

A winter landscape featuring a pond in the foreground with snow-covered banks. Several bare trees stand in the middle ground, their branches reflected in the water. The sky is blue with light clouds.

Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2019

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

PARISH COUNCILS

DENHAM

Web: www.denham.onesuffolk.net
Rod Caird (Clerk) 07785 331217
Email: denhamparishclerk@gmail.com
Tania Farrow (C)
Carol Rose (V-C) 01379 669337
Nick Farrow
Margaret Reeves 01379 668179

HOXNE

Web: www.hoxne.onesuffolk.net
Sarah Foote (Clerk) 07554 733621
Email: pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk
Edward O'Connor (C) 01379 668241
Iain Gibson (V-C)
John Brawn 01379 668352
Alan Garnham
Michael Knights 01379 668060
Rob Marsh-Feiley
Kevin Potter
Mick Prochner 01379 669073
Stephen Rich
Simon Wilby

SYLEHAM

Web: www.syleham-pc.org.uk
David Young (Clerk) 01379 668556
Malcolm Flounders (C) 01379 668413
Gloria Elsdon (V-C) 01379 668409
Gerald Lewis 01379 669258
Maj. Andrew Napier DL 01379 668421
Steve Phillips 01379 668686
Robert Pilch 01379 668038
Steven Scott 07780 977518

WINGFIELD

Web: www.wingfield-pc.org.uk
David Young (Clerk) 01379 668556
Michael Harvey (C) 01379 586355
Lee Smith (V-C) 01379 384531
Rosemary Elliott
Robin Feavearyear
Tony Jolly 01379 384024
Guy Mathias 01379 388391
Melanie Murray 01379 384503

CHURCH COUNCILS

DENHAM

Mrs Helen Joslin (Sec.)
Mrs Jemma Hindle (Treas.)
Mrs Hilary Castleden
Mr Paul Chenery
Mrs Barbara Irwin
Mrs Margaret Reeves
Mr Michael Reeves

HOXNE

Mr John Brawn (Sec.)
Mr Philip Flagg (Treas.)
Mr Guy McGregor (CW)
Mr Wilf White (CW)
Mrs Jean Chapman
Mr John Chapman
Mrs Maureen Johnson
Mr John Swann

SYLEHAM

Mrs Mary Lewis (CW & Treas.)
Mrs Sarah Buckley
Ms Sarah Hawes
Miss Thelma Soanes
Mrs Angela Wright

WINGFIELD

Mrs Sharon Alldis (Sec.)
Mrs Lorraine Ware (Treas.)
Mr John McCracken (CW)
Mr Graham Alldis
Mr Bob Elliott
Ms Eleanor Goodison
Mr Michael Harvey
Mrs Sue Harvey

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

C Chair
V-C Vice Chair
CW Church Warden

Diary Dates

Friday 25th January

Bingo SWH p8

Wednesday 30th January

Denham Parish Council Meeting HPP p42

Thursday 31st January

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HVH p43

Friday 1st February

Open Mic SWH p8

Sunday 3rd February

Pantomime - Treasure Island HVH p11

Tuesday 5th February

Hoxne Bell Ringers, Swan Inn p30

Hoxne Heritage Group, Swan Inn p31

Friday 8th February

Karaoke Night SWH p8

Film Night - King of Thieves HVH p9

Tuesday 12th February

Phoenix Group AGM and Social HVH p34

Saturday 16th February

Open Morning SWH p7

Coffee Morning, St Peter & St Paul p30

Quiz Night - Hoxne Music Festival HVH p6

Thursday 21st February

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Talk HVH p31

Friday 22nd February

Bingo SWH p8

Saturday 23rd February

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market HVH p11

Workshop & Concert, Northern Harmony HVH p6

Stoney Ground SWH p8

Quiz Night - Fressingfield Scouts, Stradbroke p35

Sunday 24th February

RoughCast Theatre, Hobson's Choice HVH p6

Wednesday 27th February

Coffee Morning - Mothers Union, Hoxne p23

Thursday 28th February

Wingfield and District Garden Club BVH p31

Friday 1st March

RoughCast Theatre, Hobson's Choice WB p6

Open Mic SWH p8

Tuesday 5th March

Hoxne Heritage Group, Swan Inn p31

Wednesday 6th March

Syleham Parish Council Meeting, SWH p43

Thursday 7th March

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HPP p43

Friday 8th March

Karaoke Night SWH p8

Film Night - A Star is Born HVH p9

Saturday 9th March

Commonwealth Day Firework Display p35

Tuesday 12th March

Phoenix Group Talk HVH p34

Thursday 14th March

Hoxne Annual Parish Meeting HVH p7

Friday 15th March

Wingfield Parish Council Meeting WB p44

Saturday 16th March

Coffee Morning, St Peter & St Paul p30

Thursday 21st March

Hoxne Garden & Social Club Talk/AGM HVH p31

Saturday 23rd March

Red Feather Club Dance p34

Thursday 28th March

Wingfield and District Garden Club BVH p31

Friday 29th March

Bingo SWH p8

Saturday 30th March

Hoxne Produce & Craft Market HVH p11

Auction of Promises SWH p8

Quiz Night - NNHU Maternity Unit HVH p11

For Church Services and events, see p22 - 24

For Mobile Library, see p11

BVH Brundish Village Hall

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns



Andrew Jude
BUILDING SERVICES

Extensions, Renovations, Timber Frame Buildings
& all General Building work

Tel: 01379 870114
Mobile: 07710 769668

Letters to the Editor

SYLEHAM CAROL SINGING

As usual we had a fun evening going round the village singing carols. The good news is that we raised £450 for the East Anglian Children's Hospice. Thanks to all concerned for their generosity. See you next year!

Adrian and Jane

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

Another very successful sale of Christmas Trees in Market House Drive saw a profit of £1,330 being made for the Hoxne Playing Fields. By the last Sunday, with only two trees left, we sold out quickly. We would like to thank you all for your support again this year and hope to see you in December 2019.



Hoxne Playing Field Committee

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to organise and arrange the Christmas tree display in our church over the festive period.

In all, 18 trees were provided by local associations, businesses, clubs and volunteers. Each tree was individually



trimmed and identified with a specific Christmas song or theme.

As the support and feedback from visitors to the church has been so encouraging, we should like to make this an annual event and will be pleased to hear from anyone who may wish to participate or who has some recommendations for further improvement.

The Friends of St Peter and St Paul
 davidjhyde@bopenworld.com
 rhonabertie@gmail.com
 anneswann3@hotmail.com

SYLEHAM COMMUNITY LAND

The Management Committee of Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall would like to thank all the volunteers who so willingly gave up their time to help with fencing and hedging of the land recently bought as a community area. Whether it was transporting goods, digging, wielding a mallet or screwdriver, providing coffee, cake or bacon rolls - there was clearly a great team effort and it is so very much appreciated. Particular thanks are due to Malcolm Revell for pulling it all together.



We now need ideas for further development of the land. Please see page 7 for details of our Open Morning in February.

Mrs Mary Lewis, Hon Secretary
Management Committee
mary.lewis43@icloud.com
01379 669258

FRIENDS OF EYE SURGERY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1042009

As some readers are aware, this is a small non-funding charity that exists for the benefit of patients by providing benefits not covered by the NHS. It invariably reacts to requests or suggestions from those who feel that the experience at the medical centre could be enhanced with the availability of a piece of equipment or technical device.

In the past the charity has funded such as home blood pressure machines, a spirometer, defibrillator to say nothing of a cyro therapy machine. The money came from patient donations and bequests.

If any reader of this magazine has any ideas or comments, please feel free to communicate with me or speak to reception in The Medical Centre.

Bob Ashworth, Trustee
bobashworth@echointernet.net
01379 668021, 07976 284854

HOXNE WAR HEROES VILLAGE VOICE, DEC 2018/JAN 2019

The list of soldiers who came from Hoxne in the 2nd World War was compiled and published in 2008 from the Commonwealth War Grave Commission. Harry Thomas Knights came from Hoxne and Harold Leslie Knights came from Mellis, sorry for the confusion.

If anyone has photographs of 2nd World War soldiers from Hoxne, as the 80th Anniversary will be coming up in 2019, I would be pleased if you could forward them via the Editor of the Village Voice.

Stephen Govier, Elmswell

HARRY THOMAS KNIGHTS

On behalf of the Hoxne Heritage Group may I draw your readers attention to the recent article about the Hoxne War Heroes where specific reference was made to a relative

of two of our members. Our research has come to a different conclusion from that outlined in the article and one of our members has written a piece correcting his family's story which you will find elsewhere in this latest edition of the Village Voice [*please see page 25*].

For a complete set of biographies of World War One soldiers named on the memorial in St. Peter and St. Paul's Church we would direct you to our website www.hoxnehistory.org.uk and click on Hoxne Military History. We would also point out that there is some divergence between the conclusions drawn by our research regarding the WW1 fallen and that published in the recent article.

With regard to the those who gave their lives in the Second World War, research is underway and we will be publishing these men's biographies on the Groups Website over the coming months. We are also launching a project to record all aspects of Village Life during the Second World War and would be very grateful for any information people have on this period of our village's history.

D J Hyde, Chairman
Hoxne Heritage Group

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION FOR SYLEHAM!

BT Openreach are installing a telecommunications cabinet in the front car park of the Village Hall. This area of land, together with the original school building, belongs to the church although managed by the Village Hall Management Committee; but at the request of the PCC of St Margaret's Church, and with the agreement of the Management Committee, a way leave was granted to BT by the Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich. We hope that the improved connection will be of benefit to all nearby residents.

Mary Lewis

What's On Here

Hoxne Music Festival

QUIZ NIGHT

We are holding our next fund raising quiz night in Hoxne Village Hall on **Saturday 16th February**. The doors will open from 7.30pm and the quiz starts at 8pm. Teams of 6 people are required with a cost of £5 per person (£30 per team). The bar will be open, but please feel free to bring your own snacks/supper. We will also be holding a raffle.

All funds raised will go towards Hoxne Music events, the next one being another themed music/film night (by popular demand) on **Saturday 18th May** and we look forward to seeing you there too.

To book a team table at the quiz, please call Ben on **01379 668319** or email anthony.benton1@googlemail.com - we are usually oversubscribed and table places are limited, so please book as early as possible.

We are always welcome to be offered raffle prizes and if you would like to get involved in organising events, then please contact me. On behalf of the committee thank you all for your ongoing support.

Anthony Benton

Northern Harmony

WORKSHOP & CONCERT

Based in Vermont USA, Northern Harmony's brilliant young singers have won a worldwide reputation for their remarkable command of harmony singing styles from across the globe: South African songs and dances, traditional music from Corsica, Georgia and the Balkans, American shape-note singing, and renaissance works.



They will be visiting Hoxne Village Hall on **Saturday 23rd February** for an afternoon Singing Workshop from 1:30-5:30pm and evening Concert at 7:00pm. Price: Workshop £20, Concert £10 or £25 for both. Advance bookings via www.thevillagevoices.weebly.com

Why not make it a special event? The **Hoxne Deli and Tea Rooms** are staying open late and **The Swan** will



open early. Please book in advance for both: Hoxne Deli and Tea Rooms, **01379 668334**, firstclass@hoxnepostoffice.co.uk or The Swan, **01379 668275**, website: www.swaninn-hoxne.co.uk/menu

Jenny Knight
villagevoicesjvk2@icloud.com

RoughCast Spring Tour

HOBSON'S CHOICE

BY HAROLD BRIGHOUSE

Harold Brighthouse's immortal comedy begins in the well-established boot shop of Henry Horatio Hobson; so successful is his business that Hobson is content to drink away his days in the bar of the Moonraker's Inn with his cronies. As far as he is concerned, Hobson's only worry is his "uppity" daughters who seek to curb his drinking. However, a real challenge to his authority and his livelihood is waiting round the corner. His oldest daughter, Maggie, tired of shouldering both home and business





Your place! Your say!

OPEN MORNING

with coffee and cakes

Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

Saturday 16th February

10.30am - 12 noon

Having bought and (thanks to willing volunteers) fenced an area of land close to the Hall, we invite you to consider further development.

What would you like to see?

A playground? A landscaped area? Seating?

Please come and share your ideas!

responsibilities for her thankless father and lovestruck sisters, has a plan.

Much to the hilarity and consternation of her father, Maggie sets her sights on shy Will Mossop, Hobson's master boot-maker. Mossop is at first stunned by the suggestion, but eventually submits to Maggie's powers of persuasion, and together they set up a rival boot shop.

Brighthouse's comedy is as fresh, sharp and engaging now as the day it was first performed: we root for Maggie and Will

as they take on the overbearing Hobson and the "Victorian values" of everyone else to find success and (yes indeed) true love!

Following last year's acclaimed production of "Measure for Measure", RoughCast present more comedy and intrigue, but

this time of a more gentle and down-to-earth variety.

Sunday 24th February, St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne, bookings **01379 586745**.

Friday 1st March, Wingfield Barns, bookings **01379 384505**.

Performances start 7.30pm, tickets £10 or £6 for students. For details of other venues running from **18th February to 9th March**, visit the website:

www.roughcast.co.uk

Annual Parish Meeting

ST EDMUND'S HALL, HOXNE

The meeting is an opportunity for parishioners to hear from organisations in Hoxne and to discuss matters relating to the village life. All are welcome to attend on **Thursday 14th March** at 7.30pm. Organisations submitting reports are



requested to send a representative to read the report at the meeting.

The meeting will be chaired by Cllr Edward O'Connor, Chairman of Hoxne Parish Council, and there will be the opportunity to hear from both your County Councillor and District Councillor. This is not a Parish Council meeting, but an assembly of the whole parish which happens once a year - come along and find out more about what is happening where you live.

If you would like speak on behalf of the organisation you represent, please contact the Parish Clerk to confirm your place on the agenda.

Sarah Foote, Parish Clerk.

