

Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

DECEMBER 2019 - JANUARY 2020



Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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CChair
V-C Vice Chair
CW Church Warden

Diary Dates

Friday 29th November

Wingfield Parish Council Meeting WB p40

Weekends, 30th November - 22nd December

Hoxne Christmas Tree Sales p8

Saturday 30th November

Produce and Craft Market HVH P11

Sunday 1st December

Martin Simpson WB p12

Thursday 5th December

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HVH p39

Sunday 8th December

Denham Christmas Get Together p8

Tuesday 10th December

Phoenix Group - Christmas Workshop HVH p 29

Wednesday 11th December

Wreath Making Workshop WB p12

Christmas Carols, Red Feather Club p20

Friday 13th December

Film Night - Yesterday HVH P11

Purple Star Christmas Karaoke SWH p15

Fressingfield Scouts Gang Show, Hartismere p27

Saturday 14th December

Produce and Craft Market HVH P11

Sunday 15th December

Wingfield Carols by Candlelight p20

Sunday 15th - Thursday 26th December

Christmas Tree Display, Hoxne Church P8

Tuesday 17th December

Brief History of Christmas WB p13

Christmas Carol Service, Hoxne Church p20

Wednesday 18th December

Hoxne School Carol Service p20

Wingfield Community Carols p20

Thursday 19th December

Craft Group SWH p15

Syleham Carol Singing p8

Hoxne Garden Club Meal HVH p26

Friday 20th December

Social Club SWH p15

Saturday 21st December

Coffee Morning, Hoxne Church p26

Sunday 22nd December

Christmas with Amici, Syleham Church p20

Christmas Carol Service, Denham Church p20

Tuesday 24th December

Social Club SWH p15

Friday 27th December

Bingo SWH p15

Tuesday 31st December

New Year's Eve Disco SWH p15



Wednesday 1st & Friday 3rd January

Social Club SWH p15

Friday 3rd - Monday 13th January

Christmas Tree Recycling HVH p7

Thursday 9th January

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HVH p39

Friday 10th January

Film Night HVH p11

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Senior Citizen's Meal SWH p15

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Wednesday 15th January

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Thursday 16th January

Craft Group SWH p15

Hoxne Garden Club HVH p26

Friday 17th January

Quiz Evening SWH p15

Saturday 18th January

Introduction to Screen Printing WB p13

Coffee Morning, Hoxne Church p26

Friday 24th January

Wingfield Parish Council Meeting WB p40

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Produce and Craft Market HVH P11

Thursday 30th January

Wingfield & District Gardening Club BVH p27

Friday 14th February

Film Night HVH p11

Friday 21st February

Danny Fisher, Hoxne Church p26

For Church Services and events, see p20 - 22

For Mobile Library, see p45

BVH Brundish Village Hall

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

Letters to the Editor

MACMILLAN COFFEE

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning in September. We made £810 and with gift aid it will be over £900. It was an amazing result. Thank you all so much.

Carmel, Terri and Anne

HARVEST BREAKFAST

Once again we had lovely weather for the Hoxne Harvest Breakfast. Only, on one occasion in the last forty three years have we been forced to retreat to the Village Hall!

Everything ran like clockwork, thanks to our amazing helpers on the day, and in the weeks prior. Spacemen cleared the tables helped by “Manuel” who entertained everyone whilst they ate.

Later in the morning he produced balloon creations for the children. The morning ended with the Harvest Hymns and, last of all, the infamous raffle!

A profit of £614 was made, which was divided equally between the Village Hall and Playing Fields.

Thank you for all the help and supporting us again. See you next year.

Carole and Alan Smith

BRAKEY WOOD

With regard to the plans by Hoxne Parish Council to celebrate 20 years of Brakey Wood next August, I think it is ironic that they have to ask the permission of the Woodland Trust to do so. I wonder how many Hoxne residents know that the parish does not own the wood, and has no partnership or control whatsoever in its management; this is despite many residents having donated £18,000 all

those years ago to provide the trees to create it.

In April 2012, the Parish Council agreed to pursue these monies on the basis that Hoxne would have ownership of the wood. Nothing was done. Three years later the Chairman expressed the fact that he was puzzled deeply by this state of affairs and agreed to contact the Woodland Trust. Once again nothing was achieved. Time to ask the residents of Hoxne what they think perhaps?

Chris Johnson, Hoxne

HALLOWEEN COLLECTION

Once again I thank the residents living round Low St Green, patrons at the Swan and visiting parents with their young Ghosts & Ghoulies. A collection of £60 was made and passed onto Cancer Research UK. Once again I thank you for your generosity.

Skeletor



Notice Board

HOXNE TREE PLEA

Does anyone have a large Christmas tree in their garden that they would like removed for use on Hoxne village green? We would take it down free of charge. It needs to be about 20 - 25ft tall and in good shape.

Joan Garnham, Waveney Trees
01379 668636
waveneytrees@btconnect.com

PARK RADIO CORRESPONDENT

Fancy becoming a Park Radio village correspondent? If you live in one of the many villages and rural hamlets across the Waveney Valley and would like to have your input and represent your local communities and tell us what is going on there - then we want to hear from you! Get in touch with Park Radio soon! We look forward to putting your village on the map!

studio@parkradio.co.uk
01379 210000

MORRISONS' PLASTIC RECYCLING

Plastics that cannot be recycled through your household bins can be recycled at Morrisons supermarket in Diss. These include: Carrier bags, Bread bags, Cereal bags and inner cereal bags, Wrappers and ring joiners from multipack cans and bottles, Wrappers from toilet roll and kitchen towel packs, Freezer bags, Magazine and newspaper wrap (type used for home delivery only), Thin bags used for fruit and veg at supermarkets, Bubble wrap, Low-density polyethylene (LDPE) - resin ID code 4. There's some things they can't accept: any Non-polythene film (e.g. PP, PVC), Cling film, Food and drink pouches, Crisp packets (donate these to Fressingfield Scouts, see page 27), Film lids from ready meals and food trays.



What's On This Fall

Sunday Roast Dinner

From 12 noon till 4pm.

Fish & Seafood Special Menu

Friday & Saturday we have a variety of different fish & shellfish dishes that change weekly.

Quiz Night

Every Wednesday at 7pm with half time nibbles.

Christmas Fayre Menu

Available throughout December until the 22nd December. Tables must be booked in advance. £25pp with a minimum of 4 people.

Christmas Day Dinner

Traditional Christmas Dinner £75pp and open for drinks from 12 noon.

Annual Boxing Day Tug of War

On Boxing Day we have a traditional buffet for £8.95pp after the village annual tug of war.

More information can be found on our Facebook page "The Swan Inn Of Hoxne" and on our website.

Daytime menu 12 noon till 2.30pm.

Winter menu is available

Monday to Saturday 6pm till 9pm.

Tel: - 01379 668275

www.theswaninnofoxne.co.uk

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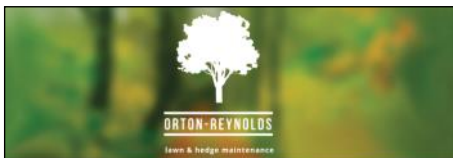
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35 Years in Customer Services Hoxne Based

recycle

Your Christmas trees
at

Hoxne Village Hall
car park



'Real' trees can be left at this site from 7am on Friday 3rd January, until 6.30am on Monday 13th January.

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

Please call 01449 724829 for further details



Hello to all the children of Hoxne

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



I have filed a flight plan with the Airways Authority and expect Rudolf to land the sleigh in **Denham Road** about **6am**. This means we will reach **Nuttery Vale** about **7am** and **Low Street** about **8am**. Just in case we get lost(!), can you make sure all presents are marked with full name, address and telephone number.

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

*Lots of love and cheer,
Father Christmas*

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. No.



What's On Here

Christmas Tree Sales

Take the stress out of buying a tree, reduce your carbon footprint and support the Hoxne Playing Fields by buying a tree locally. Once again trees and wreaths will be on sale in Market House Drive, Low Street, Hoxne on weekends of **30th November/1st December, 7th & 8th, 14th & 15th and 21st & 22nd December** - 10am to 12 noon.

Nordman Fir and Norway spruce will be available. Trees can be **pre-ordered** by telephoning Carole Smith **01379 668210**.

Thank you for your support last year when £1300 was raised for the Playing Fields. Looking forward to seeing you again this Christmas!

