood.

The problem with anti-social behaviour in the village was reported to the District Council and it has replied that the matter has been “resolved informally”. We do ask everyone to respect their neighbours, but if there are any future problems please report them to the Parish Council, so we can sort them out within the village at Parish Council meetings.

Finally, the Planning Application (DC/18/04238) by Cone Tree Nursery could not be supported because of insufficient information supplied. MSDC Planning have been informed.

For all of you interested in serving as a Parish Councillor, some diary dates for 2019: The election takes place on **Thursday 2nd May** and nomination papers available from 1st March to be submitted by 3rd April.

Our final meeting of 2018 takes place on **Friday 30th November** at 7.30pm at the Barns.

The Lunch Bunch Visits...

On a very wet and inclement autumn morning, the lunch bunch headed across the border into Norfolk. We opened the door the Half Moon and the fire was blazing. The new owners have been here for nearly a year now and have obviously settled in well and the welcome was pleasant and efficient.

Shown to our table in the front bar, near the fire, our drinks order was taken, and we were shown the menu. They have a "lunch" menu but were offered the evening one if we wanted three courses, a starter or anything from it, but we all

opted for a main from the lunch menu and would look again at the deserts.

Water was offered and brought for the table. There was a good and

varied selection on offer, a soup of the day, sandwiches and full cooked meals. We went for the vegetarian red pepper and sun-dried tomato Lasagne, Fish and Chips and a lovely sounding Burger and chips. The pub was not overly busy, but here was one or two popping in for drinks and a few others sheltering from the weather and taking advantage of the warmth and food menu.

The food arrived and was beautifully presented,

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steaming hot and smelling delicious. The batter on the fish was crisp and not at all oily, the peas hot and not over cooked! Lovely fluffy chips, moist and perfectly cooked moist burger. The colourful

lasagne was accompanied by garlic bread and an olive salad. Perfect portion sizes, we felt full but not over feed and our empty plates

were soon cleared from the table.

We decided to have a "small" desert along with tea and coffee. The cheese cake sounded too delicious to say no too! But the homemade apple crumble & custard or chocolate brownies served with vanilla ice cream all sounded very tempting and maybe another visit to try some of the others is on the cards. A work of art arrived, a slice of cheesecake surrounded by a meringue swirl and raspberry coulis tasted as good as it looked.

A great lunch, a lovey warm and welcoming pub, well worth the twisty roads to get to it. Our main courses

started at £12.50, Desserts £6.25.

The Half Moon holds various event evenings and craft days and also offers accommodation. It is open every day from 11am, food service starting at 12 noon.

The Lunch Bunch





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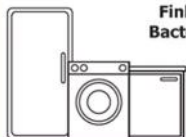
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A Word from Wingfield

Miss B Whitby and Comfort for Troops in WW1

A two part guest *Word from Wingfield* by Dr Tim Caulton, nephew of Tommy Gee, on the charitable work of Tommy's mother.

Part One

In the article 'Comfort for Troops in WW1' that first appeared on the Nottinghamshire community history website, its author John Pownall, describes how Miss B Whitby organised and dispatched parcels to British POWs during WW1 as Honorary Assistant Secretary to the Nottingham Comfort for Troops Committee. Miss Whitby was awarded the MBE in 1919 for her wartime charitable work.

John Pownall asked: *"Who was this Lady? I have no idea who she was. I have looked on the internet and only discovered limited information. Just enough to write this article. She did receive the MBE, when and why etc, no details? Also, I have not found any details of where she was born or if she ever married. On a personal note, I have not found a photo of her which is a disappointment."*



Beatrice in Red Cross uniform

Beatrice Mary Elizabeth Gee (née Whitby) MBE was my maternal grandmother. She was born at home at 33 Manor Street, Sneinton on 12 July 1892 to her parents Seely and Elizabeth (née Chettle). Seely Whitby was a Provisions Merchant Manager for

Allcock's on Smithy Row (on the Council House site). He was an active teetotal social reformer working for various organisations, including the Red Cross, Salvation Army and the Liberal Party (he became Lord Mayor of Nottingham in 1933). When the proprietor of the Daily Express Arthur Pearson set up his Fresh Air Fund to provide holidays for poor children in 1892, Seely set up a branch in Nottingham. In 1894 he raised funds for a party of 200 young poor children to go on a short holiday to Scout Farm, Mapperley. He also had his own comfort fund which he operated from home, and sent balaclavas, mittens, scarves and cigarettes to soldiers in the Boer War (1899-1902).