Tel: 07554 733621

Email: pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk



Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Annual membership of the Sports and Social club is £3.50 (£3.00 concessions) which gives you access to the village hall at opening times each Tuesday and Friday from 8pm onwards. Please call in. Pool and darts available. Bar open. We will be pleased to see you

There are events throughout the year that are open to all. Some are listed below. Look out for posters, or in the Village voice, for information on these and others through the year.

Bingo continues on the **last Friday** of the month, with **25th January**, **22nd February** and **29th March** raising funds for Children's Liver Disease, charity number 1067331. Open Mic night is on the **first Friday** of the month and Karaoke continues on the **second Friday**.

Saturday 16th February, 10.30am to noon, Open Morning with coffee & cakes, bring your ideas for the use of the area of land purchased by Syleham and Wingfield village hall management committee for community use (see page 7 for more details).

There will probably be at least two more Coffee events in 2019 with dates to be confirmed. These events usually raise funds for our Senior Citizen's annual meal.

Saturday 23rd February, Stoney Ground - band, 8pm 'til late. Fiver on the door, bar open, burger van.

Saturday 30th March, Auction of Promises. Organised by Syleham & Wingfield social club in aid of the upkeep of the hall. 7:00 for 7:30pm start. We would love see as many people there as possible and if you have any promises

for the auctioneer to auction please get in touch with Donna Baker on **07876 487294** or the landline **01379 668361**. Promises can include anything from dog walking to ironing, baking, gardening, grass cutting or more. If you have any questions do please ask. We really hope to see as many people present as possible. All promises to be paid for on the night.



Dates for your diary

Saturday 6th April, Jumble Sale.

Thursday 9th May, Eastern Angles will be touring with their latest production 'The Tide Jetty'. This is part of the Water, Mills and Marshes project in association with the Broads Authority. Bookings tel. **01379 668102** or email k.thompson156@btinternet.com

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

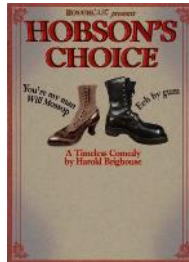
Bookings for Syleham and Wingfield village hall can be made with:

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

Wingfield Barns

We've lots of meetings, conferences and private bookings happening over the coming few weeks, and are also looking forward to the start of the exhibition season. There are some really interesting collections coming to the Barns this year - do look out for more details on them.

To keep in touch with our theatrical side, we'll be welcoming back RoughCast Theatre Company on **Friday 1st March** at 7.30pm, with their Spring production of **'Hobson's Choice'** by Harold Brighouse. Tickets are £10/£6 (full time students). For production details, see page 6.



On **Friday 26th April** at 7.30pm, Giles Shenton (Old Herbaceous) returns with a "thought provoking" and "cleverly constructed, wonderful piece of theatre" about a man preparing to fulfil his lifelong ambition to be a stand-up comedian, "...puts one in mind of Alan Bennett's Talking Heads". In **'My Dog's Got No Nose'**, you join the man as he prepares backstage for his first ever stand up comedy gig. Something he has waited over 30 years for. Find out how he got to this point in his life... but be warned... the man and the performance are not quite what they seem! Tickets £14/£12 concessions.

Village Voice

To book tickets or for more information on booking the Barns for your event or for details of all our upcoming events, please visit our website.

www.wingfieldbarns.com
Wingfield Barns | Church Road
Wingfield | IP21 5RA | 01379 384505
office.manager@wingfieldbarns.co.uk

Hoxne Village Hall

Film Nights continue on the **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**.

King of Thieves

Friday 8th February, certificate 15. James Marsh's true crime film about the ageing crew behind the 2015 Hatton Garden heist starring Michael Caine (of course - does he blow the doors off?). Also appearing are Charlie Cox, Michael Gambon, Tom Courtenay, Jim Broadbent, Paul Whitehouse and Ray Winstone. The thieves, mostly in their 60s and 70s, employ their old-school thieving skills to pose as servicemen and escape with allegedly over £200 million worth of jewels and money.



A Star is Born

Friday 8th March, certificate 15. In this new take on the iconic love story, four-time Oscar nominee Bradley Cooper makes his directorial debut, and also stars alongside music superstar Lady Gaga in her first leading role



Feb/Mar 2019 **9**



City & Guilds
NPTC
Qualified

JD Tree Services & Countryside Management

- Tree removals / felling / reduction
- Hedge cutting ● Stump Grinding
- Chipping and waste removal
- Firewood ● Site clearance
- Professional friendly service - fully insured and competent, trained workers to NPTC standard
- Professional advice
- Public liability £5million



Call today for a free quote!

07736 311782

jdunning198@gmail.com

www.jdtrees.co.uk



Find us on Facebook



*Our charming
15th Century Inn is open
serving great food,
real ales, beers, spirits
with something for all tastes*

Tel : 01379 668275

theswaninnhoxne@hotmail.com

www.swaninn-hoxne.co.uk

Open 7 days a week !

The Daily Care Agency



High Banks, Athelington Road, Horham, Eye, Suffolk, IP21 5EH

Tel: **01379 388438** - Mobile: **07977 075301**

E-mail: office@thedailycareagency.co.uk

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA CARE AND SUPPORT TO HELP YOU REMAIN INDEPENDENT WITHIN YOUR OWN HOME AND COMMUNITY?

THE DAILY CARE AGENCY IS A SMALL PRIVATELY OWNED DOMICILLIARY AGENCY THAT TAKES PRIDE IN HAVING THE TIME TO CARE AND OFFER INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT TO OUR CLIENTS

For further information, please contact **01379 388438 / 07977 075301**

ARE YOU A CARER? – WE REGULARLY RECRUIT FOR LOCAL CARERS TO JOIN OUR TEAM

The Daily Care Agency is registered and therefore licensed to provide services by the Care Quality Commission. Provider ID 1-101723169

in a major motion picture. Cooper portrays seasoned musician Jackson Maine, who discovers and falls in love with struggling artist Ally. Theirs is a complex journey through the beauty and the heartbreak of a relationship struggling to survive.

First Man

Friday 12th April, certificate 12A.

First Man is about the life of Neil Armstrong and the decade leading to the



historic Apollo 11 flight. Told from Armstrong's perspective, the film explores the triumphs and the cost - on Armstrong, his family, his colleagues and the nation itself - of one of the most dangerous missions

in history. Starring Ryan Gosling as Neil Armstrong with Steven Spielberg serving as an executive producer.

Quizzes

Saturday 16th February

In aid of Hoxne Music Festival. See page 6 for full details.

Saturday 30th March

Quizmaster Jenny Knights is back with full voice to host another quiz at 7.30pm.

This time raising money for the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital Maternity Unit's new bereavement suite. £5 per head. Bar open. Picnics welcome for half time. Phone **01379 668060** or email jenny.m.hall@outlook.com to book your team of up to 6.

Other events

Sunday 3rd February

Pantomime - Treasure Island, 3pm. Tickets £7. See posters for booking details.

Saturday 23rd February

Village Voices workshop and concert with Northern Harmony, see page 6 for full details.

Sunday 24th February

Roughcast Theatre presents Hobson's Choice, 7.30pm. For production and ticket information, see page 6.

Hoxne Produce and Craft Market

Saturday 23rd February and Saturday 30th March, 9.30am-12.30pm. Monthly dates during 2019, check our website for details.

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

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham

Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**

Next stops: **14th February and 14th March**
Hoxne, The Swan car park from 10:25 to 10:50
Hoxne, St Edmunds House from 11:00 to 11:15
Denham, Post Office from 11:25 to 11:35

Syleham and Wingfield

Calling every 4 weeks on **Fridays**

Next stops: **22nd February and 22nd March**
Syleham, Wingfield Road (Junction with Weybread Road) from 11:40 to 11:55
Wingfield, Post box from 12:00 to 12:20



Catholic Parish of
The Most Holy Trinity
Church of St Henry Morse
Shelfanger Road, Diss IP12 4DX
Parish Priest: Canon David Bagstaff
Tel: 01379 642914

Mass Times:

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

Sunday : 9 a.m.

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

Website : www.sthenrymorse.com

(Info: Ellen Pitt Tel 01379 668308)

Sarahs Hair Design

10 Church Street, Eye,
Suffolk IP23 7BD

Open Monday - Saturday
Late Appointments Thursday
Telephone 01379 871560

J. FELTON CHIMNEY SWEEP

- CLEAN & FRIENDLY SERVICE
- FULLY INSURED
- SMOKE TESTS
- INSURANCE CERTIFICATES
- CCTV INSPECTIONS
- COMPETITIVE RATES



PLEASE CALL 01986 799175

REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHIMNEY SWEEPS



*"The time leading up to the funeral
was made bearable knowing that you
were at the end of the telephone."*

– from a family we have cared for at Rosedale



Rosedale FUNERAL HOME

We are a family business and promise to provide
exceptional care and a truly personal 24 hour service,
when you need it most.

Victoria Road, Diss **Tel: 01379 640810**
www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk

Anglia Chimney Sweeps & Stove Installations

- HETAS registered
- Professional and reliable service
- No obligation advice
and estimate
- Insurance-recognised
sweeping certificates
- Stove and Liners fully installed to
current HETAS regulations
- Fully insured up to £5 million
- Smoke draft testing as standard
- No mess,
no dust, no fuss



www.angliachimneysweeps.co.uk
Email: davidwatkinson@yahoo.co.uk
Call David: 07711 458575

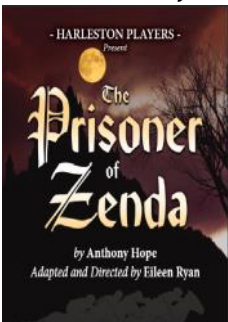
What's On There

Harleston Players

THE PRISONER OF ZENDA

By Anthony Hope, an adaptation by Eileen Ryan. At the Archbishop Sancroft High School on **Friday 25th January 7.30pm, Saturday 26th January 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Friday 1st February 7.30pm, Saturday 2nd February 2.30pm and 7.30pm.**

When English gentleman Rudolf Rassendyll travels to the kingdom of



Ruritania to watch the coronation of the new king, he little expects to be drawn into the dastardly plot hatched by the king's half brother, Duke Michael. With the king kidnapped and imprisoned by the Duke, Rassendyll is called upon to use his unique gift -

an uncanny resemblance to the king - to effect the monarch's release and prevent the Duke from seizing the crown.

For a while, Rassendyll can enjoy the trappings of royalty and the company of the beautiful Princess Favia. But to do the honourable thing, he must give up both in order to put the rightful king of Ruritania on throne.

Tickets £9.00 and £8.00 (cons) from Robinsons Traditional Stationers, 5 The Thoroughfare, Harleston IP20 9AH or telephone **01379 855027**. Licensed Bar. www.harlestonplayers.co.uk

Snowdrop Open Garden

Over two acres of woodland and garden leading to the banks of the River Waveney. The old Coach House, The Street, Brockdish IP21 4JY. **Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th February, Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th February,**

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd March. 12 noon to 4pm. Adults £3, Children free



with an adult. In aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance, St Elizabeth Hospice, Prostate cancer, local charities. Teas and Refreshments,

Stalls, Raffle, Tombola. Dogs welcome on leads please.

Traditional Folk Evening

I request the pleasure of your company for an evening of traditional folk music, songs, step dancing & jig doll dancing. Presenting Harbour Lights Trio (traditional music entertainment), Stan/Maggie (traditional songs & music), Ron & Pam Ross (clog dancers), Judy Andrews (clog dancer) and East Anglian



Stepdancers & dancing jig dolls. On **Saturday 2nd March** at Debenham Community Centre, Gracechurch Street IP14 6BL. Doors open 5.30 for 7.30pm. Bar - Food - Raffle (available to purchase). Tickets £10 available now (no tickets on the door). You are advised to purchase tickets early to avoid disappointment.



Contact Doreen: **07591 499912**. Tribute to Percy West O'Connor - King of Steppers.

100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum

We had a very busy and successful 2018 in which visitor numbers increased and we welcomed back in July a veteran with two other generations of his family, as well as many direct descendants of Veterans. We also saw a large number of new and returning visitors.

Over the winter months, our volunteers, supporters and friends from the 100th Refuelling Wing at Mildenhall have been busy enhancing the museum, changing displays and getting to grips with some much needed building work and generally ensuring that our visitors get the best possible experience from their visit. The shop has also had a makeover with many new items and souvenirs added for our visitors to take away to remember their visit.

1944 (75 years ago this year) was possibly the most prominent year in our allies stay, in as much as it was a full year of continuing missions and during this coming year we will be remembering the many raids that took place during that year and the many lives that were unselfishly given.



In 2019 we will also be welcoming back many old favourite car and motorcycle clubs/gatherings who are already booked in, as well as many new clubs to the museum. Details of all these events will be found on the museum Facebook site as well as many local Facebook sites.

The museum will reopen on **Saturday 2nd March** (weather permitting) and will then be open **weekends** and **Bank Holidays** until the end of **October**,

additionally on **Wednesdays** from **May - September** inclusive. 10am-5pm, last admission 4pm.

Our first film night of the year will be on **Wednesday 10th April** and tickets will be available shortly, please watch local Facebook sites for details of purchasing.

There may be many changes to the museum, new displays, new layouts and new souvenirs but the one thing that doesn't change is that Old warm friendly welcome. Come along and see us.

Have you some spare time on your hands and would like to do some voluntary work? The museum is always looking for Volunteers, no experience is necessary, it is a basic learn as you go and gives you the opportunity not only to meet new friends but also to give back a little time for those that gave their all 75 years ago. If you are interested, pay us a visit when we reopen.

www.100bgmus.org.uk

Common Road, Dickleburgh IP21 4PH

Sign posted off the A140 & A143

Harleston and District U3A

Harleston and District University of the Third Age will be celebrating its 10th birthday in 2019 and we are now the largest voluntary organisation in the area, drawing members from the surrounding villages as well as the town.

Ron Rankin Painting & Decorating

For all your
Domestic & Commercial
Property Maintenance & Decorating
Competitive Prices &
Professional Standards
Reliable & Experienced

Telephone: 01379 388243

Mobile: 07762 326 226

Please call for
Advice & Quotations with
No Obligation



The U3A movement, itself, which is aimed at people who are no longer in full time employment, has been the success story of the last few decades.