Carole and Alan Smith

Syleham Carol Singing

Would you like to join us carol singing? Or would you like us to sing carols for you? We want to organise village carol singing for charity, once again, on **Thursday 19th December**. If you would like to sing, please let us know **01379 669320** and come and join us at The White House Farmhouse, Whitehouse Lane, Syleham, between 6pm and 6.30pm for a glass of wine and something to eat before we set off. If you would like us to come and sing carols to you, please give us a ring. Last year we had a good evening and raised £450. So why not come and join us or ask us to sing? We always like to welcome new people, so do get in touch; always happy to go as far as Wingfield or Weybread! In the letter of thanks that we received last year from the East Anglian Children's Hospice, they said: *"Your support is invaluable, as it enables us to continue delivering care to local families."*

Jane and Adrian Knott

Denham Community Council
Cordially Invites You to Our

DENHAM CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

Sunday 8th December
4:30pm to 8:30pm

Rose Cottage, Denham Road
IP21 5DB

For mince pies, mulled wine/tea
or coffee and the chance to chat
with your neighbours!



Christmas Tree Display

At St Peter & St Paul
with St Edmund Church, Hoxne

Display Illuminated:

15th - 26th December

11am - 4pm

and to **6.30pm** on Christmas Eve

Refreshments Available



& Church Services:



Village Carol Service

Tuesday 17th December 7pm

School Carol Service

Wednesday 18th December 6pm

Christmas Day Service

Wednesday 25th December 11.15am

SING FOR WATER

Janet Koralambe, Village Voices & Crossing the Border

would like to say

Thank you to all who
supported
our efforts for Water Aid
the
Grand Total
raised was

£1940.00



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Hoxne Village Hall

October saw the Hall used for the sixth wedding celebration of 2019! Receptions / parties have ranged from the bride and groom walking down from Hoxne Church, to another couple who were married on a Greek Island and then celebrated in the Hall a few weeks later. At each reception the Hall has been decorated superbly. Some pictures are below - more on our website www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk



For this type of event we provide a fully stocked bar, manned by a team of excellent local volunteers. All profits from the bar go to the Hall, helping towards running costs and in keeping hire prices down. If you would like to find out about

holding an event at the Hall, please either email Sharon or Sally hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com or call 07876 215269.

Film Nights

Bar opens 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm with interval. Ice creams and popcorn available. Tickets in advance on 01379 668060 or from Hoxne Tea Rooms and Deli.

Friday 13th December - Yesterday (12) Romantic comedy directed by Danny Boyle and written by Richard Curtis.

Jack Malik is a struggling singer-songwriter in an English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading. After a freak bus accident Jack wakes up to discover that *The Beatles* have never existed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history, to a world that has never heard them, Jack becomes an overnight sensation with a little help from his agent. This highly rated film is set locally with scenes filmed all around Suffolk including Gorleston, Halesworth, Dunwich, Shingle Street, Latitude Festival and also has Ed Sheeran making a screen debut in a supporting role.



2020 Films - At time of going to print the list for next season's films has not yet been received. Look out for posters / flyers before the January Film which will be on **Friday 10th January**. Other dates **14th February** and **13th March**.

Produce and Craft Market & Café
Saturdays monthly, 9.30am - 12.30pm.
Dates - **30th November, 14th December, 25th January, 29th February and 28th March.**

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Dates - **30th November, 14th December, 25th January, 29th February and 28th March.**

Polling Station

The hall has been booked for use on **Thursday 12th December.**

Garden Club Christmas Meal

Thursday 19th December - Contact Julie Coop 01379 668781 for details.

Bottle Bank, Newspaper and Clothes Bank in the Hall Car Park

As most of you probably know we are a recycling point for bottles at the Hall and also newspapers and magazines. Funds from this go to the upkeep of the Hall so all empties and papers gratefully received!

There is also a clothes bank. Please, please, **do not** leave items next to this as recently some lovely toys were left and got wet. If you have items that cannot go in the clothes receptacle consider taking them to local Charity Shops - there is a Home-Start one in Eye now.

Recycling of Christmas Trees

Maybe a bit early to consider what you will do with your tree once Christmas has gone and the needles are dropping! However, for the last two years the Hall car park has been a collection point and will be again this year. See page 7 for more details and look out for signs after Christmas.

Your Hall Committee wish you a very Happy Christmas and prosperous 2020. For contact details of the various organisations that use the Hall please visit: www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk

Wingfield Barns

Martin Simpson

Sunday 1st December, 7.30pm. The remarkable intimate solo performances Martin gives go from strength to strength - every gig is a masterclass. He travels the length and breadth of the UK and

beyond, giving rapt audiences passion, sorrow, love, beauty, tragedy and majesty through his playing.

"What's it like being the best guitar player in the world...?" Martin's modesty and grace prevented him from answering this BBC Radio 4 interviewer's question recently, but the facts speak for themselves.

40 years after he recorded his first album, Golden Vanity, in 1976, Martin is known as a guitarist of formidable talent. Equally at home playing English traditional folk, American folk and blues and his own compositions, he is consistently named as one of the very finest fingerstyle guitar players in the world. Tickets £16.



Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Wednesday 11th December, 10.30am to 1.30pm. Enjoy a relaxing morning with Gabi from Gabriel's Garden and create a natural moss based wreath full of festive



berries, dried flowers, seasonal foliage, and seed heads. Perfect to adorn your door this Christmas or to use as a beautiful candle filled table centre.

All materials will be provided, but feel free to bring bits from your garden to add that personal touch. Please bring secateurs or scissors and an apron. £45 - coffee and cake provided.

A Brief History of Christmas

Tuesday 17th December, 7.30pm. 600 Years of Yuletide Songs, Carols, Tunes and Tales.

Acclaimed musicians GreenMatthews (with special guest Jude Rees of Pilgrims' Way) present a festive romp through 600 years of Christmas music, songs and carols.

Beginning in the Middle Ages and ending in the 20th century, 'A Brief History of Christmas' is a whistle-stop tour of the origins of our midwinter festivities. Featuring long-forgotten songs and tales as well as some familiar and well-loved carols, 'A Brief History of Christmas' is a show guaranteed to delight the hearts of young and old.



The show takes in 600 years of music - featuring music and songs played on archaic instruments such as cittern, shawm and rauschpfeife, as well as more familiar instruments such as guitar, flute, oboe and accordion - all helped along by GreenMatthews' trademark wit and humour.

'A Brief History of Christmas' is the perfect show for anyone looking to recapture the simple Yuletide delights of fellowship, laughter and good cheer. Tickets £12.

Village Voice

An Introduction to Screen Printing

Saturday 18th January, 1pm to 4pm.

This course is designed to give beginners an introduction to screen printing using cut and torn paper stencils printing onto paper and fabric. You will be making colourful, experimental and unique pieces of work.

All materials will be provided - please bring an apron. £25 - coffee and cake provided.

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**

Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

The Free craft sessions delivered by Suffolk Artlink which have been enjoyed by several people, have finished - for now.

We have had great fun with origami, singing, photography, mosaic and playing ukulele, with numbers attending soaring by the last session. Look at what was achieved by someone new to digital photography!





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careuk.com/hartismere-place



There is a possibility that some extra sessions will be organised for 2020, look out for information in the New Year.

We do have a regular but informal craft group at the hall which meets on the **third Thursday** of the month from 1.30pm to 4pm. The hall is always warm and welcoming. Bring your own knitting, sewing, crochet or, like me, no craft at all! It's all just an excuse for a tea, coffee and a get together!

The last date for 2019 is **Thursday 19th December**, then it's **Thursday 16th January**. Carrie from Suffolk Artlink is hoping to join us on one of these dates to discuss their further possible session dates.

Events

Friday 13th December, 8pm - Purple Star Karaoke Christmas Party. Bar open, free entry.

Friday 20th & Tuesday 24th December, 8pm - open as usual.

Friday 27th December, 8pm - open as usual, plus Bingo.

Tuesday 31st December, 8pm 'til late. New Year's Eve Disco, burger van, bar open. Tickets available from village hall



bar, Viv **07884 075003** or Dick **07711 610938**.

Wednesday 1st & Friday 3rd January, 8pm - open as usual.

Saturday 11th January - Senior Citizen's meal for Syleham and Wingfield residents, by invitation, please get in touch if you are of mature years, but haven't received an invitation and would like to attend.

Friday 17th January - Quiz Evening. 7.30pm for 8pm start, teams of 4, fiver each person to include refreshments, bar open, raffle, in aid of hall funds.

Advance Notice

Saturday 21st March - Marc James.

Thursday 2nd April - Eastern Angles theatre.

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

*Julie Thompson, text 07929 794636
juliethompson435@gmail.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*

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.

Door to Door Dial-a-Ride

Covering 61 parishes in south Norfolk and north Suffolk. See our website: www.borderhoppa.org

Group Hires

Available for not for profit organisations.