It was in this context of charitable social reform that Beatrice was raised. After short periods at Miss Chapman's private school in Belvoir Hill, Sneinton, aged four and at a local church school, she was educated until eleven at Sneinton Board School, from where she got a scholarship to Mundella Girls School. She liked school but not the homework, and left aged 15 to work at Morley's and Armitage's, selling sweets and cakes. Her charitable work started at a very early age. When she was just eight she knitted a scarf for a soldier in the Boer War and got a letter back which she still treasured in 1974.

In 1903, her father asked her if she would like to hold a Backyard Bazaar rather than have an 11th birthday party. Seely wrote to all the grocery suppliers, and she was given items like miniature bottles of HP sauce, and scented soaps. A councillor opened the event, and the money was sent to the Pearson's Fresh Air Fund in London, paying for 200 poor children to go on an outing in Wollaton Park.

A pamphlet for the 1905 Backyard Bazaar suggests she held parties in 1903, 1904 and 1905, raising £8 2s 0d in 1903,

PLEASE NOTE
 Since 1960 over
16,000
 from NOTTINGHAM
 Children have been
 taken for a
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50d.
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 her BAZAAR, has
 raised—
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 1961 — £ 2 0
 1962 — £ 4 0
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 a Four Shillings
 CHILD will have a
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Pearson's Fresh Air Fund.

BACK-YARD
 BAZAAR

33, Manor St., Sneinton,

Thursday, July 13th, 1905.

COUNCILLOR J. H. GREGG.

Supported by Messrs. J. G. Smart, F. Wigg, J. Callaghan,
 F. Parkinson, G.C., F. Whitty, J. Park, C. Goldthorpe,
 J. Talbot, J. G. Ward, T. H. Langley, H. Cook, Whitty,
 Han, Sec. (NORTH BRANCH) P.F.A.F., and others.

Year Prosecco & Support will be ascertained.

Bazaar in aid of
 Pearson's Fresh Air
 Fund, organised by
 Beatrice in 1905

and £16 4s 0d in
 1904 - the latter
 being enough to
 support 400
 children on a
 trip to Wollaton
 Park.

Beatrice worked at Armitage's for four years, and then helped her mother at home for the next three years. She used to go to Red Cross meetings and night school, where she learned book-keeping, shorthand and typing. From her own words on a family tape recording, during WW1 both Seely and Beatrice became involved in the Nottingham Guardian subscription fund which collected up to £2000 per day to send parcels to Germany containing dubbin, mittens, chocolate and cigarettes from the Red Cross office in Washington Buildings on High Pavement (provided by a lace manufacturer).

During WW1 there were 1200 Nottingham POWs, each of whom received a parcel every 5 days. She obtained the MBE for her wartime work in 1919, aged just 26 (or 27). She was given her MBE by the Duke of Portland as the King was ill on the scheduled day.

Beatrice's brother Henry Seely Whitby joined the Royal Flying Corps in WW1 as a pilot and later an instructor, and he was awarded the Air Force Cross.

Beatrice's son Tommy Gee has donated Beatrice's private archive to the Imperial War Museum <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/1030003555> where the archive is described:

"First World War papers relating to her work as Assistant Honorary Secretary to the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire

Comforts for Troops Fund (a Nottingham-based charity concerned with the relief of local soldiers who were serving overseas or who were prisoners of war) including a ts account of the history of the Fund (1p), a list of Fund helpers, early correspondence to her as a child from the 'Daily Express' concerning her fundraising activities (1904), an example of the ts letter which accompanied Christmas parcels sent to Nottinghamshire soldiers (November 1914), correspondence relating to the Fund and to her later recommendation for the award of MBE (40pp), copies of letters (7pp) concerning her investiture (May 1919 - April 1921), a ts letter from the Imperial War Museum's Women's Work Sub-Committee (January 1920), an album (59pp) of newspaper articles reporting the initial despatch of Christmas parcels to the Nottinghamshire troops (November 1914) and news of POWs (August 1915), and a ts letter (1p) in response to her resignation from the Ministry of Pensions as a typist (October 1922). Also with the collection are 209 postcards (some embroidered or written, many portrait photographs) to her from POWs and soldiers thanking her for the parcels, a printed map of the main prison camps in Germany and Austria, the lid from a tin of Christmas Pudding sent by the Fund turned into a souvenir by a POW at Ruhleben camp, and an ms account (7pp) by her son, recalling his memories of her and of her work for the Fund."

© Dr Tim Caulton

Beatrice's MBE





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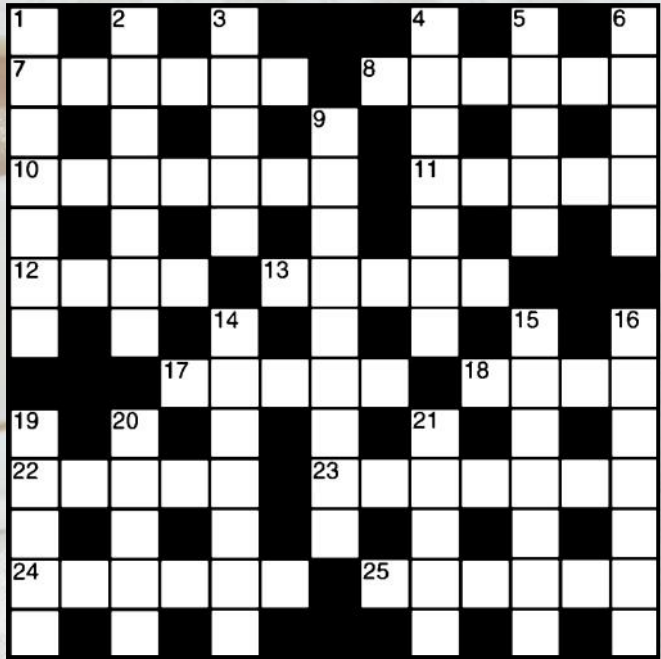


Crossword

Puzzle No. 127

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 **Tuesday 8th January** latest.

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



Across

- 7 Cricketer working at a zoo (6)
- 8 Totals up the noblemen (6)
- 10 A plover by any other name (7)
- 11 Lose one's nerve - no way (5)
- 12 Large container in a brewery (4)
- 13 Policeman and newspaper boss managed (5)
- 17 Produce another egg during a race (5)
- 18 Mixed oils in a grain store (4)
- 22 Misused public transport in hospital department (5)
- 23 Main cur in confusion - maybe a head case (7)
- 24 In a theatre and having fun (2,4)
- 25 Composer's city (6)

Down

- 1 Proficient and led silk astray (7)
- 2 Pelmet's rearranged in place of worship (7)
- 3 Start to imbibe gin (5)
- 4 Sound advice to city representatives (7)
- 5 Scoundrel heard in centre of church (5)
- 6 To pursue is pointless when power is seized (5)
- 9 A blissful state (9)
- 14 Reveals quite a few in confusion (7)
- 15 Laughable (7)
- 16 Inactive in Benidorm anteroom (7)
- 19 A canoe whichever way you look at it (5)
- 20 Ups and downs of one's birthday (5)
- 21 Arrived with nothing but a piece of jewellery (5)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 126 was: **Wilf White - Hoxne**

Answers: **Across** 7) Summer 8) Salted 10) Adamant 11) Polar 12) Idle 13) Igloo
17) Screw 18) Able 22) Aloud 23) Economy 24) Resume 25) Craven

Down 1) Islamic 2) Amiable 3) Began 4) Tampion 5) Stale 6) Adore 9) Staggered
14) Academy 15) Absolve 16) Relying 19) Bairn 20) Coast 21) Mourn

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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

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

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