For a modest annual fee, you are able to take advantage of more than 20 interest groups, covering all kinds of activities. These can be physical, educational, creative but, most of all, social. Following the recent over indulgence to which most of us succumb over the Christmas period, it might be beneficial to concentrate on the physical in the New Year! We offer badminton, golf, swimming, walking and exercise groups.

You can find out more about us by visiting u3asites.org.uk/harleston or by contacting Membership Secretary Kim on **01986 788149**.

You could, also, come along to one of our regular meetings which are held at 2pm every **third Wednesday** at the Masonic Rooms, Harleston, when we have a speaker, refreshments and some social time together.

Eye Bach Choir

ELIJAH

Join us for Mendelssohn's Elijah, one of the most popular works for Choir and Orchestra. Conducted by Leslie Olive, with The Kingfisher Sinfonietta at Eye Parish Church on **Saturday 16th March**, 7.30pm. Soprano: Anna Cavaliero; Contralto: Thalie Knights; Tenor: Richard Edgar-Wilson and Bass: Mark Saberton. Tickets £15 & £12 from Eye Pharmacy or telephone **01379 871272**.

tickets@eyebachchoir.co.uk
www.eyebachchoir.co.uk

Eliahu



Elijah

Could you be a Parish Councillor?

Local council elections will be held throughout England on **Thursday 2nd May** and your village is no exception. Have you ever attended a Parish Council meeting in your village? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be able to represent your village and make decisions for the people and the assets in your parish?

Being a Parish Councillor is an enjoyable and rewarding role. It is unique and there are no qualifications or experience required - anyone can become a Councillor (subject to eligibility criteria being met) and training can be provided. The most important quality is that you are passionate about where you live, can listen and make informed judgements - judgements which make a positive difference to your village.

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. These will be available in **March** and must be sent in before the closing date which is provisionally **Wednesday 3rd April**. More details will be available on the Mid Suffolk District Council website at:

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk

Further information is also available locally from your Parish Clerk, including a copy of the *Good Councillor Guide* which provides a wealth of information about the role of Councillors.

Contact details for your Parish Clerk are listed on the **inside front cover** of this publication.



MOP N CARE HOME
cleaning and domestic care mobile services

Friendly reliable personal help, care and domestic cleaning for the elderly and anyone who needs help in their own home. Norfolk, Suffolk and surrounding areas. Cleaning, companionship, shopping, bed making, meals or any duties including organising days out.

Fully insured and DBS certified.

Call Linda on 07951 528722

mopcarehome@gmail.com

The Auberge

*Restaurant with Rooms
Since 1995*

Lunches - Tuesday to Friday - 12noon to 1.30pm

Dinners - Monday to Saturday - 6.30pm to 9.30pm

*www.the-auberge.co.uk - 01579 783 604
Ipswich Road, Vixley, Suffolk, IP23 8BZ*



CHRIS HOWARD
PLUMBING AND HEATING

Local, professional
and reliable service

- ◆ All household plumbing
- ◆ Gas boiler install and servicing
- ◆ Hot water cylinders

Free non committal
quotes

07749315908

chrisjhoward5@googlemail.com

www.chrishowardplumbingandheating.co.uk

ED'S PLAICE

Traditional Fish and Chips

- Wednesdays: serving from 3 - 7pm
PULHAM MARKET, The Green
- Thursdays: serving from 4 - 7pm
HOXNE, St Edmunds Close
- Fridays: serving from 4 - 7pm
WORTHAM, Common

Tel: 01379 741967

Mob: 07904 231006

**What's a typical day
at Hartismere Place?
Getting creative**



When you know you're getting the best care, you can relax and live life the way you want. At our purpose-built care home and day club in Eye we offer residential, nursing and specialist dementia care, and support residents to enjoy the hobbies they love - from the typical to the not-so-typical.

To find out how we can help call us on **01379 888130**

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



A Call to Arms...

...with legs and bumpy daisies

Tradition is a vital part of the Festive season, the time when carols are sung, presents exchanged, cards posted and received. A time of warm good will to all in the cold month of December.

In Hoxne village, Santa and his elves made their annual magical appearance throughout the village as presents were handed out. 2018 was extra special because, amongst those presents, Santa gifted a rope to ensure an almost forgotten tradition returned after nearly 40 years absence.

On Boxing Day, teams from North and South of the Gold Brook & Chickering Beck, took part in a Tug of War contest over the murky waters. At least 150 people turned up to support and cheer as battle commenced to the haunting sound of a lone bugler. No injuries were sustained other than perhaps

some hurt pride from the loosing (sic) North team, who, represented Low Street.

2018 was the first time that a tug of war contest had taken place since the 1970s. In those far off days when flares, cheese cloth and avocado coloured bath suites were all the rage; rival teams, from The Grapes and Swan Inn would meet on New Year's Day and do battle. Sadly, The Grapes is no more and the Swan Inn is now the only pub in the village. History indicates that the South team (The Grapes) usually won the contest. This year was no exception, and as per custom, the victors were the South

team (Cross Street) who rightly deserved their Gold Medals.

In the true spirit of sportsmanship, everyone was a winner and Silver and other awards were awarded to the loosing (sic) teams. This event was not only about winning, but good old fashioned fun when the wonderful Hoxne community came together as one in their only tavern.

Many thanks to all those who took part, either as tuggers or spectators. Gratitude also goes to the owners of the land where the battles took place; Alan Garnham and his team who prepared the site; Lisa & Lucy, the few who served drinks to so

many; Hannah Mayhew who acted as umpire; The Captains, Christian Garnham (North) and Kev Potter (South), and Katie Rich who at short notice put together the fabulous ladies teams.

Due to the amazing success of 2018, next year's contest will be an even better spectacle. Long may this revised tradition continue.

Iain Gibson

Safe Rider Workshops

Motorcyclists across Suffolk are being given the opportunity to improve their riding skills and to have better awareness and ability while on the road at 'Safe Rider' motorcycle workshops to be held in 2019.

Safe Rider is a joint initiative between Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies aimed at reducing the number of motorcycle



...the victorious South!



North team takes up the strain...



HAIR LOGIC

Street Farm, Laxfield Road,
Stradbroke, Suffolk IP21 5HX

Open Tuesday - Saturday

Telephone 01379 384560



FIBRES
CARPET CARE
& FLOOR CARE

David Walker
Member of NCCA

M: 07712 564691
E: fibrescarpets@outlook.com

Computer Repair & IT Support

**Fast, Friendly and
Understandable**

PCs, Laptops, Printers,
Tablets, Virus Removal,
Tune Ups & Upgrades,
Broadband Problems,
Networks etc.

**Home User or Small Business
We Can Help You!**

Hexpek.it

07908 222428 - 01379 668150

www.callthecomputerguy.co.uk

K.G. READ & SON PLUMBING & HEATING CONTRACTOR

- **BOILER INSTALLATION,
SERVICE & REPAIR.**
- **OIL TANK REPLACEMENT.**
- **BATHROOM & SHOWERS
INSTALLED INCLUDING
CERAMIC TILING.**

**MARCUS READ
01379 668328
07710 757334**

**ORCHARD HOUSE,
HECKFIELD GREEN, HOXNE**

Home Farm, Hoxne DIY Horse Livery

Small Private Yard
New large stables



Secure storage areas for feed & tack
Newly fenced grass paddocks
Quiet lane hacking
Exercise jumping paddock

Please contact Alex Barker
07884 298822 alex@homefarmhoxne.co.uk

Cottage Garden Company

RHS qualified gardener for
general garden maintenance,
preparation and planting

**Contact Sarah on 01379 668643
cottagegardencompany@gmail.com**

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

In an effort to encourage more riders under the age of 25 to take the course, they will be able to attend for half price (£25) which will be funded by the Safe Rider scheme.

The workshops give motorcyclists greater awareness of the hazards they may face when out and about to help them become better and safer riders and are designed to bridge the gap between passing the basic motorcycle test and taking an advanced test.

Reducing the number of people who are killed or seriously injured on the county's roads remains a priority for us and while the number of fatalities to date this year are half the number we experienced last year, one death is still too many.

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



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

The next morning, there will be an escorted ride out session with a Class 1 police motorcyclist. A maximum 3:1

ratio ensures an accurate and personalised assessment of riding performance.

First aid sessions take place on the Saturday afternoon provided by Suffolk Fire and Rescue. Participants are provided with lunch on the Saturday and are also given a Safe Rider bag for life containing a number of useful items, including a flask, keyring and Parker pen.

The workshop dates for 2019 are: **April 5/6, May 10/11, May 31/June 1, July 5/6, August 2/3, September 6/7 and October 4/5.**

For further information visit the Suffolk Police website:



www.suffolk.police.uk/services/safe-rider-workshop or if you would like to register for a course, call The Motorcycle Casualty Reduction Team (RCRT) on **01473 613888, ext 3722** or email: saferider@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Build it right

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, have a dedicated, independent and impartial team with over 100 years combined specialist knowledge in the construction industry. They can help guide you through the processes to make that all-important alteration to your home, whilst ensuring you meet mandatory Building Regulations. Are you thinking about...

- Building an extension?
- Internal alterations i.e. removal of walls?
- Converting your garage?
- Creating an annex?

..then your council can help. We understand fitting home improvements around your job can be a challenge. Our team will find a way to support you that fits in with your diary. Inspections can also be booked by 10am on the day too, so

no need to forward plan if that's not your style.

If you want to find out more about the services your local council offers, just speak to one of the team by heading to the Councils' website at:

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/building-control/>

- we'll be happy to help or provide you with a quote.

Did you know the council also deals with demolitions and dangerous structures? You can always contact us to report a dangerous structure online here:

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/building-control/dangerous-structures/>



Optimal Heating
Father & Son Team
with over 30 years experience

Specialist Heating Engineers
Oil, Natural Gas & LPG Servicing and Repairs

Tel: 01728 628687
Mobile: 07806 660399



HANDYMAN SERVICES EYE

All manner of repairs improvements & general building works undertaken large & small.

Friendly reliable honest work.

Please call Mark
07818 088080
01379 871399

Hoxne Church Bells

Taylor's of Loughborough, the last bell foundry in the country, visited Hoxne church tower on 20th December 2018 to assess the bells to see if they can be restored to ringing condition. There used to be six bells in the tower, but the heaviest of about 15 cwt (762kg) split and was sold off to fund other church repairs in 1751. The five remaining bells have not been used for full circle ringing for decades.

A hole in the tower roof in the 1950s had been repaired, but the water that leaked in has caused damage to the ringing gear. The bell frame which holds the bells is a massive oak structure that has a lot of woodworm and rot and will not be usable for ringing again. It is thought to date from 1499 originally, but has been adjusted and augmented for strength through the centuries.

Simon Adams from Taylor's proceeded with testing the actual bells for soundness and tone. They were struck with the clapper on the inside and the noises recorded. None of the five bells is cracked. He said the strength of the church tower itself will have to be assessed by a suitable structural engineer.

The lightest bell was cast 1676 and weighs about 5 1/2 cwt (279kgs). The next heaviest was made in 1655 and is approx 6 1/2 cwt (330kgs). The third is from 1711 and is 7 1/2 cwt (381kgs). The fourth was cast by Braysers of Norwich who were operating from 1424 to 1513 and weighs about 9 3/4 cwt (495kgs). The tenor of about 12 3/4 cwt (648kgs) is the oldest and was cast in about 1422 by Richard Baxter of Norwich.

Both of the last two bells are listed for preservation and are historic artefacts in their own right having been at Hoxne since before the Reformation and the oldest being nearly 600 years old.

It turned out Taylors had a plan for the restoration of Hoxne bells from 1953 which, since all dimensions remain the same, can be used as a basis for work today. This would require a new metal bell frame to be inserted below the original wooden frame which would be preserved in position. This plan also has the advantage of strengthening the tower as well as providing an ideal hanging for the bells. This is a cost effective solution and returns the ring to six bells which is the minimum for change ringing.

foundations, trusts and funds available to help with the financing and we hope to make a lottery bid. We will also be looking for local support to raise the funds to make this happen. We hope you will agree that it would be wonderful to hear the bells again which have rung in this village for centuries. The church are keen to support the restoration of the bells if sufficient funds can be raised. If anyone would like any further or more detailed information please contact me.

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

New Reeding Woods Group

On a New Year's Day walk around Pound Lane Wood, it was interesting to reflect on the transformation of a corner of a farmer's field to a wild life sanctuary over the past 18 years. There were no orchids, the barn owl was nowhere to be seen, and the newts have gone, only the trees remain in the dead of winter with the rustle of the remaining oak leaves breaking the silence. But the hint of a coming spring is already to be seen as the catkins on the willows and birches are visibly swelling.

The silver birch was revered by the ancient Britain's and was considered to have powers of renewal and purification, such that its twigs were used to drive out the spirits of the old year! No such event took place at the community woodland this New Year, just a brisk, but chilly walk to blow away the cobwebs!

For information about forthcoming events, see the notice board at the wood, and to join the group please contact our Secretary Peny Conway on **01379 870165**. New members are always welcome.

Mike Reeves

Finding that the existing bells themselves are in reasonable condition is very encouraging. The five bells need taking out of the tower and some of them re-tuned. This could be done so the additional bell would be a new treble (the lightest).

Replacing a light bell is easier and cheaper than a heavy one.

The last major repairs to Hoxne bells was done by Days, bell hangers of Eye, in 1875 - we can expect any restoration now to last much longer than that one did.

The general condition of the tower interior, is as you would expect, of a space that has not been used for decades, but is nothing that a good clear-out and clean up couldn't put right.