Members Outings

Borderhoppa has lots going on for our members. The outings are very popular, so early booking is advised. Call or email

adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com to confirm space availability. Outings are individually priced.

December

Thu 5th, Bury St. Edmunds, Fare £15.00;

Thu 12th, The Range, Norwich & lunch at The Village Inn, Fare £15.00;

Mon 16th, Pantomime - Peter Pan, Bury St Edmunds, £30 includes entrance fee and fare;

Thu 19th, Christmas Lunch - Join us for our yearly Borderhoppa Xmas Lunch - Venue and price TBC.

January

Wed 22nd, Lunch at The White Horse, Stoke Ash, Fare £7.00

What's On There

Christmas Tree Festival

All Saints Church, Stoke Ash, will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival on the following dates: **Saturday 30th November** from 10am to 4pm, **Sunday 1st December** from 11am to 4pm, **Saturday 7th December** from 10am



to 3pm which will be followed by Christmas Carol Songs of Praise at 4pm. Refreshments will be available and the Christmas Grand Drawer

will take place at 1pm. All monies raised on the day will go towards the upkeep of the church.

1620: A New World Odyssey

Bringing the Mayflower story to life. Come and find out how you can get involved in a new community play and living history project for 2020.

Wednesday 4th December, 7.30pm at the Swan Hotel, Harleston.

Inviting anyone interested in singing, performing, helping with costumes, props, backstage or front of house, researching local history, or with publicity. Just turn up or contact Eileen Ryan anyoldryan@gmail.com or Nicky Stainton nmstainton@gmail.com

Harleston and District U3A

The end of the year is always a busy time for Harleston U3A. As well as the general seasonal celebration which is held instead of the usual monthly meeting, most of the interest groups organise a "jolly" of their own. The Ukulele band is, also, in demand to add to the festive spirit of other local groups.

The social side of U3A is an essential part of the organisation. The committee recently held a coffee morning in the

Swift Bar of the Swan Hotel in order to properly welcome new members, give them any information required and find out what their expectations are of membership.

Apart from December, our meetings are held on the **third Wednesday** of the month at St John's church at 2pm. To find out more, contact Kim on **01986 788 149** or visit our website at:

u3asites.org.uk/Harleston

The Italian Job

With the generous sponsorship of a member of the Masonic Lodge, Harleston Cinema is offering something completely different this month - the original version of the iconic British film, *The Italian Job* (PG), first released in 1969. It is regarded as the greatest Brit-flick crime caper comedy of all time, and Michael Caine's glorious line "*You were only supposed to blow the bloody doors off!*" has gone down in movie history.

A misfit team of crooks assembled by ex-con Charlie Croker (Michael Caine) and financed by crime lord, Mr Bridger (Noel Coward) have a devious plan to steal gold bullion in the traffic-choked streets of Turin, using the occasion of an England/Italy football match as cover for the heist.

Michael Caine and Noel Coward's performances are supported with small but priceless cameos from Irene Handl and John Le Mesurier. But *The Italian Job's* real stars are the three Mini Coopers - patriotically decorated red, white and blue - that run rings round



every other vehicle in the immortal car-chase sequence which preserves forever the British love affair with the little car.

It's an unashamedly jingoistic film which sums up the joie de vivre of the 1960s so perfectly that future historians need only look here to see why the decade was swinging. A "must see" - or joyful revisit.

Thursday 12th December, 2pm for the matinee and at 7.30pm. Harleston Masonic Rooms, Redenhall Road. Tickets £4 - reserve them at HIP, Exchange Street **01379 851917**.

In honour of the film's Italian setting, Chianti will be available at the bar, and you can enjoy an interval slice of pizza and some Italian ice cream for £2.50 per head.

Further information from Lesley **01379 854897** or Carolyn **01379 854752**.

Christmas Concert & Spring Term

Harleston Choral Society's Christmas concert is on **Saturday 14th December** at 7.30 pm, in St John's Church, Harleston. The choir and soloists will be singing Chilcott's Twelve Days of Christmas and Vaughan Williams' The First Nowell. There will also be carols, some with audience participation. Tickets £10.00, accompanied children free. Come and join us for a feast of Christmas music!

Our Spring Term will begin on **Monday 13th January** at 7pm (for collection of subs; 7.30pm - 9.30pm on subsequent Mondays). We'll be rehearsing for our Summer Concert - *Songs and Cries* - on 27th June. Choir practices are held in The Church at London Road, almost opposite The Original Factory Shop (TOFS), where there is free car-parking. We're a friendly, non-audition community choir, music is provided free, and when possible we provide practice CDs for a small charge (free to new choir

members). We welcome all singers, whether or not they have sung in choirs before, and whether or not they are able to read music - though this does help! Subs are currently £40.00 per term (some concessions are available) and we perform two concerts a year in St John's Church, Harleston, usually with professional singers and a small orchestra. Further very comprehensive information is on the HCS website www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk or contact the HCS Chair Stella Brownsea at heidihouse@btinternet.com or just drop in on a Monday evening and see for yourselves what's going on.

Peter Pan

Ever since Peter Pan first flew in through Wendy Darling's nursery window and took her off to Never Land, Barrie's classic adventure story has thrilled and delighted theatre-goers.

Join Harleston Players this January on a magical adventure to Never Land in J.M Barrie's classic tale Peter Pan. This version of the play was lovingly and painstakingly researched and restored by John Caird and Trevor Nunn, to Barrie's original intentions, for the National Theatre.

With a combined cast drawing on talent from both the adult and youth companies, this production, directed by Joe Edwards-Gill (Oliver, Moonlight and Magnolias) will delight audiences of all ages.

Performances at Archbishop Sancroft High School on **Friday 24th January**, 7.30pm; **Saturday 25th January**, matinee 2.30pm and 7.30pm; **Friday 31st January**, 7.30pm; **Saturday 1st February**, matinee 2.30pm and 7.30 pm. Tickets available from 17th December, priced £10 and £8 cons/child. From Robinson's Traditional Stationers, 5 The Thoroughfare, Harleston **01379 855027** or online: www.harlestonplayers.co.uk



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Reflections

Fingerprints

The end of the year has with it certain predictable events. One of them is that television, newspapers and magazines are full of reviews of the year - various lists of the moments that made the most impact.

Another one is word of the year. And yes, another predictable event is Christmas! Perhaps it is inevitable that as my time here draws to a close I've been reflecting upon past events. The long dark evenings of the season encourage such introspection and assessment in all of us.

What has happened? What was our part in it? What is left? I remember

listening to a vicar, who on arriving in their new parish had looked around and announced that they couldn't see the fingerprints of their predecessor anywhere; suggesting that they hadn't left their mark. In the Christmas story God doesn't leave great big fingerprints; instead the divine becomes humane in the meekest, gentlest manner of a baby rather than with a great show of strength.

Nonetheless, Christians are convinced that in Jesus there is the most overt fingerprint of God that was ever left; if only we chose (like the shepherds and wide men) to look for it.

The Greek word *charaktēr* is unlikely to have ever featured as word of the year, and it only occurs once in the whole of the New Testament, in a passage that we regularly hear at Christmas.

The opening verses of the book of Hebrews where it speaks of Jesus as being that exact imprint of God. It means engraving, or exact mould, copy - like a fingerprint. Baby's fingerprints rarely make it into a review of the year, but perhaps we should all pay more attention to the little things of God in our lives.

Michael Womack
hoxnebenefice@gmail.com
01379 388889

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Church services

Denham, Hoxne, Syleham and Wingfield

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

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

Sunday 1st December

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion
11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion
4pm Benefice Messy Church, Syleham

Wednesday 11th December

7.30pm Red Feather Club, Coldhams Hill,
Denham - Carols around the Flag Pole

Sunday 15th December

10am Syleham Advent Praise
11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion
4pm Wingfield Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 17th December

7pm Hoxne Carol Service

Wednesday 18th December

6pm Hoxne School Carol Service
6.30pm Wingfield Community Carols

Sunday 22nd December

11.15am Hoxne Holy Communion
11.15am Syleham Christmas with Amici
3pm Denham Carol Service

Monday 23rd December

2.30pm Carols at the Depper

Tuesday 24th December, Christmas Eve

4pm Wingfield 'Crib' Service

Wednesday 25th December, Christmas Day

9.30am Syleham BCP Communion
11.15 Hoxne Family Communion
11.15 Wingfield Family Communion

Sunday 29th December

11.15am Benefice Communion, Denham

Sunday 5th January

8.30am Hoxne BCP Communion
11.15am Wingfield Holy Communion
4pm Benefice Messy Christingle, Syleham

Sunday 12th January

11.15am Hoxne Café Church

Sunday 19th January

10am Syleham Village Praise
11.15 Hoxne Holy Communion

Sunday 26th January

9.30am Syleham BCP Holy Communion
11.15 Denham Holy Communion
11.15 Hoxne BCP Mattins
6.30pm Benefice Christingle, Wingfield

Church News

St John, Denham

Firstly thank you very much to the riders and striders and sponsors who together made such a brilliant contribution to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust on 14th September. Bicyclists first took to the road in 1982 to raise funds for their local churches and this year participants included walkers and also veteran car drivers.

At the time writing, our Remembrance Service on 10th November will commemorate the eight men from the village who lost their lives in the First World War and Gordon Hammond who died during the Second World War.

Sunday 22nd December at 3pm sees the Christmas Carol Service followed by mulled wine, cheese straws and mince pies. While on **Sunday 29th December** at 11.15 am the Benefice Communion Service will be here at Denham.

Hilary Castleden

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

The 'St Edmund Screen', carved by the renowned Victorian, Harry Hems, is magnificent at the archway in front of the Maynard memorial. The screen is carved with intricate detail, both within and without, displaying flora, fauna and fabulous beasts, and surmounted with the martyrdom of St Edmund.

The Portland stone steps inside the memorial area have also been repaired making them safe to use.

The long awaited 'tea point' is completed, with rise and fall hinges to the heavy lid. The North Aisle is now a more versatile space within the church as needs require.

There will be a Christmas Tree display from **15th to 26th December** (see page 8) supported by many village 'organisations'. Please come and enjoy this and take some time to look at the screen which has lain so long under dust sheets.



Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mother's Union meets on the **third Monday** of the month at 2.30pm at Time House Low Street Hoxne. New members are always welcome.

16th December - Branch meeting with Christmas celebrations.

20th January - Annual General Meeting.

The I-Chameleon shop in Halesworth at the end of October raised £1334.79. We will decide which projects to direct these funds to at our November North Suffolk meeting. Thank you to all who supported this venture in any way.

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

Flower rota

December: Advent Candle, Cathie McGregor; **15th to 26th December:**

Christmas Tree Display; **5th and 12th January:** Altar, Cathie McGregor; **19th and 26th January:** Altar, Suzanne Lewis;

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

St Margaret, Syleham

Thank you!

- To all who attended the dedication of J's memorial on 13th October. The service went very well and was skilfully led by the Bishop of Dunwich. It was attended by about 80 people, many of whom lingered to chat over refreshments after the service. Our grateful thanks to our volunteer organist, Colin Hamilton from Brundish, who has also supported us throughout the year. Do come and view the new stone tablet, made by the stonemasons Spencer Wix. It mirrors the one to the memory of J's parents.
- To supporters of our harvest supper on 19th October. Food and fun was up to the usual standard and we made £705 for church funds. We are most grateful to all who came or contributed food.



- To the congregation at the baptism of Dorothy Barker on 20th October: as it was also harvest festival, we shared the

collection with the deprived in our diocese's partner diocese in Tanzania, and were able to send away £181.50. It was lovely to have so many young children at the service - and they did a wonderful job of scoffing the refreshments afterwards!



Remembrance Sunday

We now have a fuller service than the short Act of Remembrance we used to have; this year, we included remembrance of the crew of the Lancaster bomber which crashed in Syleham during WW11, killing all on board. The service was led by Revd John McCracken and Nina Weaver from Horham kindly accompanied us on the organ.

Advent Praise

Sunday 15th December - By special request, our service at 10am will be an Advent Praise, with well-loved Advent hymns. Do come!

Carol Service

Sunday 22nd December - Amici will again be joining us for our traditional service of carols and readings at 11.15am. The church is usually full for this popular event!



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

St Andrew, Wingfield

We are very grateful to all who helped organise Wingfield's Harvest Supper on 12th October and for the 54 who came and made it such a convivial occasion, as well as raising over £700 for church funds. This money is much needed because St Andrew's, ever since it was first built, has been a large building for a small village to maintain.

The Church Architect reports that repairs are needed to the tower and the south corner of the building next to the porch, as well as to the floor under the pews. In total we need to raise over £100,000. The Heritage Lottery Fund turned down our initial application for funding to carry out these works, but we will be submitting a revised application, and the more matched funding that we can raise to demonstrate local commitment to the building, the better.

Any offers of help with fund-raising by anyone in the village would be most welcome. St Andrew's Church has been at the centre of Wingfield life for over 650 years and we are keen to preserve it for future generations, so that it can continue to provide a welcome and support to all who live here or visit.

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Obituary

Winifred (Winnie) Margaret Joan Chambers

21st May 1930 – October 5th 2019

The funeral service for Winnie was held at the Church of St Peter and St Paul Hoxne on Tuesday 22nd October with the Rev. Michael Womack officiating.

Winnie passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family at Cartref, Hoxne where she had lived for the last 33 years.

She was born in Chelmsford the youngest of six surviving children. The family moved to Hoxne during the 1930s when their Fathers work took them to Suffolk. They settled in Mulberry Cottage and as a youngster, Winnie had various jobs, one of them being a milk maid at the local milking parlour. From then onwards she became devoted to the outdoor life and her love of caring for animals.

In the early 1950s Winnie met Gerald Chambers and they were married in 1953. They initially settled at Mustard Pot Farm in Eye, later moving to Home Farm Hoxne and Winnie soon took up the mantle of a farmer's wife.

The family began to grow with the arrival of Geraldine, closely followed by Yvonne, Pamela and a little later Jennifer.

Life at Home Farm was very busy for the family and there was not much that Winnie couldn't turn her hand to. Driving tractors, feeding cattle and chickens, hoeing sugar beet and bringing in the harvest, but somehow she always made time for a hearty meal on the table which was always so important to her.

Sadly Gerald passed away all too soon in 1985 and Winnie eventually moved to her bungalow at Goldbrook where she very quickly re-established the family home. Life was still busy with Grandchildren, family holidays in her caravan at Minsmere, country and western dancing and freshwater fishing. During this chapter of her life she met Mick, who was to become her partner until the end.

In later years despite declining health, she continued to show an active interest in her garden and with the addition of Great Grandchildren life was never dull. One of her final pleasures was to relax and watch her favourite wild life programmes or pick up a good book with a cuppa laced with whisky.

The Family would like to thank all those who supported the collection for St Elizabeth Hospice Ipswich.

Yvonne Hyde



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A Taste of Scotland for the Festive Season

“Nollaig chridheil agus bliadhna mhath ur”

Why choose a culinary break in Scotland? No other nation in the world celebrates the New Year with quite as much revelry as Scotland does, and it's hardly surprising that the celebration that engulfs the country is legendary the world over. Why not try these Scottish influenced recipes over the festive period.

Het Pint

“...it was uncanny and would certainly have felt very uncomfortable, not to welcome the New Year in the midst of his family, and a few old friends, with the immemorial libation of a het pint”

Sir Walter Scott

Het Pint was carried through the streets at Hogmanay, in large copper kettles, known as toddy kettles, several hours before midnight. Ingredients:

4 pints mild ale
1tsp grated nutmeg
4oz granulated sugar
3 eggs
½pt whisky

Put the ale into a heavy based saucepan, add the nutmeg and bring to just below boiling point. Do not boil. Stir in the sugar until dissolved. Remove pan from the heat. Beat the eggs well and add them gradually stirring all the time so that it doesn't curdle. Add the whisky and re heat. Pour the hot liquid from the saucepan into warmed tankards, back and forth until it becomes clear and sparkling.

Salmon Niçoise salad with a whisky and honey dressing

Based on Loch Duart Salmon Company recipe. This is so very tasty and can be prepared in advance and presented and dressed just before serving. Great way to feed a crowd.

Lay a salmon fillet per person on a baking sheet and to each fillet, add a splash of whisky, a tsp of honey and a sprinkling of salt and pepper. Baste the fillets and bake in a preheated oven for 15 minutes at approx. 180C /3rd shelf Aga roasting oven. Remove and cool.

To make the dressing, in a large lidded jam jar, add 1 squashed clove of garlic, 2 tsp of both Dijon mustard and whisky, 1 tsp honey, 7 tbs Olive oil, 1 tbs balsamic vinegar, 2 tbs white wine vinegar and salt and pepper. Put on the lid and shake vigorously. Leftover dressing keeps well in the fridge.