Subject to the tower strength, there is no reason why this restoration could not go ahead and give Hoxne back the music of church bells after a gap of decades for five bells and centuries in the case of six bell ringing. There are numerous



Tenor cast in 1422 and estimated at 12 3/4 hundredweight

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

Church News

St John, Denham

The live nativity took place at Nora's Yard on Christmas Eve. This year we had the addition of two donkeys to add to the lowing cattle, sheep and horses, all of whom enjoyed the attention and numerous carrots, parsnips and apples offered to them. The service was hugely popular with the Scout mini-bus being used as a shuttle bus running from Denham and Hoxne to help with the parking.

The crowds were treated to some

fabulous acting and storytelling while they moved around the barns, as well as



a real life baby Jesus in a manger played by Rose Leonard -Lawson. The real story of Christmas came to life, the characters in their costumes acting to the narration read by Mr Stuart Jarrold. There was also plenty of singing, where, at times, the cows seemed to join in too.

A huge thank you to Barbara Irwin for all of her hard work organising the enjoyable event and for the use of Nora's Yard

complete with animals. Thanks must also go to all of the actors who gave us their time and to Sue Roberts and her team for the excellent costumes. We are all definitely looking forward to the event again in the future. At the time of writing, we are still waiting for Caitlyn to give birth - she can't get much bigger!



St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

The Christmas Fair at the end of November was well attended and raised £2,303.80p. A sincere thanks goes to all who provided, helped

or supported this annual event in any way.

We would also like to extend our thanks to all involved in the Christmas Tree display over Christmas. This was organised by the 'Friends' under the leadership of Rhona Bertie and David Hyde. Many village organisations contributed to this, and together with the Christmas flowers and nativity scene the church looked extra welcoming for the St Edmund's Primary school Carol Service, the village Carol Service, as well as the Christmas services.

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 18th February - Branch meeting in Hoxne;

Monday 18th March - Branch meeting in Hoxne;

We also have a **COFFEE MORNING** on **Wednesday 27th February** at Eldfield, Goldbrook, from 10 - 12

midday. ALL WELCOME. Coffee, home baking stall, 'bring and buy', cards and merchandise plus excellent company. Contact Cathie McGregor, Branch Leader **01379 668434**.



Flower rota

3rd & 10th February: Altar, Cathie McGregor;

17th & 24th February: Altar, Prue Day;

3rd March: Altar, Cathie McGregor;

There are no flowers in the church during Lent.

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 Christmas Services were amazing! Amici were in excellent voice (the best ever?) for the well attended Carol Service where the ambience was relaxed and happy and yet reflective of the special message of our Saviour's birth. We took the opportunity to remember the Christmas truce on the Western Front 100 years ago by singing verses of Silent Night in German and French. There was also a good turn-out for a meaningful Communion on Christmas morning. Mulled wine flowed at both services, which were attended by some very well-behaved canine friends - and there were many appreciative comments on the floral decorations. Our thanks to all our 'flower ladies' and to Revd Eleanor and Revd Michael respectively for leading these services so thoughtfully.



The Christmas Season concluded with a special **Messy Church** celebration of Christingle in St Margaret's Church on Epiphany, 6th January. Messy Church on **Sunday 3rd February** and **Sunday 3rd March** will revert to the normal time and place, 4pm in the Village Hall.

A sad loss - Those who have known Syleham Church over the years will be sad to learn of the death on 29th November of Betty Chapman, for many, many years a stalwart of the church on Sundays and a very active fund raiser. She had been cared for in The Trees Nursing Home in Harleston in recent years, but we maintained contact with



visits. Her funeral service was held in St Margaret's on 19th December and the beautiful coffin wreath was later returned to the church, where we laid it on the altar which she helped to maintain so diligently. Donations were invited for the Fabric Fund of the church.

Re-decoration project - Some unexpected donations have boosted the fund set aside for the re-decoration of the church and we are very hopeful of

being able to have the work done this year. We shall, though, need at least one big final push to achieve the required amount (approximately £16,000 including scaffolding, fees and plaster repair) - event yet to be decided (ideas and offers welcome!) so watch this space and local newsletters for news

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

HOXNE SERVICE STATION
Servicing and Mechanical
Repairs

MOT preparation
Welding repairs

Tel: 01379 668654

Septic Tank Services

- Septic tanks emptied • Sewage treatment plants emptied and serviced • Drain jetting
- Soak away replacement and installation •

~ Fully licenced & insured ~

Lenny Jolly

07905 794221

lenny.sts@hotmail.co.uk

UNDER ONE ROOF
THE COMPLETE HARD
LANDSCAPING SERVICE

DRIVEWAYS, NATURAL
STONE PATIOS, DECORATIVE
WALLING, WATER FEATURES,
ENTRANCE GATES & FENCING.

PRESSURE WASHING CLEANING
OF PATIO AND DRIVEWAYS

FULLY INSURED FAMILY
BUSINESS WITH
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

FOR A FREE NO PRESSURE
QUOTATION PLEASE CALL
MARK ON 01379 677027 OR
07768 636618

Nick Fulcher

Plasterer & Floor Screeder
FREE ESTIMATES

Telephone 01379 642979



Elecsa Reg. 22969 – Part P compliant

All Domestic & Commercial work
Fuse boards, Fault finding
New wiring / re-wiring
Testing & Inspection

Phone 07590 507307

01379 851964

Harry Thomas Knights

Following on from the last edition of the Village Voice, we would like to clarify the information as regards our relative listed on the War Memorial in the Hoxne church.

Hoxne War Memorial in St Peter and St Paul's church - picture Stephen Gowler



Harry Thomas Knights was born in Hoxne on 15th January 1914 to William James and Florence Alberta Knights who at the time were living in Low Street, possibly number 31. He was their fifth child with elder siblings Beatrice (Beattie Burrridge), Herbert and Arthur -twins- and Charles. William James was a shoemaker and Florence was the daughter of George Rayner -article in previous Village Voice and Hoxne Heritage Website- and had run the flour and milling business until she was declared bankrupt in 1905.

Harry was a member of the Swan Bowls Club and formed a block with his siblings Herbert and Arthur who both went on to Captain the side during some of their most successful years in the 1950's and 1960's. Harry also took part in many of the, it seems weekly, activities in the Reading



Room -St. Edmund's Hall- and in fact led the Melody Makers Band at various social events in Hoxne and the local area.

Harry does not appear in the 1939 Register so may have already joined the Suffolk Regiment by then, but he was a labourer according to his records. Harry had married Hilda in 1940 with Terrence coming along in September of the same year. He was in the 5th Battalion, service number 5832684 as a Private. The 5th were part of the 18th East Anglian Division and were sent to Singapore to defend it against the Japanese landing on 29th January 1942. On 15th February, Singapore surrendered and 620 of the Suffolks were taken prisoner, Harry amongst them.

The Diss Express informs us that a postcard was received with the news, in July 1942, that Harry was a prisoner of war and 'not to worry'! He died on 22nd August 1943 of beriberi according to Japanese camp details. He is buried in Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery, Burma, now Myanmar. As



late as August 1945 the Diss Express reported that news of the six Hoxne men who were captured with the Suffolks was still hoped for, but of the six-Harry, William Schofield and Gerald Goddard were not to return- while James Feaveyear, Jim Rush and Robert Schofield came home. He is also commemorated in

Hoxne Churchyard on his brother Herbert's grave stone.

Kevin Knights

The Denham Fallen

FIRST WORLD WAR (1914-1918)

Frederick Charles Bayles

Sapper, 19th Divisional Signals Company, Royal Engineers.

Frederick Charles Bayles was born in Redlingfield in 1883, the son of Charles and Alice (nee Rayner). Both the Bayles and Rayners were families local to Denham and Hoxne. By 1911 Frederick was a saddlers apprentice living with his parents and younger brother, Reginald, in Redlingfield.

On the 26th November 1914 Frederick enlisted in Eye and stated that his preference was to serve as a saddler. The Army had other ideas and Frederick was sent to the Royal Engineers posted to the 19th Divisional Signal Company of the 9th (Western) Division. The Division, part of Kitchener's Second New Army crossed to France between the 16th and 21st July 1915. The Division was heavily engaged in virtually every major engagement between late 1915 to 1918.

As part of the Royal Engineer's Signal Service, Frederick's duties would be laying, operating and repairing communication wires. It was a dangerous occupation which Frederick survived for over three years, but in November 1918 he was seriously wounded and died of these wounds on the 11th November 1918. Frederick is buried at St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

Victor Leopold Stevens Bedwell

2nd Lieutenant, 4th Battalion, The Suffolk Regiment.

Victor was born in 1894 in Saham Toney, a small village a mile north of the town of Watton in Norfolk. His father, Thomas Bedwell, was the Head Teacher of a local school known as Saham or Parkers College, as well as being a Church of England clergyman. In 1901 the family comprised

of Thomas, his wife, Mary Louise and their children Victor, aged 6 and Daughter, Constance, aged 15.

Victor attended St John's School, Leatherhead from 1904 to 1913 when he went up to Exeter College, Oxford where he excelled as a student winning the coveted Craven scholarship in 1914. Joining the University Officers' Training Corps he received his commission in the Suffolk Regiment May or June 1915 arriving in France on the 30th May 1916 and joined the 4th Battalion in the Bethune area of northern France.

By early July, the 4th Battalion joined the Battle of the Somme and were immediately thrown into action against the German defences around the sector known as High Wood. The Suffolks suffered heavy casualties in the ensuing two weeks fighting before they were withdrawn. In August the Battalion was back in front of High Wood, tasked with seizing a trench system known as Wood Lane. Attacking over open ground the Suffolks were subjected to the withering fire of a machine gun post positioned on the edge of High Wood. Victor managed to get those men that survived into the Wood Lane Trench but was killed by the machine gun fire, the trench was held briefly before the Suffolks were forced to withdraw. Victor's body was never found. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing as well as the Rolls of Honour at St John's and Exeter college. His name also appears alongside his parents on the family grave in the Old Reading Cemetery.

Ernest Joseph Hawes

Trooper, Household Cavalry, Royal Horse Guards (The Blues).

Ernest Joseph was born in 1895 and according to the 1901 census he was living with his parents, Joseph and Rachel and elder brother, Albert, in Denham Green. Both Joseph and Albert were listed as agricultural labourers. By 1911 Albert had

left home and at the age of 15, Ernest was employed as yardman and Joseph a horseman with the family still living in Denham.

Ernest's short service papers have survived, these show that he enlisted on the 12th December 1914, the paper work being signed off by the attesting officer in Bury St Edmunds. His physique, standing at six feet high and weighing in at 158 pounds together with his experience of horses ensured he was quickly allocated to an elite Regiment. In Ernest's case this was the Royal Horse Guards. Once his training was complete, Ernest remained in the United Kingdom and did not embark for France until March 1916.

Elements of the Household Cavalry had been serving with the British Expeditionary Force since the outbreak of War and had served in many of its actions. Ernest served in the Pioneer Battalion and was also trained as a Bomber, but on the 6th November 1917, after serving for fifteen months on the Western Front he was seriously wounded and subsequently died on the 9th. He was buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery the last resting place for many men who died in the numerous casualty clearing stations in the area.

Victor John Lawes

Private, 2/6th Manchester Regiment.

Victor John Lawes was born in Redlingfield in 1879 and at the time of the 1901 census he was living with his father, John and mother Ellen at Low Farm Denham. The 1911 census records that the family were still living at Low Farm but Victor had been joined by a sister, Dorothy and four brothers, Harold, Leonard, Arthur and Clement. Victor, now aged 13, was employed as a labourer on a farm.

Currently, no enlistments papers have survived for Victor although there are records indicating that he enlisted at Bury St Edmunds and was, at the time he signed up, resident in Framlingham. At the time

of his death he was serving in the 2/6th Manchester Regiment and had also been taken prisoner. The date of his death, 3rd May 1918, and his burial at Le Cateau Military Cemetery may indicate that he had already been seriously wounded before being taken prisoner, most likely during the German Spring Offensive of 1918.

Harry Louis (Or Lewis) Lincoln

Private, 1st Battalion, The Bedfordshire Regiment.

Born in 1887 Harry was, in the 1891 Census, listed as being a lodger in the home of Samuel and Mary Muttock in Mill Road, Redlingfield. There is no mention of either of his parents at the Muttock home and by 1901 Harry was a resident at Wilton House children's home in Castle Street, Eye.

Between 1904 and 1905 Harry travelled to Ipswich where he enlisted in the Regular Army and was posted to the Bedfordshire Regiment where he joined the 1st Battalion. The Battalion did serve in India between 1889 and 1907 but it is not known whether Harry was sent out to India after his initial training. According to the 1911 census, Harry was at the Maida Barracks (Part Area 8) Stanhope Lines, Aldershot probably attending a military course and in 1913 the Battalion was posted to Mullinger, now the county town of County Westmeath in Southern Ireland and it was here that they were mobilised in August 1914 and transported via England disembarking at Le Havre on the 16th August.

The Bedfordshires fought in all of the British Expeditionary Force's major engagements during 1914 and by the start of 1915 found themselves in the Trenches as the nature of the war changed considerably. In April 1915 the Battalion were in the Ypres sector and took up trenches opposite Hill 60, a soil heap left over from the construction of the Ypres-

Comines railway. Hill 60 was attacked and taken with very few casualties but the Germans responded with numerous attacks using artillery and gas. The Bedfordshires held the sector to the left of the Hill and from the 1st to 6th May came under immense pressure from the Germans who drenched their trenches in what the War Diary records describe as “asphyxiating gas” as well as shells from artillery and trench mortars. During this period the Bedfordshires lost three Officers and 290 Other Ranks, killed wounded or missing. Harry Lincoln was one of those who died, he has no known grave and is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

Leonard Charles Minns

Private, 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment.

Leonard Charles Minns was born in Thwaite St Mary, a small hamlet a few miles north of Bungay, on 20th October 1894. His parents Charles, an agricultural Labourer, and his mother Elizabeth were both born in Thwaite. In 1901, Leonard was living with his parents and sisters Ethel and Violet and brother John on the Yarmouth Road, Thwaite and had started school at Brome, a village near to Bungay.