Serve with cooled boiled new potatoes, cherry tomatoes and hard boiled eggs all halved; French beans cooked al dente, refreshed in cold water and drained;





Thinly sliced radishes, kalamata olives, pea shoots, soft lettuce and anchovies in olive oil, drained; Arrange on a large platter with the salmon fillets whole or broken into smaller pieces. Just before serving, drizzle over the dressing.

Clottie Dumpling

A Scottish spiced pudding studded with dried fruits closely associated with Christmas and Hogmanay. Wrapped in a cloth and simmered in water for a lengthy period. It is a giant steamed dumpling. A Clout is a cloth i.e. old pillow case that can be washed and re-used. This is one of many recipes:

- 500g plain flour
- 200g beef suet
- 250g of castor sugar
- 500g mixed dried fruit
- 3 tsp ground mixed spice
- 3 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1 Bramley apple, peeled and grated
- 3 tbsps black treacle
- 100ml whole milk
- extra plain flour for dusting

Bring a very large lidded pot of water to the boil. In a large bowl combine the dry ingredients. In another, mix together the eggs, milk, black treacle and apple. Thoroughly combine the wet and dry mixture and form into a round dumpling. Wet your clout and wring out any excess moisture. Spread out the clout and

generously dust all over with plain flour. Place the dumpling in the middle of the clout, draw up the sides, leaving it slightly baggy as the pudding will expand. Tie with string as tightly as possible. Put the lid on and keep on a low simmer for 4 hours. Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C /gas 4/Aga simmering oven. Tip the pudding into a colander to drain and then carefully peel off the clout. Place the pudding on an ovenproof dish and bake for 15 mins to dry off. It will become darker and produce a crust. Serve sliced with custard, cream or ice cream and a dram of whisky if you like.

And finally, another sweet treat or two...

Scottish Tablet

I used James Morton's recipe at Graham's Family Dairy. Tip: after removing the saucepan from the heat, beat for 15 minutes with a hand held electric mixer then quickly pour into a lined Swiss roll tin. Once cool, set in the fridge.

grahamsfamilydairy.com

Candied Orange Peel

Courtesy of Mrs Portly, aka Linda Duffin who asked me to note that she based this recipe on an original by Mary Cadogan at BBC Good Food. mrsportlyskitchen.com

Enjoy, and a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.

Gill O'Connor
gillocon@btinternet.com

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Our trustees, John Lawrie, Polly Potter, Gill O'Connor, Amanda Jones and Michel Henri meet 4 times a year and the next meeting is in January 2020. If you think we may be able to help you please contact us.

As a charity, The Maynard Educational Trust is funded from investments and donations. If you would like to support this Trust we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact:

*Gill O'Connor
gillocon@btinternet
Old Thatch, Goldbrook
Hoxne IP21 5AN*

Friends of St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Since our last report we are very pleased to say that the kitchen or server as some call it, is now up and running thanks to Andrew Castleden who solved the problem of the very heavy lid!

After the Harvest Lunch, which was a great success, we then had our quiz and we raised just over £600. Our thanks go to Sharon, Michael and Jenny for arranging the event.

Our next event is an evening with Danny Fisher in the church on **Friday 21st February**. He provides a program of 50s and 60s hits - there will also be cheese and wine after the show.

We are very pleased to announce that we have co-opted three new members on to our committee: Debbie & Rob Hooker and Caroline Abbot. We look forward to working with them to raise more for the preservation of our church.

Do not forget the display of Christmas trees in the church from **Sunday 15th December** (see page 8) and on that note a very happy Christmas to everyone from the Friends.

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, 9.45am to 11.15am. Once again our thanks to all who support us.

*John Brawn, 01379 668352
Chair of the Friends committee*

Hoxne Garden and Social Club

We are now well into Autumn which is admittedly not my favourite season of the year. It is getting colder with fewer daylight hours to spend in the garden, and the luxuriant growth of summer has long gone making for a sorry sight as the frost cuts down the tender plants that were tended to so carefully only a few weeks back. Autumn however is also a season of fruits, vegetables and golden colours as the leaves turn on the trees, when we often spend more time indoors either attempting those jobs that we should have done in the summer, or just relaxing.

For members of Hoxne Garden and Social Club there are regular talks on a wide variety of subjects. So, in September we had a talk on the work of

the British Hen Welfare Trust and indeed on how to look after chickens. I did not realise that keeping chickens could be so complex or demanding (I will just stick to eating the eggs). In October, the Club was given, along with Hoxne Heritage Group members, a talk on feeding Britain in the Second World War with an emphasis on how it was undertaken locally, with mention of the Women's Land Army and the National Farm Survey. Did you know that in Suffolk alone, 100 farmers lost the right to farm their land because of incompetence? Times were certainly tough. After the talk the audience was 'treated' to food made from war time recipes such as Woolton Pie, sweet Potato Cakes and a slice of The National Loaf spread with margarine - Yum!

In November we are having a wine tasting session courtesy of the owners of Shawsgate Vineyard who will also be taking orders for Christmas delivery. In December, it is our Christmas party when at the village hall we will be entertained by The Suffolk Harbour Lights, a local folk band. The bar will be open and hopefully there will be plenty of food.

If anybody wants to join the club, or just come along for a taster session we meet on the **third Thursday** of the month at 7.30pm at the village hall. Further information can be obtained from our Membership Secretary Julie Coop, just email: juliecoop@hotmail.co.uk

Chris Parkin

Wingfield & District Gardening Club

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 30th January** at 7.30pm in Brundish Village Hall. Ian Limmer from Beales Roses will be talking on pruning of all types of Roses. For further information, contact Priscilla Williamson, email: priscillaawilliamson@gmail.com

01379 388034

Fressingfield Scouts

October was a busy month for the Group. Explorers visited Scaresville at Kentwell Hall for a Halloween "Fright Night". Pioneer Scouts camped at Hoxne, completed a 5 mile navigation exercise, built shelters and in some cases were brave enough to sleep in them, and cooked for themselves on fires and stoves. Tiger Cubs and Adventurers Scouts both camped at Winterton on Sea for a windy weekend of camping, hikes, exploring, beach games, seal watching and boat trips. Beavers went on a sleepover at the Sealife Centre in Great Yarmouth and both Cub Packs attended a very wet activity day at Eaton Vale Activity Centre in Norwich. There are plenty of pictures on our Facebook page.

During November we will all be focussing on the Gang Show at Hartismere High School on **Friday 13th December**, every section will provide a performance with the Explorers showing off their Pantomime. There will be mulled wine, mince pies and a raffle, entry is free with a retiring bucket collection, please come if you fancy a night out.

Leaders will shortly be running short sessions to get ideas from the Young People for activities then working these ideas into the programme for the Spring term.

Our empty crisp packet collection initiative is building well, thank you to all of you who have started bringing their empty packets to our collection point in Fressingfield shop. It is working really well and it is nice for the Scouts to feel supported by their village. A big thank you to the shop too for their support.

We now also have a collection point in the Community Centre in Stradbroke.

Please pass the word. Thank you.
Michael Knights, Daganya Farm, Nuttery
Vale is still a collection point for Hoxne.

We have a fund raising calendar with
local seasonal views, available for a
donation of £5. Available from any
Leader, the Gang Show or Hoxne Produce
and Craft Market in December.

www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk

Hoxne Bell Ringers

Regular practises have continued at
Bacton on Wednesdays and Oakley
on Fridays and the band are
striking very nicely on occasions. We
were able to ring for 9:30 Oakley Holy
Communion service recently.



Oakley service band members

This is, of course, is why the bells were
originally installed in our churches and it
is very nice be able ring for Oakley as they
have been so generous in allowing us to
use and learn to ring on their bells.



Oakley Church

Hoxne church PCC continues researching
the bell restoration plan and the changes
that will derive from that. A small
subcommittee has been formed to



Oakley Bells hung in a 1958 steel frame

examine the implications, options and
costs of these and will report back after
further consultations have taken place.
We are meeting the church architect
latter this month to get his opinions on
the various schemes. We have visited
several other churches who have either
done bell restorations or are in the
process of doing them to get ideas and
hopefully avoid pitfalls.

Andrew Nicholson of Nicholson
Engineering has visited the church. He
measured and assessed our present
installation and will produce a report and
a quotation shortly. He is a man of great
experience whose company have done
some very satisfactory bell restorations in
Suffolk so we await his report with
particular interest.

The band is now ready to have some
more starters so if you like the idea of
bell ringing please contact the writer.

Andrew Castleden

01379 668458 or 07931 725928

fal@castleden.co.uk

Hoxne Heritage Group

Since the outstandingly successful
WW2 exhibition held in September
the group members have been
having a well-earned rest. However,
plans are already underway for the next,
and now final, stage of the series of WW2
exhibitions to be held in 2020.