In 1908 Elizabeth had died and by the time of the 1911 census the family, including new additions Albert, Ellis and Bessy, had moved to Monk Soham, a village north east of the Framlingham. Leonard who was working as a farm labourer had also moved to Monks Soham where he was living as lodger in the home of Alfred and Mary Abbott in Low Road.

Currently no enlistment papers can be traced for Leonard though it is known that he enlisted at Bury St Edmunds and was posted to the 1st Battalion, The Suffolk Regiment. At the outbreak of War the Battalion had been serving in the Sudan and was quickly recalled landing back in the United Kingdom in October where it underwent reorganisation and then, forming part of the 84th Brigade, 28th Division it landed at Le Havre on the 18th January 1915. It is possible, as some sources state, that Leonard landed in France on the 1st April as part of a replacement draft and joined the battalion in billets near Dranoutre.

On April 15th the Battalion left their billets and marched to Vlamertinghe and after a two day break onto Zonnebeke to support on Hill 60. The Germans observed the concentration and opened up an

Borderhoppa



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

Dial-a-Ride

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

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.

February

Thu 7th, Stowmarket £15; Thu 14th, Cherry Lane GC & Goodies Farm Shop £7; Mon 18th, Lunch at Old Mill House, Saxtead Green £8; Thu 21st, Shopping trip to Waitrose, Wymondham £10; Thu 28th, Lunch at The Red Lion, Needham £7.

March

Thu 7th, Beccles £10; Thu 14th, Lunch at The Chip Inn, Long Stratton £6; Thu 21st, Bury St. Edmunds £15; Thu 28th, Bungay & Lunch at The Flixton Buck £10.

artillery bombardment on the Battalions positions during which Leonard was killed. He is buried at Bedford House Cemetery and his effects were sent to his father who was now living at 52 Ferry Cottage, Orford.

Walter Watson

Private, Duke Of Wellingtons (West Riding Regiment).

Walter, aged 40 at the time of his death is the oldest man on the War Memorial. He was married to Harriet Hepizibah Read in 1915 and enlisted into the Duke of Wellingtons (West Riding Regiment) in Gainsborough giving his residence as Eye, Lincolnshire (now Cambridgeshire).

Currently no enlistment papers can be traced but he was posted to the 2/5th Battalion and was killed on the 3rd May 1917 during a series of abortive attacks on the Hindenberg Line. The Battalion suffered the loss of four Officers killed or missing plus another four wounded in addition to 70 Other Ranks killed or missing and another 154 wounded. Walter' body was never found, he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. The 1939 Register shows Harriet living in Denham.

Frederick Arthur Wilding

Stoker 1st Class, HMS Cumberland.

Frederick was born in Eye on the 25th February 1896. In 1916 he married Mary (nee Majoram) and was living in Mission Road, Diss. In 1916 he enlisted in the Royal

Navy joining Pembroke 11 a Royal Navy shore establishment based on the Isle of Sheppey for training as a stoker in October 1916. In June 1917 he was transferred to HMS Cumberland.

Cumberland was a "Monmouth" Class Armoured Cruiser launched in 1902. After a brief campaign against German merchantmen off the west coast of Africa the ship returned to the United Kingdom and spent the rest of the War on Ocean escort duties, mainly in the Atlantic. The ships log record that two drafts of sailors were received from Depot in June 1917 whilst the ship was berthed at Devonport after convoy escort to Bermuda, Frederick would be included in either the one on the 13th or the 15th June.

The log of HMS Cumberland shows that the ship was busy guarding the trade routes throughout 1917 and 1918, the log does not survive for September 1918 but we know that Frederick died of pneumonia on the 25th September together with another crewmate Charles Robert Wakefield. Frederick is buried at St Johns the Baptist, Denham and is also remembered on the Roll of Honour at St Mary's Church, Diss.

A fuller version of each of the Denham fallen will be posted on the Hoxne Heritage Group website in due course.

GPT

www.hoxnehistory.org.uk



LOCAL, PROFESSIONAL, ESTABLISHED SPECIALISTS IN

Oil, Gas & LPG

Servicing, Breakdowns, Repairs and Installations

All makes covered including: Grant, Worcester Bosch, Boulter Camray, HRM Wallstar, Vaillant, Baxi.

Telephone 01379 898574

Upper Church Farm, Finningham Road, Rickinghall, Suffolk, IP22 1LP www.boilerrepairsuffolk.co.uk



St Edmund's School

For parents and guardians with pre-school children, join us for **Stay and Play on Thursday 14th February and Wednesday 20th March, 1.30-3.00 pm**. This is a good opportunity for you to view our school, meet our staff and ask any questions that you may have. Please contact the office to book your place or for more information.

*St. Edmund's Primary & Nursery School
Heckfield Green, Hoxne IP21 5AD*

Tel: 01379 668283

Email: officehoxne@wvpschools.org

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Firstly, a big thank you and congratulations to all the representatives of the village organisations who supported us with the display of Christmas trees in the church. We have received many comments saying how the trees transformed the church over the Christmas period. Our particular thanks go to Rhona for organising the event. Hopefully we will do it again this year.

Our thoughts are now turning towards our fund-raising events in the coming year, so far, we are planning a Summer Lunch, a Pie and Pint Evening and of course in May we have our trip to Shropshire visiting The Severn Valley Railway, RAF Cosford, Boscobel House and Ludlow.

Our big problem is that we have lost two committee members, Rhona and Alison. Both had to resign for personal reasons, they have contributed enormously in our fund raising and will be missed, so we do require at least two new committee members. Please can anyone help?

Our AGM is on the **Thursday 11th April**, in the village hall at 7.00pm, please do try to come along.

Finally, still no further news on the kitchen, the PCC are trying very hard to sort out the problems with the architect, but it is very slow going.

Thank you for all your support in raising funds to help maintain our beautiful church. 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 Bell Ringers

On 11th December we had our first meeting in the Swan with five persons present. There was interest expressed by three other people who were unable to come.

It was pointed out that the Hoxne bells may never be restored because the church tower may not be strong enough, the finance proves impossible to raise or other unknowns arise. The point was also made that learning to ring is a long term project and does take time. It is also great fun and once you have got going it is an endless rewarding craft.

It was decided that suitable teachers should be approached to see if we could start off in the New Year. If we do apply for funds and grants for restoring Hoxne bells a training band of bell ringers will be very helpful. It is, any way, a fascinating skill to acquire and you will be welcome in almost every tower in the country.

On 8th January we met again at the Swan with nine present and several unable to come. A report of the visit by Taylors was given (see page 20) and the subsequent quote discussed. General satisfaction of the practicality of the

restoration was expressed and keenness to proceed if the tower proves strong enough. The position of the organ was commented on.

Peter Davidson offered to show us the Wickham Skeith bells being rung and it was arranged for Saturday 12th January. This will be very useful as ringers need to know what is happening on the other end of their rope. Sylvie Fawcett of Thornham Magna and Zoe Gray of Yaxley have offered to teach us on Saturday mornings at 10:30am at Thornham and we start on 19th January. It was agreed to meet again on **Tuesday 5th February** in The Swan at 7:30pm.

Andrew Castleden
01379 668458, 07931 725928
fal@castleden.co.uk

Hoxne Garden & Social Club

As I write this, the sun is shining, the birds are singing, snowdrops and daffodils showing, and the lawn needs cutting! If it wasn't for the cold wind and the bareness of the trees I might be fooled into thinking it was spring, not early January!

We had a very successful Christmas Dinner in December with "The Perennial Mr Potter" keeping us entertained with his stories of life in the Victorian Garden, complete with his potting bench. In January we will be learning about Bees, their life and the keeping of them. Just in time for us to plant more bee friendly plants.

Our next talk is "The Magic and Mystery of Herbs" on **Thursday 21st February** with Karen Kenny, while in March, we have Dr Tim Wreghitt visiting. His talk is entitled "Low Allergy Gardening", maybe a help to those of us that suffer with Hay Fever and other allergies. This will be on

Thursday 21st March which is also our AGM, and unfortunately this may well be the LAST meeting of The Hoxne Garden & Social Club. We have two members who are happy to be on a committee, but ideally we need at least three more. Any volunteers please talk to any of the committee or contact me. Happy Gardening.

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 28th February** and will be a talk by Graeme Proctor on Soft Fruit. This will be followed on **Thursday 28th March** with a talk by Matt Tanton Brown on Old Garden Roses. Meetings start at 7.30pm in Brundish Village Hall. Non-members welcome - £3 at the door. For further information, please contact:

Priscilla Williamson, 01379 388034
priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com

Hoxne Heritage Group uncovers the unexpected...

Our previous article in the last Village Voice about the lost lodge alluded to an unexpected discovery during our investigations on Lodge Hill behind Low Street.

On 22nd November we were fortunate to hear a fascinating talk by John Rainer, Suffolk Archaeological Field Group, who performed the LIDAR investigations on Lodge Hill on behalf of the Heritage Group. Not only did John bring in the sophisticated equipment for us to handle but also explained, in layman's language, about the

MR M PIZZEY

**Roofing Specialist and
General Builder
Slating, Tiling, Flat Roofing
Chimney Repointing
and Rebuilding
Guttering and Lead Work
All General Building
Plastering and Extensions**

FREE ESTIMATES

Prompt Friendly Service

Ring Eye 873456

Andy Keeble Ltd, Oil Fired Boiler & Heating Maintenance

For oil boiler service,
breakdowns and repairs.
Replacement boilers, system
upgrades and controls.
OFTEC registered and over
30 years' experience.
Reliable and friendly service.

Tel: 01379 668596

Mobile: 07801 515494

Rainford Cottage,
11 Green Street, Hoxne.

JAMES HARSENT PAINTING & DECORATING



**INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
NVQ3 & ACA QUALIFIED
FREE ADVISE AND ESTIMATES**

Tel: 01379 388134

Mob 07948 466203

Email: jamesharsent@hotmail.com

GRAHAM BORRILL



THATCHER

COSY COT HECKFIELD GREEN
HOXNE EYE SUFFOLK IP21 5AB

TEL : 01379 668 777

MOBILE : 07960 254 537



GOLDBROOK

BOARDING KENNELS & CATTERY

Nuttery Vale, Hoxne, Suffolk IP21 5BB

Telephone 01379 668267

info@gbkac.co.uk



"Our Team"

**Proudly owned and run by
Sara & Don Warren**

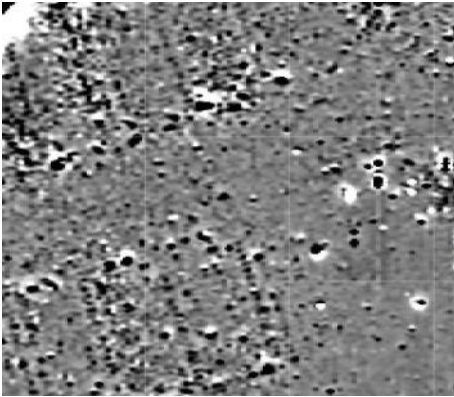
Please feel free to pop in and meet us,
we will be happy to show you around

OPENING TIMES

Monday - Saturday 8.00am - 12 noon
and 3.00pm - 6.00pm

Sunday and Bank Holidays
9.00am - 12 noon

complicated technology and how to interpret the scans produced. The scan below shows very clearly the outline of several rectangular structures on the left hand side -not the lodge we were looking for.



From researching the archives, old newspapers and aerial photography we are very confident that these structures are associated with a WW1 encampment housing troops and their horses prior to being shipped to France. The geophys is not consistent with either WW2 buildings or a temporary camp. The southern building would have been enormous but, from what we now know of the stable sizes from the 1919 auction sale details, our large building was more likely to be yards, with rows of stable shelters opening into them.

The main inhabitants of the camp were from the 1st Lincolnshire Yeomanry. A newspaper report from 1914 describes the park in a *“shocking state as a consequence of the rain and snow. We are sleeping out in the park in a large marquee, and I often wake up shivering like a leaf as we are not allowed a lot of clothes to wrap in. The food is so very scarce as we are only granted a small amount, mostly bread and jam and there is often a scramble for it”*.

There were two deaths associated with the camp - one soldier was kicked by a

horse and died and another drowned while trying to swim across the Waveney.

However, the villagers of Hoxne rallied to try to give as much support as they could. Belgian Day was celebrated in January, 1915 and villagers dressed in Belgian colours and made collections for the Relief Fund. An auction of donated poultry and dairy produce was held at St. Edmund’s Hall and a concert was given by members from the yeomanry. The day’s proceeds of £60 was *“most gratifying to all concerned”*.

Other events held to entertain the troops and keep up morale were described in newspapers. In 1915, the Lincolnshire Echo describes *“a delightful programme rendered by the ‘Jollies Concert Party’ from Grimsby”* where the services were given free and the expenses paid for by an officer.

A seven mile cross-country race was held across Stuston Common with 50 competitors from the Lincs. Yeomanry, the Staffs. Yeomanry and the Leics, R.A.M.C. Ambulance unit. The Lincs. Yeomanry were the undisputed winners.

In May 1915, the Diss Express reported on *“some capital military sports”* at Oakley Park. All races were for mounted men and included conventional jumping sections for men and officers separately but also included some amusing novelty races. Amongst these were musical chairs using small enclosures for the horses rather than chairs, slalom races (again for men and officers separately!), wrestling on horseback, the cigar and umbrella race where the rider had to hold an open umbrella, light a cigar and cross the finishing line with the cigar alight. The horses did not appreciate the colourful umbrellas! The Victoria Cross race was reported to be full of amusing incident and involved using dummies. The concluding race involved 24 men riding up to a similar number of ladies and having a button sewn on their

uniform. When completed, a lighted cigarette was handed to the rider who had to race to the finishing line with the lighted cigarette.

The whole event was watched by a large number of servicemen and civilians and also included some wounded 'Tommies' from the Leics. Yeomanry who had been wounded in France and were recovering in a local hospital. Hence in trying to unravel one story we have revealed a quite different one!