The group also joined forces with the
Garden and Social club to present an

event relating to rationing and food during the war. A report of this will be submitted separately.

Our next major event for members is the Christmas celebration to be held at the Fox and Goose, Fressingfield.

Why not make your New Year resolution to join us - it's educational, sociable and fun! Happy Christmas from us all.

www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxne Phoenix Group

To update our Fund-raising evening in September - we have now handed over a cheque for the grand sum of £605.00 to the Dove Dementia Group in Diss (an increase in the initial figure given in the last issue of Village Voice). This was due to donations received subsequently. A wonderful amount which will pay for a music tutor for the best part of 12 months.

In October we welcomed Martyn Taylor, a local tour guide in Bury St Edmunds, who gave us an illustrated talk on the grim details of events and spooky happenings in the 1800s in the Town. With the aid of a projector, we were shown pictures of many buildings where these events took place, including the Angel Hotel which had a secret tunnel between the Gatehouse and inside the Hotel. It was surprising how many buildings, although updated, are still recognisable.

Unfortunately our November meeting falls after the final date for this magazine so a report on our talk from a representative of Beales Nurseries on 'Roses and Beautiful Bulbs' will appear in the next issue. On **Tuesday 10th December** we are having a practical 'Christmas Workshop' evening led by one of our own members - Lin Saunders.

We now have a full programme of talks and activities for 2020 - thanks to Jenny;

so anyone reading this and are thinking of 'giving us a go' can come for a visit - **second Tuesday** of each month at 7.30pm in Hoxne Village Hall. It doesn't matter which surrounding Village you live in - its not just for Hoxne! All we ask is for a Visitor Fee of £2 to cover tea/coffee and biscuits. Meanwhile, a Happy and Peaceful Christmas to all our members and readers of this magazine.

Pat Green, Hon. Secretary
01379 668379

patandbryan1@gmail.com

New Reeding Woods Group

On a bright but cool November afternoon we went for a walk in the wood. The weather this year, the warm spring followed by rain and the hot summer has resulted in a bountiful autumn and the wood looked amazing. I remember the land before it was even fenced and personally planted many of the saplings when they were inches tall, now we have a wood!

The original plan was to plant British native broad-leaved trees so the majority of the planting was of the familiar oak, ash, beech, hornbeam, sycamore and willow. However hidden amongst them are a few more unusual specimens which come into their own with their autumn fruits.



Medlar (*Mespilus germanica*)



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Up near the meadow beside the seat is a Medlar tree, in early summer this tree is resplendent with white blossom but by autumn it's fruits which are yellow-brown with a deep hollow at the end surrounded by withered sepals remain on the tree. The fruit is "bletted," that is allowed to over-ripen, then the flesh softens and starts to rot, and then can be used to make jelly.



Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*)

The Spindle tree is inconspicuous for most of the year but in the autumn it displays dark red leaves and pinkish red four lobed fruits with orange coloured seeds within. The wood of this tree has in the past been used for making spindles but now makes high-quality charcoal for artists. The wild service tree is one of the rarest of Britain's native trees, it resembles the maple in leaf shape and autumn colouring. The bark peels off in rectangular strips producing a chequered effect. The creamy white blossom of early summer give rise to rounded gritty fruit in clusters with a light leathery brown speckled skin. Sold in south-eastern England as Chequers Berries, they were eaten as a cure for colic and dysentery. Along with the hips and berries of the more common trees in the woodland Pound Lane wood looks amazing in its autumn colours, enjoy it now.

This is a community woodland owned by all the residents of Denham, Horham

and Athelington, everyone is welcome to join the group and/or take part in our activities. For information about events, see the notice board on the meadow at the wood, and to join the group please contact our Secretary Peny Conway on **01379 870165**.

St Edmund's School

It has been a very busy term here at St Edmund's and all the pupils have been getting ready for Christmas. Oak class have done some amazing work this term around harvest and the changes to the season that autumn brings. As part of their art and literacy work, pupils have created salt dough imprints of leaves and painted these in some beautiful autumn colours before creating a poem about their work.



During November Oak class had some visitors come into the school to talk about what will be involved during their Residential trip to Ringsfield Hall. All the children were engaged and excited

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to be taking part. While at Ringsfield Hall they gained the knowledge and experience to help inspire care for the planet and all its life forms, using imaginative programmes including drama, art and storytelling.

As a school we try to take part in as many activities within the village as we can and were lucky enough to be involved with the bowls club last term which is something we hope to continue in the summer months. In November on St Edmund's Day the children from St Edmund's School were invited to attend an unveiling of the new village sign and our school council participated in this event. The Children were very proud to take part along with spending the day learning the history behind St Edmund and our village.

Oak and Acorn class have started to prepare for our Christmas Nativity: A miracle in town! Which is being performed to pupils and parents in early December with our wonderful Hoxne School Association providing food and drinks for the evening performance. This has been a great activity for the children to get into the festive spirit and includes a number of key learning activities that are part of the national curriculum.

The School is starting to look very festive with our Christmas Display going up on the walls and a Christmas tree donated from the Hoxne School Association that children will help to make decorations for and hang upon the tree. KS2 will be organising a Christmas fair and making lots of items for parents and visitors to purchase to help the school raise funds.

As we near the end of December the school will take part in a Christmas carol in the village that is being organised by some members of the village and choir. It would be lovely to see parents take part in this event, more details will be available from the school closer to the time.

It is that time of year again that is very important for our youngest pupils. Suffolk County Council need to be notified of the choice of school you wish your child to attend. If you have a child born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you must apply for a Reception Year place at a primary or infant school by Wednesday 15 January 2020. Please visit the Suffolk website for more information.

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Alfred William Tye

[1903-1982]

Farrier 15th/19th Kings Hussars / Sergeant Hoxne Home Guard

Alfred William Tye was the eldest son of William Alfred Tye [1878-1964] and his wife Alice White [1884-1944]. He was brought up in Hoxne by his grandmother Jane Tye [nee Larter] and after leaving school aged 14 he worked with horses at Thorpe Hall Farm with Caleb Last and in 1922 travelled to Norwich to join the army.

Alfred joined the 15th/19th The Kings Hussars a cavalry regiment and was trained in horsemanship and learnt the trade of farrier. He served with his regiment in India and Egypt looking after the Polo team horses. Alfred was also

gained veterinary training at Rasilpur, India before returning to England in 1934.

In 1930 he had married Olive Maud Gilman [1903-1996] of Hoxne and from 1935 worked for the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company as a driver/mechanic. Alfred taught boys to box at St Edmunds Hall and had been a boxing champion in the army.

During the 2nd World War he was a Sergeant in the Hoxne Home Guard. They used the sandpit at Saffron Pan Lane for training with rifles and Oakley Park for other exercises. The church tower was used for reconnaissance and had a phone installed for communications. They also had patrols guarding roads into the village at night time.

One incident I remember my grandfather telling me about was that on parade in St Edmunds Hall when Jimmy Rock fired a bullet into the roof of the hall. Another incident was when Billy Keeble coming home late from Oakley Green Man with his horse and cart, didn't stop so Alfred fired a round over his head.

The photo of the Hoxne and Denham Home Guard in the Apr-May Village Voice issue has a few faces I can recognise - my grandfather sits in the front row next to William A Banham.

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Parish Council Reports

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

Denham

The so-called “scoping” inquiries for large-scale chicken processing plants in Southolt and Horham have been withdrawn. It’s not known exactly why, and of course that does not mean that future plans and proposals will never surface - but for the moment at least there is no imminent likelihood of these plans going forward.

Parish Councillors from many local villages including Denham have played a significant part in coming together to express collective opposition to the plans. A collective voice will always be heard more distinctly than individual comments, and great work has been done by many people on this campaign.

Efforts are continuing to try to make sure that the next version of Mid Suffolk’s Local Plan, currently being drafted, takes proper account of local views about future large scale industrial farming projects in the area.

These proposals can’t be allowed to happen piecemeal and without consideration of their long-term effect on the character of the countryside. Future long-term planning policies should take account of industrial projects as well as housing. The villages which came together over the chicken shed plans are also collaborating on urging Mid Suffolk to develop a coherent plan for the future.

Meanwhile on another note, Denham volunteers have been working hard to restore the telephone box on Hoxne Road, so that it can be put to good use looking smart. And on the same road it is hoped Highways will soon approve the installation of posts for a Speed Indicator

Device, which should help to discourage excessive speeding in that area.

Active discussions are now in hand with Mid Suffolk and other sources about funding for the restoration of the Village Hall.

Residents are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings and have their say on any matter. The next meeting is on **Wednesday 20th November** in the Church - followed by **Wednesday 15th January**.

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



Hoxne

Village News - We were delighted to unveil the new village sign on Low Street Green on 20th November (St Edmund’s



Day). Many thanks to all those who made this possible. If you would like to hold an event on Low Street Green please contact the Parish Council to ensure permissions and

insurances are in place. Further details are on the website.

Local Housing Needs Survey - In February, every household in Hoxne will receive a housing needs survey to complete. This survey will provide us with evidence to determine the type of housing required to support our local

needs, not only today, but over the next few years.

If there is any housing development in the village, we need to ensure we have the correct types of dwellings so that young people can stay or move back to Hoxne and downsizing options are also available as necessary. You may think you have no current needs, but this may change, or you may have relatives wanting to move into the village sometime in the future, needing low cost housing. The Parish Council would encourage every household in the village to take the time to complete and return their questionnaire. The more responses we get, the stronger the evidence base will be.

Planning - At the time of going to print, the planning authority (Mid Suffolk District Council) has granted planning permission for the conversion/replacement of agricultural buildings to form five dwellings at Corner Farm, Green Street. At the November meeting of the Parish Council, it was agreed to recommend to the planning authority refusal of the application to build five dwellings on the former Goldbrook Nursery site.

The Parish Council has begun work on the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the village but needs you to get involved. If you would like to join the Working Group please contact the Clerk. We will shortly be gathering your views on what is good, what is bad and what would you change about Hoxne. Please give this some thought.

Councillor Vacancy - There is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council. It is envisaged a co-option will take place at the January meeting to fill this position.

Budget - The budget for the 2020/2021 financial year will be agreed at the January meeting. Your ideas on how the Parish Council should support the village and what facilities you would like to see are always welcome.

Meetings - The Parish Council next meets on **Thursday 5th December** and **Thursday 9th January** at St Edmund's Hall. Both commence at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Syleham

The Council met for the last time this year on 6th November. The meeting began with discussion about the footpaths in the village and the need to ensure all signage, gates and stiles are in good repair. Over the winter the council will conduct a survey and notify the authorities about any remedial work required.

In the Joint Local Plan, the District Council's strategy for development in Mid Suffolk until 2036, Syleham retains its status as a hamlet/countryside with all its commensurate protection against development outside the existing building line.

Two planning applications for extensions at Hill Cottage, Hoxne Road and Castle Farm Cottage, Weybread Road, lay within this permitted building zone and therefore were passed by the Council for approval.

The Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) sign, purchased in partnership with Wingfield Parish Council last year, will be installed in Syleham this Winter. It is intended to raise speed awareness and make the village a safer place.

In September we received permission from the new owners of Monks Hall Estate to build a pathway from the road to J's Meadow to aid access for wheel chairs and buggies. We thank Mr and Mrs Grimes for their prompt and positive approval.

Finally, our thanks to our Chairman, Malcolm Flounders, for installing our new noticeboard that stands at the entrance to the Village Hall. We hope you all like it and use it.

Our next meeting takes place at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 4th March** at the Village Hall.

Wingfield

Since we last reported the Council has met as scheduled in September and in an extraordinary session in October. In September we were graced by both our County and District councillors. County councillor, Guy McGregor, informed us that a road safety report has been commissioned to investigate the accident blackspot on the B1118 at Chickering. District councillor, Lavinia Hadingham, announced that money was available for a defibrillator from her locality fund. This will be in addition to the £250 already donated by Lumipaper Ltd of Mendlesham. A generous contribution made possible by Mr Stewart Robinson of Mill Cottage.

Plans to install this defibrillator at the De La Pole Arms have been put on hold since the future of the pub is now in

question. We must stress, however, that the De La Pole will remain open for business until it is sold. The alternative site is the phone box in Earsham Street. It will require re-establishing power to the box and the Council has requested National Power Networks do the work.

There had been complaints about bonfires. This is the legal situation. A bonfire is not illegal until it becomes a nuisance either because of frequency or noxious fumes, when it becomes the concern of the Environment Agency. Please consider your neighbours before setting light to your next fire.

In October Mr Graham Alldis of the Church Council addressed the Extraordinary Meeting with a report on St Andrews Church. It is in a serious state of disrepair. We encourage all residents to read Graham's article in this issue of Village Voice (see page 22).

May we remind everyone that St Andrews is not just a place of worship. It is an important historical monument as well as a place of celebration and solace that we all may need at some time in our lives. Let us all try to help keep the Church open and safe.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Friday 29th November** and will be held at 7.30pm in Wingfield Barns. In the New Year, the first meeting will be on **Friday 24th January**.

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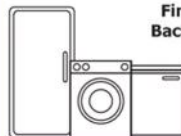
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Police Connect

Members of the public can help reduce burglaries within the local community by being additional “eyes and ears” and ‘See it, Hear it, Report it’. Remember: don’t be shy, the police will take your call seriously and check out the situation. What you see and report may be invaluable, may prevent crime and save lives.

Be on the look-out for any suspicious behaviour in your village or neighbourhood and don’t disregard persons or vehicles that appear unusual or out of place. This could include a suspicious vehicle outside a neighbour’s house or hearing glass smashing nearby. Criminals may present themselves as genuine callers, so if behaviour seems odd, note down the car registration number and/or their description and report it.

By following a few simple steps, you can reduce the chances of becoming a victim of burglary.

1. LOCK

Lock all doors and remove the keys before leaving the house. This limits the amount of escape routes available to burglars.

Keep front doors locked even when you are at home and especially if you are in the back garden.

Close all windows fully before you leave the house, lock downstairs windows and remove the keys.

Use window limiters to allow air in instead of keeping windows fully open, even when you’re at home.

Install window locks on upstairs windows that can be easily accessed by a flat roof.

Lock back gates using a sturdy lock such as a closed shackle padlock to no less than CEN 3-4 security grade or 5 lever lock.

2. LIGHT

Leave low-energy lights on timers around the house and keep a radio on to make it seem as though someone is home.

‘Dusk-to-dawn’ sensor security lighting is a cheap, low cost way of making sure the front of your home or shed/outbuilding is well-lit.

Burglars often prefer to work in the dark to avoid detection. Stop burglars from hiding in your driveway and paths by installing an ambient security light that will not disturb neighbours.

Visible burglar alarms can make burglars think twice; get specialist advice and consult your insurance company.

Hedging and shrubs to the front of your property should be pruned to no higher than 1m and trim trees up from the ground to 2m. This will allow a clear line of sight across your property and will stop the garden being used as a hiding place.

3. HIDE

Keep your valuables, jewellery, cash, passport and deeds to your property in a safe.

Never leave spare keys in an open place. Hide away to prevent them being stolen.

Keep dustbins and wheelie-bins away from fencing/gates as these can be used by thieves to climb into windows or used to escape.

Make sure valuables are property marked. Take photographs and keep a note of any serial numbers.

Don’t leave equipment and tools lying around that can be used by burglars to break into your home, such as hammers, shovels or gardening tools. Keep ladders locked away and out of sight.

For further crime prevention advice please visit the Suffolk Constabulary webpage www.suffolk.police.uk or contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101.



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The Lunch Bunch Visits...

It was a cold and wet morning when the lunch bunch arrived at the small market town of Eye. We have been to this lovely town before, it was the Lunch Bunch's first trip out in April 2017 but this time we opted for some café culture not a pub. The Bank describe themselves as "a dynamic hub for learning, practising and enjoying creativity" but is more than that, it's a warm and friendly café serving great food!



We just arrived, no pre booking needed, we just checked online as they are only open Wednesdays to Saturdays. We were welcomed and offered any table we wanted. They have a variety of sizes and positions from large enough to seat a nuclear family plus both sets of in laws and the family dog! Down to a single seat at a table tucked away in a quiet corner. They had a specials board and a printed menu. Both offering a variety of light hot and cold lunches. At the counter there was an assortment of freshly bakes cakes and puddings.

We took our seats and ordered some hot drinks and perused the menu. While not a vast selection there was a good assortment of things to choose, from hot soups, scrambled eggs, stews, salads,

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sandwiches and panini. Our order was taken in a really friendly way and we were made to really feel at home. There were a few others enjoying the café, one lady looked like she was having a working lunch and another clearly having stopped in while doing some shopping.

Drinking our tea and coffee served in lovely mismatched mugs we chatted away until our food arrived. We were all taken aback by how delicious it all was. The soup, hot, steamy, thick and velvety and full of flavour. The panini came with a salad that was almost a meal in itself. Beautifully presented and delicious. The salmon and scrambled eggs arrived hot and perfectly done, not too runny not to hard. Everyone returned clean plates.