Other activities of the Heritage Group included our Christmas buffet accompanied by the Harbour Lights Trio. They were using an array of old traditional instruments and singing some very amusing, and sometimes rather naughty, songs in local dialect. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Finally, here's wishing you all a very happy New Year from HHG. Why not make a resolution to come along to a meeting (first Tuesday of the month in the Swan) to see what we get up to?

MS
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxne Phoenix Group

Since the last issue we have had a very colourful demonstration of Christmas flower arranging by Melissa Sheldrake who is a National Demonstrator of Flower Arranging. Her arrangements are always worked on using frames as a basis (made by her husband) and she intersperses her demonstration with relevant poems and personal stories.



She made three arrangements - the first a large wreath, followed by a large table arrangement

and the last one was based on a large candle frame (approx. 2 ft high). As in the past she has given the arrangements made as raffle prizes later in the evening - some people got a good 10p worth of prize!

A report on our January meeting - the History of Lingerie & Swimwear will appear in the next issue.

In November we had a successful visit by coach to Ely and the Christmas Craft Fair (with more than 100 stalls of all different things related to Christmas including food and garden things).

Some of our talented members decorated a Christmas Tree for the Tree Festival in Hoxne church. All the decorations were handmade (in one way or another) which was quite a feat.



Our next meeting on **Tuesday 12th February** is our A.G.M. (which we keep as brief as possible) and we will follow this with a social evening. On **Tuesday 12th March** we are having a talk on Defensive Driving and this is an open meeting for our menfolk as well.

If any topic here appeals to you please do come along. We just charge a Visitor Fee of £2 for the evening.

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

Red Feather Club

The 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association, which operates and manages the Red Feather Club Museum, has the following objectives: to co-operate with and support groups and individuals who wish to preserve and promote the history and heritage of Horham Airfield and the 95th Bomb

Group; to make airfield history accessible to all interested parties; and to locate and preserve 95th Bomb Group artefacts and local memoirs in an accessible manner. These objectives are to be achieved by hosting group visits, events and open days.

For this year's dances The Red Feather Club has really pushed the boat out. **Saturday 23rd March** will see the incredible Hot House Four at the Red Feather Club with their very talented clarinet player as an added bonus. On **Saturday 29th June** one of the hottest bands on the circuit at the moment, The Revolutionaires, will be performing. The band for the **Saturday 28th September** dance has yet to be arranged.

Public Open Days are on the **last Sunday** of the month **April to October**, 10am-4pm.

For details of prices, times, ticket availability etc. for dances & other Red Feather Club events visit our website.

If you want to join the association contact our membership secretary Helen Krawczynszyn on **01728 628138** or visit:

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

Fressingfield Scouts

At the time of writing we are in the Christmas and New Year break: Leader teams are planning programmes for the new term; The Fund Raising team are planning a Quiz evening in Stradbroke Community Centre on **Saturday 23rd February**, the Commonwealth Day Firework Display on **Saturday 9th March** and a cake stall at the monthly Hoxne Produce and Craft Market on **Saturday 30th March**. To book a table for a quiz team contact

Michael on **01379 668060** and look out for the posters for the Fireworks Display details.



Senior sections (Scouts and Explorers) rounded off the year with a very enjoyable Friday evening Bowling trip to Ipswich, and Cubs and Beavers had a Christmas Party with music, games and of course food.

As the final part of the Beavers Dementia Project, 100 gifts were delivered to the residents of five care homes in the area. It was wonderful to see the generation gap close as the Beavers found so much joy in giving and chatting to the residents.

For much of 2018, 1st Fressingfield Scout Group has been sponsoring a new venture to deliver Scouting to a whole primary school as part of the school timetable. Our new Yoxford and Peasehall School Scouting sections were trialled over the summer term and after a review by our Group Executive and school leaders have become a permanent part of the school weekly timetable. Consequently 50 young people from Yoxford and Peasehall Primary School Scouting Section have been welcomed into the Group with Investitures taking place in December.

In February we have a Leader Development weekend where the Leaders and Explorers get together to learn new practical and personal skills, develop team working skills and undertake some strategic planning. Plans for the Explorer trip to Kenya at Easter will be finalised and travel arrangements completed. Group Camp is very soon after Easter and everyone's ideas for activities will be discussed and a draft programme completed.

www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk

SUNDOWN
GUITARS
MUSIC STORE

Set ups, Servicing
Re stringing and Repairs
Accessories & spares

SHINGLE HILL DENHAM IP21 5EU
Open Saturdays 10.30-noon or by appointment

07958 758 602
www.sundownguitars.co.uk

Garden & Home Maintenance

- Experienced gardener
- Tree pruning / Hedge cutting
- Gates & fencing
- Painting & decorating
- General home maintenance

For a friendly, reliable local service
call **Mark** on

07903 998080 or **01379 669306**

level access showers
bathroom refurbishments
roofing & plastering
maintenance
extensions
all general building

*If you would like information on our services,
or just need some advice, please do not
hesitate to get in touch.*

Rackhams
Building excellence for generations

01379 640172 www.rackhams.org

ACORN TREES

Professional advice & work

TREE SURGERY
Crown Reductions
Section Felling
Dead Wooding
Felling
Hedge Management
Garden Work
Landscaping
Fencing

ADAM PICKESS

Merrist Wood College
City & Guilds Tree Surgery
Full public liability insurance
FREE ESTIMATES

Telephone: 01379 588122
Mobile: 07776 235006

JR

Automotive Repairs

Servicing
Diagnostics
Air-conditioning
Brakes
Exhausts
Tyres
Wheel Alignment
MOT'S

Unit 4
Corner Green Farm
Wingfield Green
Wingfield
IP21 5RE

Phone:
07769 968160
01379 388378

www.jrautomotiverepairs.co.uk
Email: enquiries@jrautomotiverepairs.co.uk

Plants for Birds

Most people feed their garden birds and it's rewarding to see flocks of long tailed tits or squabbling goldfinches on the feeders. But to get to see the best of the bird life available in this country in your garden, you not only need to feed the birds, but provide them with the correct habitat, so they can nest and feel safe.

Diversity is the key and providing lots of different habitats in your garden is the best home for wildlife that you will make.

Try to have a mix of tall structural plants or a tree like a Rowan or silver birch surrounded by lower flowering shrubs. This will provide shelter and nesting sites for birds and mammals. Patches of uncut grass or herbaceous plants will provide good ground cover for others, as well as food for birds, bees, butterflies and other insects. Aim for plants that flower and fruit at different times of the year.

Water is also necessary to provide a home for insects and amphibians and a drink for bird and mammals. You can buy purpose built garden ponds and birdbaths or with a little DIY make a small feature using old flower pots or a half barrel. Insects like bees, will happily drink from buckets of soil and bark turned in to mud by adding water!

Many gardens have hedge or shrub borders which you can fill with berried or fruiting plants. Small native trees like hawthorn, blackthorn and holly are often used as hedging and can be left to become a little "scruffy" by selective

pruning. Cut back parts of the hedge and leave other lengths to grow on for a couple of years. This not only reduces the hedge cutting work, but allows the plants to produce lots more flowers and fruits. This will also give the birds a place to shelter and hide from cats and larger bird predators.

In the shrub border, garden birds will happily make a meal of the fruits from other natives like dogwoods, spindle and *Viburnum opulus* (pictured). Equally



they love *Cotoneaster horizontalis* and they appear to prefer the bright red berries of *Pyracantha coccinea* *Mohave* to some of the more commonly grown types. Climbing and screening plants

can also provide cover and nesting opportunities. Dense plants like the small flowered and vigorous *Clematis montana*, Ivy and honeysuckles will quickly form safe rest sites and feeding opportunities.

Encouraging insects into the garden will also help the birds, especially in the spring, so leave a few "weeds" in the not quite so obvious parts of the garden. Nettles and blackberries are great, but even clover, common chickweed, creeping buttercups, daisy's and selfheal left in the lawn will not only look pretty but be helpful for the insects that the bird feed on. Leave the seed heads on herbaceous plants like achillea and poppies or leave plants grown as annuals like forget-me-nots to self-seed under hedges or around trees.

Claire Horne - BBC Radio Suffolk Gardening Expert

Food For Thought

THE HUMBLE EGG

For millennia, civilisations have cracked, stirred, whipped, beaten, poached and boiled the humble egg. Full of proteins, vitamins and minerals, eggs make a great meal however you enjoy them. A traditional fry up or coddled; an omelette, in quiches or scotched; in cakes, pancakes and meringues; tarts and brûlée, perhaps curds and soufflés etc. Their uses seem endless and for some of us the humble egg might be the most important ingredient in our larder. Eggs form the foundation on which many cooking techniques and recipes depend.

The rise of the free-range egg production continues. In East Anglia we have many farmers who are committed to ensuring high welfare for their flocks resulting in a quality product for the consumer. All around our countryside can be seen flocks of contented hens roaming outdoors in woodlands and in meadows. Hens breathing in fresh air, scratching for worms and slugs. Hens behaving naturally - able to run and flap their wings.

But Not All Eggs Are Created Equal

Is animal welfare important to us? Do we really want or need to know where our food originates? Not all laying hens are free-range. It is 10 years since Jamie Oliver's documentary TV programme 'Jamie's Fowl Dinners' brought mass attention to the suffering faced by millions of farmed chickens. From the moment the birds were cooped up in battery cages, deprived of light and space, to their day in the slaughter house, the programme gave an unflinching account of the reality of battery farming.

The Good News

Barren Battery Cages to go. Defra confirms: UK Hens out of cages from 1st January 2012.

The Bad News

Millions of birds are still kept in tiny barren cages in countries outside the EU community. Doesn't it then make it all the more important to support our British farmers? Although the barren battery cages are now banned throughout Europe, 'enriched' or 'colony' battery cages are still legally permitted. These cages now have to provide 600 square cm of useable space per bird. That is less than the size of an A4 piece of paper for each hen. Less than one standard sheet of photocopying paper. There are limited facilities for perching, nesting and scratching and each wire cage typically houses around 80 birds. There is no limit on how high the cage tiers can be stacked. Chickens are sentient creatures and it is indisputable that they are capable of feeling pain, fear and stress. These conditions not only give insufficient space for the hens to easily move around and perform naturally but unnecessarily crowded conditions mean it can be harder for farmers to maintain good air quality as well as clean, dry bedding for the birds.

Has The Industry Progressed Since Then

In October 2012, The Independent Newspaper printed "*Exposed: The shocking and filthy conditions endured by supermarket hens in 'enriched' cages*". Undercover videos shown to the newspaper went on to show distressed birds kept in squalid cages. Footage revealed cramped and dirty conditions endured by hens living in cages on farms that supplied eggs to major UK supermarkets. Dead hens were seen lying on soiled floors surrounded by eggs in

what campaigners called the “terrible reality” behind caged egg production. A far cry from the high welfare maintained by so many of our free-range farmers.

Many of our supermarket chains claim they are committed to creating products that have been produced to the highest standards. They may claim that fresh, frozen and prepared poultry products are produced from livestock reared to strict standards of animal welfare.

We are encouraged to believe that schemes such as Red Tractor, RSPCA Assured and the Supermarket’s own stringent standards means we can enjoy our food knowing we can trust where it’s come from. There is strong evidence to dispute this.

Around 38 million commercial egg laying hens were kept in the UK in 2017 and the proportion of eggs produced in the different systems was:

- 48% of eggs produced in battery cages;
- 1% in barn systems;
- 51% in free-range systems (of which 2% were organic systems);

The RSPCA state that *“Consumers are buying more boxes of free range and barn eggs, but a large proportion of eggs used as ingredients in products like mayonnaise, cakes and sandwiches are still from hens kept in cages”*. If the welfare of these chickens is important to you, check the food labels on products which contain eggs and especially if the product is manufactured outside of the EU.

In October 2017 The Guardian Newspaper printed an article claiming that Factory farming is *“shrouded in mythology”*. The article claimed that one of the myths is that factory farming is an efficient way of producing food and that the protagonists will say (another myth the author claimed) that this type of production can be good for the welfare of the animals - *“After all if the hen’s weren’t happy they wouldn’t lay eggs”*.

Are The Welfare Standards Improving

The simple answer is no. Whatever claims some supermarkets have made, in March 2018 footage emerged which showed the horrific conditions endured by 500,000 chickens supplying eggs for the UK’s largest egg producer. The Independent Newspaper showed footage of *“...chickens in cages stacked seven high and locked in sheds”*. Dr Toni Shephard, the UK director of Animal Equality, said: *“The pitiless practice of locking hens inside crowded cages inevitably leads to the frail, featherless birds and high mortality that we found on this farm. But the failure to even check on these poor, helpless hens once a day - as the law requires - shows complete disregard for them as living, feeling animals with fundamental needs.”*

One major and local supermarket selling eggs supplied by this producer currently describes the product *“Our eggs are produced to meet consistent high quality standards. Rapid packing and distribution combine to deliver to you a Big, Fresh and Tasty egg”*. Is this statement misleading? Does it paint a picture of the severity of the suffering? Dr Toni Shepherd continued *“The images will be shocking to people, to see just how crowded those cages are and how severely the animals suffer from feather loss and the number of dead animals. For me, it’s the scale of the operation that is so shocking”*.

I was taught that if we are provided with a sufficiency of information we are better enabled to make an informed choice. I don’t pretend to know all the facts and figures about factory egg production, but I do know that nothing I have read about enriched or colony cage egg production leads me to believe that the law is being upheld by all. Our examples above demonstrate this. The welfare of all farmed animals is

Based In Hoxne
CMC PRIVATE TAXI HIRE

Tel: 07545 252023

Local – Long distance

Airports – Nightclubs

Up to 8 passengers

Polite, friendly & professional service



SWIMMING LESSONS

Small Group Lessons for Children

Parent & Baby Classes...and much more!