When the main course was finished, we investigated the cakes. The offering ranged from scones to thick slices of creamy filled cakes, lemon drizzle to flapjack.

There was something for everyone. When we asked for our bill, it was duly totted up and the total was less than £10 a head! So, a delicious two course meal and a hot drink in an interesting and slightly quirky place for less than a main course in most pubs! A really friendly and nice place to pop in for lunch. Well worth a visit.



The Lunch Bunch

A Word from Wingfield

Still around

There was a large turnout of the Wingfield church community on 12th October for the annual harvest supper filling Wingfield barn and held there for the third year running. A small team of women prepared a simple, but delicious 3 course meal and raised £700 for church funds. Among the six dozen or so guests was an old friend who took me to task for failing to write in VV about our church, so here goes.

Like most of my generation, I was born to become an active member of the C of E. This was ingrained in us, and as a prison visitor I was intrigued to find that on arrival in prison new inmates who see the chaplain on arrival when asked their religion usually replied "C of E". Today's response is more likely "none". I knew one man who switched to Islam as he preferred more palatable prison Halal food.

When we moved to Wingfield almost 40 years ago I had worshipped in all manner of places: Nottingham, Oxford, at sea, France, Italy, Australia (I was confirmed in Sydney), New Zealand, Canada, India, Ceylon, Malaya, East Africa, Uganda, Lesotho, Malawi, Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Guyana, Barbados, Jamaica, Nigeria, Sussex and Suffolk; and in all manner of "churches" -buildings of stone, brick, corrugated iron, mud and wattle, concrete, under trees, on football grounds, in halls and cathedrals and in both towns and remote villages. And I have run a Sunday School, been a church elder and taken church services, deanery secretary, church treasurer, fund raiser, organist, served on deanery and diocesan synods, board member of a theological college, on the committee that drafted the West Sussex RK curriculum, and been bell restorer and ringer.

In PNG we made music on native drums and stringed instruments and Anne researched the interface of Western Church music and Melanesian music. This included a recording of a conch shell band of children taught by the Lutherans to play their hymns, and simple Bach chorales.

I relate all this to list a long and very varied involvement with the Anglican church especially overseas where Christ's message has usually replaced the one passed down in different indigenous cultures (Islam excepted which took a different route).

So, why did I join the Quakers? Many of our members are Christian and some may also lend support to a church or chapel. An essential difference is that Quakers do not have proscribed beliefs: rather they have been led as a community towards four testimonies of peace, equality, simplicity and truth, whereas Anglicans and Catholics have a creed whereby they affirm their faith saying "*I believe in God Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, born of the Virgin Mary.....*").

Nor do we have priests to lead our worship and to interpret the scriptures to us. We gather silently in worship and meditate waiting in stillness listening and each of us seeking individually to find God's purpose for us. When we do, we may speak out sharing with the meeting what we have perceived. A meeting may be gathered when all of its members come to share a common perception of knowing God. So we Quakers are seekers for spiritual truth. Quakers no longer proselytize as do most religions.

Some ten years ago, a Friend from Norwich gave me a copy of our weekly publication *The Friend* after hearing about my Christian 'journey'. I then attended a Sunday morning meeting in Diss to find out more, and became a regular attender.

When I began at Grammar School in 1936, my form master called me Thomas Didymus (the doubting Apostle who did not believe that he was in the presence of the risen Christ until he had put his finger through the hole in Christ's hand to check it was He, the one who had been nailed to the cross). Thomas so it is said, took the message of Christ to India just as Paul later took it to the Gentiles around the Med and finally to Rome, from where it spread to the Roman empire and to the world. Some in India say that Christ did not die on the cross, that he was tended by his mother Mary, recovered and went to India where he is buried. I have a photograph of his grave.

I too often found myself challenging received wisdom and seeking proof and this may be why I became a mathematician. I now share the concept of God expressed by the philosopher Baruch Spinoza, that all creation is God, and that we are part of His creation.

Quakers say simply that there is that of God in all of us. But I incline towards this Spinozan view. As Quakers do not claim to know God and this is not a problem. We are seekers for the Truth and sometimes we experience what I call a God incident, when there is an inexplicable coincidence as if the physical world and the spiritual (body and soul) come together for a brief moment

in time, a transition that occurs when we die and we pass between the two.

We study the bible. When we meet, many different translations are laid out alongside our book of discipline which contains guidance in our search for the truth. We say that we are all priests.

What else do we do. We have many concerns (such as immigrants, refugees, arms sales, pacifism and conscientious objection, Palestine, poverty, prisons, climate change, war, arms fairs and sale of arms, war depots) and small Quaker groups campaign actively to inform themselves and when agreed, to campaign for appropriate reform, even if this means being punished for breaking the law. Reform and action has often flowed from our work.

Our history is well documented. There is a succinct Wikipedia summary which says: "*Quakers, also called Friends, are a historically Christian group whose formal name is the Religious Society of Friends. Members of the various Quaker movements are all generally united in a belief in the ability of each human being to experientially access the light within, or 'that of God in every one'.*" The entry continues with a long and fascinating story. So this is my response to my friend's Harvest supper question to explain my journey in VV.

Tommy Gee

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham

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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: **27th December and 24th January (unconfirmed)**

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

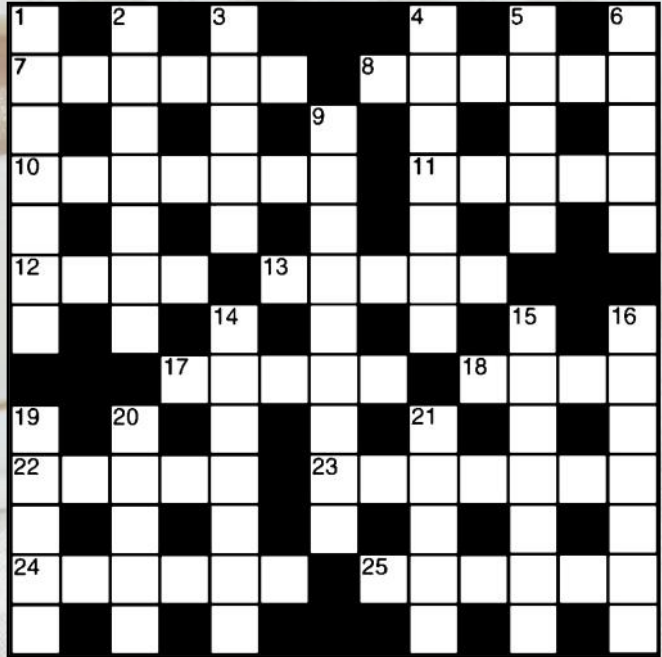
Wingfield, Post box from 12:00 to 12:20

Crossword

Puzzle No. 133

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 **Wednesday 8th January** latest.

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



Across

- 7 Consultant hiding a Muslim bigwig (6)
- 8 Pelt with a condiment (6)
- 10 Financial statement for a nobleman (7)
- 11 I distribute the cards - Perfect! (5)
- 12 80% of another musical instrument (4)
- 13 Dodge an empty space (5)
- 17 Emotion felt by Leonine family (5)
- 18 Dissolute chap using a garden tool (4)
- 22 Possess 50 to make an equal share (5)
- 23 Eric and Joe celebrate together (7)
- 24 TV Gadget nearly out of reach (6)
- 25 Gather together a ship's crew I hear (6)

Down

- 1 Attack with another condiment (7)
- 2 Pacify a pale cat (7)
- 3 Salisbury as it used to be (5)
- 4 Fit dice to rectify financial loss (7)
- 5 Velocity of a drug (5)
- 6 Interrogate about kitchen fitting (5)
- 9 Seer voted for a dock worker (9)
- 14 Mismatched cutlery causes suffering (7)
- 15 Quality of gun barrel (7)
- 16 Man with a whistle - Not always popular (7)
- 19 Part ownership of a posh area (5)
- 20 Assign fault for the state of Mabel (5)
- 21 Fastest way to exit a plane (5)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 132 was: Mr G K Goddard, Denham

- Answers: **Across** 1) Consent 2) Trick 8) Umber 9) Genesis 10) Badminton 12) Mar 13) Record 14) Jovial 17) Ass 18) Chronicle 20) Erudite 21) Bluff 23) Sedge 24) Discern
Down 1) Crumb 2) Nab 3) Earlier 4) Tights 5) Tenon 6) Insomniac 7) Kestrel 11) Dachshund 13) Readers 15) Omnibus 16) Friend 18) Crime 19) Elfin 22) Use

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

DEADLINES

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

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