Contact us to book: 01379 740489

treacle@waterliliesswim.co.uk

www.waterliliesswim.co.uk



NATALIE CANNING

The soft furnishing experts

CURTAINS | BLINDS | FABRICS

01379 668170

www.nataliecanning.co.uk

Soil Association Member AG25612



**Anglian Organics
Organic Fruit & Veg**

At Hoxne Village Hall
every Friday
9.30am - 11.30am
& last Saturday of the
month 9.30am - 12.30pm

Delivering to Hoxne &
surrounding areas on
Wednesdays and Fridays

Mobile 07748 156953

anglian.organics@outlook.com

protected by the Animal Welfare Act 2006 which makes it an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any animal. In short it means those responsible for these hens must take positive steps to ensure they care for their animals properly and in particular must provide for the five welfare needs, which include:

- THE NEED for a suitable environment;
- THE NEED for a suitable diet;
- THE NEED to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns;
- THE NEED to be housed, with, or apart from other animals;
- THE NEED to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease;

I choose to eat eggs. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than a couple of softly boiled eggs with bread and butter soldiers; or perhaps a plate of ham, egg and chips followed by a bowl of soft and warm egg and creamy bread and butter pudding.

If you buy from the supermarket look at the labelling and support campaigning which insist that labels show the method of production. The egg boxes must clearly state: 'eggs from caged hens', 'barn eggs' or 'free range'. Unfortunately, other egg products (e.g. liquid egg and eggs as ingredients in other food products) are still not required to be labelled by law and eggs laid by other species of poultry (e.g. ducks, quail or geese) are not required to be labelled either. Source: Compassion in World Farming.

Is There An End To This Suffering

Tesco, Iceland, Morrisons, Asda, Lidl and Aldi have all set a 2025 deadline to allow a transition to cage-free production. Is this all too little and very much too late.

The Choice Is Yours

The Mirror Newspaper 29th December 2011 exclaimed "Britain's last battery

hen' given a new home as caged farming system comes to an end. A chicken described as Britain's 'last battery hen' was given a new home today, marking the end of an era for commercial laying hens, a charity said". "The hen named 'Liberty' will enjoy her retirement with The British Hen Welfare Trust which was set up in 2005". Sadly, this wasn't the end of the suffering, but The BHWT continue in their battle against what can only be termed abominable cruelty.

I urge you to choose eggs produced without cruelty. Buy only genuine free-range and support our local producers and retailers.



On 9th December 2018, 300 ex battery hens were rescued from a farm in Essex by The British Hen Welfare Trust. We adopted these four girls, but very sadly the hen in the front didn't survive. We were warned that the hens were poorly feathered, underweight and dehydrated. We were later told that a higher number than usual had died from this batch.

The BHWT was the winning charity with *Just Giving Awards 2018*. The hens are now thriving and 'Rudi' has swallowed her first worm. More information on The BHWT is available at: www.bhwt.org.uk

Thank you.
Gill O'Connor

St Edmund's Monument

Historic England have recently considered the architectural and historic significance of St Edmund's Monument at Abbey Hill, Hoxne and have agreed it merits being listed at Grade II. This will ensure it now receives the due consideration it deserves from the planning system, such that it can be protected for future generations.

In the listing report, the monument is appraised as acting as a public 'aide memoire' to an historic event, the execution of a monarch which, at the time of its occurrence, may well have been regarded as a moment of immense significance. Like many other monuments of this type, the St Edmund's Monument demonstrates a specific and important aspect of our commemorative traditions, namely the embedded belief in something which was, and continues to be, thought to have occurred but for which there is no firm evidence. In this instance, the person commemorated was both a monarch and a martyr, which adds considerable weight to the claim to special interest for the monument. In addition, it has significance in marking the place where, according to legend, Edmund, King of East Anglia, was bound to a tree and executed by the Danes in AD 870 by a volley of arrows. The monument was erected on the site of a veteran Oak tree, and records the demise of the tree in 1849.

The listing success is due in no small part to the ardent persistence of Gill O'Connor for which we are immensely grateful.

Bones



Mr P C GILBEE M.S.S.Ch M.B.Ch.A

HCPC Registered Chiropodist
Registration Number CH24740

Member of the British
Chiropodist Association

Home visits by appointment
Telephone 01379 740339

R GRITTON

Professional Decorators
High quality, reliable service

**For all your interior and
exterior requirements**

Telephone: 01379 586768
Mobile: 07766 982600

R&J's Taxis

Your Local Taxi Service
Private hire Luxury Taxi Service
Airports, Shopping etc.

Enjoy your night out with our
reliable and courteous service

Competitive Rates

Tel: 07432 255085

or 01379 776000

B.C. GODDARD

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR
PAINTER, DECORATOR
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Call Brian for a free quote on

01379 388174

or mobile

07759 956627

www.bcgoddard.co.uk

Parish Council Reports

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

Denham

The next meeting of the Parish Council - on **Wednesday 30th January** at 7.30pm in the Hoxne Playing Fields Pavilion - should see an opportunity to review our architect's report on the Village Hall and also the quantity surveyor's opinion about the likely cost of renovations.

Our District Councillor, Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, advised the last meeting of the Parish Council in November not to be afraid of the cost; a thriving and well-used Village Hall is an important community asset and it should be possible with the backing of residents to raise the funds to get the work done.

We have also had discussions with Gillian Hilder, who is Communities Officer (Grants) for Mid Suffolk; she has recently visited the Hall, is well aware of what we want to achieve and is in full support of our efforts. Community Action Suffolk, through Jon Eaton, who is a specialist in governance and community buildings, is also closely involved and supportive.

One essential first step will be to set up a charity - technically a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, or CIO - to organise the process, help raise the funds, supervise the works and ultimately run the hall effectively to everyone's benefit. The CIO will need Trustees - local residents with expertise who can devote a bit of time to helping to bring the Hall back to life. Are you a lawyer? Or a builder? Or a surveyor? Or an accountant? You don't have to be any of those things, but if you can bring some knowledge and experience to the table it would be really helpful.

We are more than happy to talk this over without commitment - just contact

the Parish Council through the Clerk any time.

The Parish Council wants to move the Village hall renovations forwards as quickly as possible. The local elections in May will see a new Council in place which hopefully will be able to pick up the reins on a process well under way by that time.

Residents are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and have their say on any matter. If you would like to help with the renovation of the Hall, or to contact the Parish Council about anything, our Clerk, Rod Caird, will be happy to hear from you at denhamparishclerk@gmail.com or on his mobile **07785 331217**.

Hoxne

Planning and Housing Development - The last two Parish Council meetings have attracted a far larger than usual public attendance - and this was mainly due to potential housing development in the village. As statutory consultees on planning applications issued by the Planning Authority (Mid Suffolk District Council), the Parish Council usually has applications to consider at each meeting, whether it be a single storey extension to an existing dwelling, a tree works order or a new build(s).

The serving Councillors are elected and give their time freely to represent your views and the best interests of the village. They are not qualified planners, but as the corporate body are the closest level of government to you and can make decisions with a local knowledge no other democratic body has. Please continue to engage with your Council. Every Council meeting provides you with the opportunity to address the Councillors.

An Illuminated Christmas - Thank you to all the residents around Low Street

Green who provided such a wonderful display at Christmas. The result of your efforts was enjoyed by many. A polite reminder to anyone wishing to host an event on the green - please contact the Parish Council for consent to do so.

Village Spring Clean - This will take place on **Sunday 17th March**. All volunteers should meet at St Edmund's Hall at 10am. Please come along and support the work of the small team who arrive every year to collect litter, wash signs and keep your village tidy. Equipment will be provided, but please bring your own gloves.

Budget - The budget for the 2019/2020 financial year was agreed at the January meeting. There will be no increase in the amount of Precept the parish Council collects via your Council Tax and there is provision in the budget for the new village sign, projects such as a Housing Needs Survey and for grant payments to be made to village organisations as well as meeting all the statutory charges the Parish Council is duty bound to.

Meetings - The next meetings will be **Thursday 31st January** and **Thursday 7th March** at St Edmund's Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Syleham

The Council called an extraordinary meeting on 19th December to discuss the Walnut Tree Farm planning application (DC/18/05358). Given the very short notice it was amazing that 25 residents attended the meeting to register their concern.

We would like to thank to thank all those individuals and groups who backed the Council's report to MSDC Planning and submitted their own reasons for opposing the development. The Parish Council requested a public committee review if MSDC Planning Department approved this application.

At the same meeting the Council discussed the work to take place at the Essex and Suffolk water treatment plant on Wingfield Road. It will almost double the size of the plant primarily to service the needs of the new chicken processing plant being built on Eye Airfield. It was agreed to contact the Water Company and seek compensation for the inconvenience that villagers will experience in using Wingfield Road to access the A143 during the best part of 2019.

We hope to have positive feedback on both issues by our next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday 6th March** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wingfield

The Council held its eighth and final meeting of 2018 on 30th November. It was also the longest recorded in the last 5 years. This is a short summary.

Our District Councillor, Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, gave a report on developments. This included an update on the expansion of Eye Airfield housing and industrial infrastructure, changes to the A140 and the impending building of a new service station and McDonalds at the roundabout junction of the A140/A143. Urbanisation is getting closer to our rural way of life!

Elizabeth also reported that the Castle Farm planning application, last reviewed

by the Parish Council in January 2016, was being resubmitted to MSDC's planning department.

The Parish Council's own agenda started with a restatement of council protocol: *"All future disputes, questions and correspondence can only be addressed at official PC meetings with the full knowledge of all councillors. This will avoid any confusion or upset caused by ad hoc responses."*

The planned WWI Memorial planting on Wingfield Green has not gone ahead because of opposition from grazing rights holders and neighbouring residents. An alternative commemoration is awaiting a decision by Suffolk County Council to reinstate the footpath along the western side of the Green. The main work of topping and clearing, however, has been completed with the help of MSDC grant aid.

The precept (budget) for 2019/20 will be kept at this year's level of £4,905.

Three planning applications were reviewed: New 4 bed house in Earsham Street (DC/18/01684); conversion of workshop/warehouse into single home building site on Top Road (DC/1804297) and two story extension and cart lodge in Church Road (DC/18/04794). The first two were recommended with caveats and the third required a site visit before a response could be made.

Finally, complaints were made about the delay in publishing council minutes in due time and keeping the website (wingfield-pc.org.uk) up to date. A problem caused in part by our web guru and past chairman, Mike Allmey, moving out of the village. This matter has been addressed and we hope all Wingfield residents will keep themselves informed by visiting the site.

Our next meeting takes place on **Friday 15th March** at 7.30pm in Wingfield Barns.

Simply Beautiful by Anne

*Weddings, Bridesmaids, Ball Gowns,
Curtains, Cushions, Alterations
and much more*

Free Estimates Given

Magnolia House, Wilby Rd, Stradbroke

Tel: 01379 384097

Mob: 07944 894757

The Lunch Bunch Visits...

On a bright but wet late winter morning, the lunch bunch headed back to a village we have visited before. Fressingfield is a lovely village benefiting from two shops, a medical centre and three “lively churches” according to the village website, as well as the Fox & Goose restaurant we visited a few months back and this lovely country pub, The Swan Inn.

The Swan Inn is well known to our group for its fabulous Sunday carveries for just £12.95 (booking advisable), but today we were sampling their normal lunch menu which consists of all the very best items



you would expect on a pub menu. We opted for the Beer Battered Cod and chips, everyone’s favourite Spurgeons Sausage and Mash and from the specials board the delicious sounding Steak.

All the food arrived, piping hot and smelling delicious. We were offered sauces and then left to tuck in! It was all perfectly prepared and as ordered. The steak cooked to perfection and melted in the mouth. The sausages were hot and tasty, the mash smooth, the gravy thick. The boat sized piece of fish was covered in a crisp, not oily batter and the chips, crisp on the outside and fluffy in the middle, just like they should be!

The Swan Inn
Harleston Road, Fressingfield
IP21 5PE Tel. 01379 586280
www.fressingfieldswan.co.uk

Having devoured our first course, we tempted fate and looked in the chiller cabinet at the freshly made desserts. The trifle looked better than my grannies (but I suspect it had a bit less alcohol) there was cheese cake and what turned out to be an amazingly decadent peanut and chocolate slice which was served with cream or Ice-cream! It was like a delicious chocolate biscuit and cream Snickers bar (or Marathon bar for the older reader), but nicer!

They also serve the traditional hot puddings like Spotted Dick and Custard or Apple and Blackberry Crumble if that is your choice. Also available is another firm favourite of the Lunch Bunch the Alburgh Ice cream range. Two or three scoops of any of the flavour would suitably end most meals, I suspect I have a tub of vanilla and honeycomb in my own freezer!

There are one or two vegetarian meals on the menu, but as everything is freshly cooked to order and the staff happy and helpful, I’m sure almost anything could be removed or added for that matter to make the meals suitable for anyone. Just mention when booking if you have any allergies or special requirement and I’m sure they would try to cater for you.

Our main meals started at £9.95 and desserts from £3.95. All in all, a very nice meal in a very homely and welcoming pub.

The Lunch Bunch





Oil, Gas & LPG Boiler Servicing & Repairs

Boiler Installations
Powerflushing

A PROFESSIONAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE
FREE ESTIMATES & FULLY INSURED



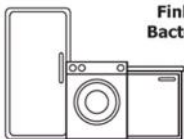
Call JULIAN. 07944 983662 / 01379 855266
E-mail: JJBoilerman@gmail.com



Doug Aiken part of

DK Appliances Ltd

Domestic Appliance Repairs,
Sales of New and Reconditioned Machines



Finbows Yard, Station Road,
Bacton, Stowmarket IP14 4NH

Telephone:
01449 780398

Home | Tech | Tutor

PC Tablet Smartphone



Queries? Problems? Just keen to learn?

In your home or on the phone

Steve

07872 634815

hometechtutor1@gmail.com

35 Years in Customer Services Hoxne Based



**A Warm Welcome Awaits You At
The Good The Bad & The Hungry Café**

Situated Within GWC Equestrian Centre
Wingfield, Overlooking Stunning Countryside

All Day Breakfast - Homemade Cakes & Scones -
Cream Teas - Pre-Booked Afternoon Teas - Gluten
Free Option - Specials - Cycle/Motor Cycle & Dog
Friendly - Perfect Walking Stop - Great Value - Fresh
Coffees - Everything Available To Take Away - Ample
Parking - Disabled Access - Baby Changing Facilities

01379 388 193

@GoodBHCafe

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm Sun 10am-4pm

Vicarage Road Wingfield IP21 5RB



WE DELIVER

TUE-FRI 9-5
SAT 9:30-4:30
SUN 10-4

POTTERS

ANIMAL FEED & SUPPLIES

From Big To Small We Do It All

PET & ANIMAL FEED
BEDDING & SUPPLIES
POULTRY PRODUCTS
POINT OF LAY CHICKENS
Softener Salt & Much More

www.pottersfeedstore.com

01379 384 801

Formerly
Potters of Weybread
THE ONE STOP POULTRY SHOP



A Word from Wingfield

Miss B Whitby and Comfort for Troops in WW1

The second and concluding part of our guest *Word from Wingfield* by Dr Tim Caulton, nephew of Tommy Gee, on the charitable work of Tommy's mother.

Part Two

Beatrice's private archive in the Imperial War Museum is explored in some detail in an article by Polly Russell in the *Financial Times* on 27 November 2015. The article describes how: "On November 30 1914 Miss B Whitby sent a letter headed '*Christmas Fund*' to Private Pownall, a British prisoner of war being held in Germany. She wrote '*I am desired by the Committee to forward you a box containing the following: 2lb plum pudding; 1lb Cad block choc; 1 pr mittens; 1 pr laces; 1 tin dubbin; 10 postcards with lead pencils; 1 tin peppermint; 1 tablet soap; 1 packet caramels; 1 tin Boracic ointment; 1 tin Vaseline.*' Her letter, now part of the IWM archive, implored Private Pownall '*to kindly reply at once. We are anxious to know whether you receive this parcel; if you do, it is our intention to send one box containing the same goods to every Nottinghamshire prisoner in Germany.*'"

As Polly Russell notes: "On civvy street in 1914, plum pudding and chocolates would have been standard Christmas fare, but for soldiers far from home they were a weapon to wield against despair, sent as reminders the 'the people of the City and County of Nottingham' had not forgotten them. A fundraising drive for Comforts for Troops had been publicised in the Nottingham Guardian on 16 November 1914. Readers were encouraged to donate 'one shilling and upwards'. Within a day the paper had listed 100 donors.

According to a typed account of the charity's business, 5,000 parcels were dispatched from the fund in less than a fortnight.

Every year of the war, Comforts for the Troops provided Christmas packages. Contents varied slightly - between 1915 and 1916 plum cake was substituted for plum pudding and butterscotch was added - but a mix of the practical (laces) and the pleasurable (caramels) remained constant. Thankful recipients wrote to Miss Whitby, sending Christmas cards from the trenches and POW camps. In 1915 Walter Lewerny wrote 'Heartiest Xmas and New Year's Wishes' on a card from Ruhleben camp (west of Berlin) with a photograph of a bleak row of huts surrounded by barbed wire.; on another, sent from Dyrotz camp in Brandenburg, a cartoon shows a man in a prison bed dreaming of plum pudding, turkey and wine."

On 24 May 1918, the Nottingham Evening Post wrote that: "No city in Great Britain has more generously and promptly cared for its prisoners of war than Nottingham. Between 1915 and 1917, inclusive, the Comforts for Troops Fund has sent out over 40,000 parcels to men in Nottinghamshire regiments who have had the misfortune to be interned in Germany, and the numbers have recently been at least 600. Until a month ago, six parcels were sent each month to 450 men, and a special effort is called for to meet the increased demands. That takes practical form in to-morrow's flag day, and the citizens are to be asked to double their customary contributions to an eminently deserving cause.

Her Grace the Duchess Portland has consented to sell emblems outside the Victoria Station, and at the Midland Miss Beatrice Whitby, the indefatigable hon. secretary, will be assisted by Nottingham's gallant V.C., Pte. Caffray, who is home on leave, and Pte. Farrow, happily returned home after 3½ years in German prison camps. The flag day is being organised by

Mr. A. Jepson, assisted by Mr. Seely Whitby. The collecting stations in various parts of the city will be closed at six o'clock, and the workers there after will concentrate in a raid on the Market-place. The Nottingham Orchestral Society have arranged a concert in the Arboretum on Sunday afternoon for the same fund."

Two former Sherwood Forester prisoners, Walter Farrow and Harry Matthews, who had been repatriated due to ill health, were interviewed about their experiences in the Nottingham Evening Post on 28 May 1918, recalled on the Small Town, Great War: Hucknall 1914-1918 website:

"IN HUNLAND PRISONS. SHERWOOD FORESTERS' GRIM EXPERIENCES. THE TRIALS OF NOTTINGHAM MEN.

Nottingham men, not yet wholly recovered their grim life as prisoners in Germany, but happily revived by their return home, took an enthusiastic share in the recent flag day for the Prisoners of War Comforts Fund. Both the gallant fellows – Private W. Farrow and Private H. Matthews – wear the badge of the Sherwood Foresters and both, in conversation with a Guardian representative, spoke terms of unstinted gratitude for the parcels which the city of Nottingham, through its Comforts Fund, has since the first year of the war systematically sent, month by month, to those of its sons who have been fated to endure the hardships of enforced confinement in German camps.

'The Nottingham parcels,' said Farrow, 'are absolutely the best sent into Germany. We had six per month, and I am glad to say that they came to us regularly and untouched. Whatever else the Huns did – and we had some terrible experiences – they at least delivered the parcels, and I cannot tell you what the boys thought of them. Whenever they arrived, the boys said, "Here's another one from Auntie", as we always spoke of Miss Beatrice Whitby, and I was never more

surprised in my life when I went to the Comforts Office, on reaching home, and found, not the venerable lady we had always imagined her to be, but a young and tireless friend of Nottingham's sons. Everyone in the camps that we were in gave pride of place to our parcels, and it has been a real pleasure to us to have a chance to work for the fund to-day."

Polly Russell (op. cit.) noted that at the war's end, the officer commanding the South Notts Hussars depot wrote to Miss Whitby to commend her and her helpers for their efforts. 'If you had seen how much these gifts were appreciated, it would have, to some extent, repaid you for all the strenuous work and long hours you devoted to this cause during the four and half years of war.'

Beatrice met my grandfather Thomas Gee (a disabled WW1 veteran) when Gee's Pork Butchers of Radford Road, Nottingham replaced Wagner's as suppliers of sausages to Armitage's (because of the association between the name Wagner and Germany). They married in April 1923, and had four children and nine grandchildren. Beatrice and Tom retired from the Radford Road shop to Ruddington in the 1950s, where she lived until her death in 1977.

My mother Alice Caulton (née Gee) was Beatrice's eldest child. We displayed many of the embroidered postcards sent from POWs on the walls of our family home in Sherwood. We also had an illuminated manuscript given in gratitude by the Sherwood Foresters to my grandmother after the war, and this now proudly hangs at my current family home.

© Dr Tim Caulton

Beatrice - wearing her MBE - and Tom on their wedding day in 1923



Illuminated manuscript presented to Beatrice Whitby





GroundsCare & Landscaping

Do you own horses? We specialise in maintaining all aspects of paddock & equestrian management for quality grazing, our services include:

- Topping / Flailing
- Weed control
- Harrowing
- Reseeding
- Aerating / Slitting
- Hedge / Tree cutting

Barry Wilton

07958 568467

01379 669253

barry@excitesolutions.net



SCOTT REGAN
CHIMNEY SWEEPING

Professional, clean & qualified service

- Industry standard certificate issued with every sweep
- Brush & HEPA filtered vacuum • Power sweeping
- Chimney cowl fitted • Tar removal from chimney
- Full public liability insurance

Tel: 01379 678881

Mob: 07962 207846 / 07740 008456

Email: info@scottreganchimneysweeping.co.uk

www.scottreganchimneysweeping.co.uk



SCOTT REGAN
WINDOW CLEANING

- All domestic & commercial windows cleaned
- Inside and outside cleans available • Builders first cleans
- Solar panels cleaned • Fascias, soffits & gutters cleaned
- Conservatory roofs cleaned
- Patio & driveway cleaning also undertaken
- Full public liability insurance

Tel: 01379 678881 Mob: 07962 207846 / 07740 008456

Email: info@scottreganwindowcleaning.co.uk

www.scottreganwindowcleaning.co.uk



Professional Servicing & Repairs.
Class 4 & 7 MOT Centre.



Diagnostics on Engine management, ABS, Air-bag, Climate control & Body modules.



Body shop & Accident repair centre.
Recognised by most insurance companies.



24hr Recovery & Roadside Assistance.



Fully Equipped HGV bays for service & repair.
Periodic maintenance checks & Test prep.
Horse boxes & Race transporters Welcome.

Cowhams
Car
&
Commercial

Fressingfield

IP21 5QT

01379 388 999

Please visit our website
www.cowhams.co.uk
to view our full list of
services.



Cowhams
Van Hire



Van & Truck Rental At Very Competitive Prices

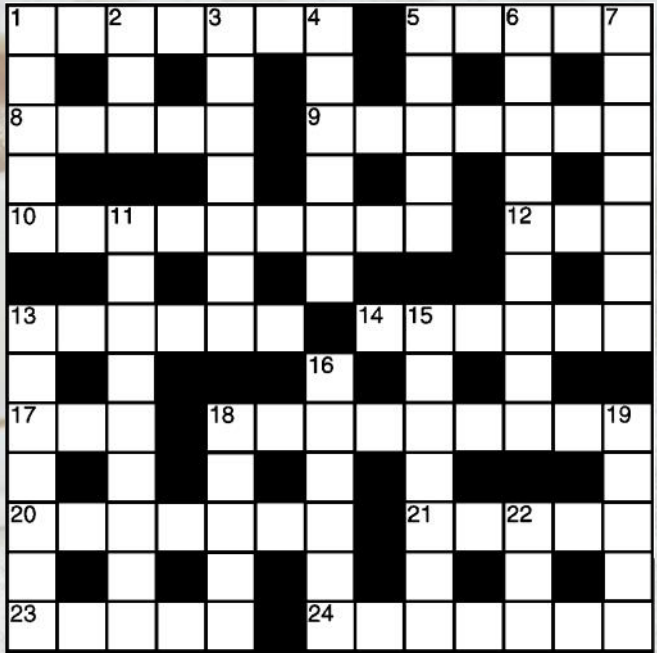


Crossword

Puzzle No. 128

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 **Friday 8th March** latest.

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



Across

- 1 Rodent from Oldham, sterling and elsewhere (7)
- 5 Gnashers found on a cog (5)
- 8 Roots twisted round body part (5)
- 9 Little Virginia preceded US general to become a hobo (7)
- 10 An idle skeleton (9)
- 12 Lyric poem in modern literature (3)
- 13 Blossom or a river (6)
- 14 Run aground in a London thoroughfare (6)
- 17 Fuss coming from toreador (3)
- 18 Known as a syrup to a cockney (9)
- 20 Sailing ship moving at quite a rate (7)
- 21 Coffee shop on the Spanish coast (5)
- 23 Eccentric little Dorothy (5)
- 24 Dependent on a three wheeler (7)

Down

- 1 Phonetically speaking somewhere to stay (5)
- 2 Impair a creature in reverse (3)
- 3 Blue rot causing bother (7)
- 4 Rave in a canyon maybe (6)
- 5 Assorted goats provide garments (5)
- 6 Expand on something ornamental (9)
- 7 Fevered brow of an impetuous person (7)
- 11 David Attenborough or Gerald Durrell (9)
- 13 Flabby calf joined Cid (7)
- 15 Up-to-date optical illusion (7)
- 16 Reflect upon a daily paper (6)
- 18 A couple of pages in the grass make one content (5)
- 19 Former part of a play - precisely (5)
- 22 Belgian health resort (3)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 127 was: Sandra Theobald, Harleston
Answers: Across 7) Keeper 8) Counts 10) Lapwing 11) Never 12) Ewer 13) Coped
 17) Relay 18) Silo 22) Abuse 23) Cranium 24) At Play 25) Berlin
Down 11) Skilled 2) Temples 3) Begin 4) Counsel 5) Knave 6) Usurp 9) Ignorance
 14) Several 15) Risible 16) Dormant 19) Kayak 20) Bumps 21) Cameo

Hoxne Post Office, Shop, Deli, Tea Rooms and B&B

Low Street, Hoxne

Tel: 01379 668254

Shop, Deli and Tea Rooms

Opening hours:

Everyday 07:30 to 17:30 (except Christmas Day)

Visit your local village shop where you will find a full range of provisions including groceries, newspapers, tobacco, fresh produce, free range eggs, bread and our **off-licence**.

Dry cleaning is available too.

Post Office Counter hours remain the same for now:

Monday, Tuesday	09:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:30
Wednesday	09:00 to 13:00
Thursday, Friday	09:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:30
Saturday	09:00 to 12:30
Sunday, Bank Holidays	Closed

Waveney Tree Specialists

Your local tree surgeons, based in Hoxne

We specialise in:

- Tree surgery and felling
- Reshaping and pruning
- Disease and storm damage
- Stump removal
- 20m hoist and operator for hire

Fully qualified, certificated and insured.

For free estimates please call Joan or Alan Garnham

01379 668636 or 07990 801388

waveneytrees@btconnect.com

www.waveneytrees.com

**UK
Champion**

EDITOR

Richard Whiting, Waveney Lodge, Hoxne Road,
Oakley, Diss IP21 4AS

Tel: 01379 669111

E-mail: vvsuffolk@live.co.uk

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

ADVERTISING

If you would like to place an advertisement,
let us know and we will contact you.

ADVERTISING CO-ORDINATOR

Dawn Lodge, 5 Cross Street,
Hoxne, Eye IP21 5AJ

Tel: 01379 668521

E-mail: dlodge@talktalk.net

DISTRIBUTION

Sally Dudley and teams of distributors in each village.