

Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM & WINGFIELD

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2021



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**The Revd Eleanor Goodison and
Revd John McCracken are ex-officio
members of each Parochial Church
Council.**

C Chair
V-C Vice Chair
CW Church Warden

Diary Dates

Wednesday 28th July

Art Workshop 7-12 years, Gatehouse Farm p6

Saturday 31st July

Mexican Street Food Night at GBH p5

Saturday 31st July to Sunday 5th September

International Mini-Print Exhibition WB p11

Tuesday 3rd August

Coffee & Cake SWH p20

Thursday 5th August

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HPP p39

Friday 6th August

Open Mic Night SWH p14

Saturday 7th August

Silver Clay Workshop WB p10

Tuesday 10th August

Hoxne Phoenix Group HVH p37

Wednesday 11th August

Art Workshop 12+ years, Gatehouse Farm p6

Thursday 12th August

J's Meadow Get Together p15

Hoxne Heritage Group p28

Friday 13th August

Purple Star Karaoke SWH p14

Saturday 14th to Tuesday 31st August

Photographic Exhibition WB p11

Tuesday 17th August

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p22

Thursday 19th August

Make a Mosaic Workshop WB p10

Wednesday 18th August

Gabriel's Garden Flower Arranging WB p10

Friday 20th August

Crafty Foxes Workshops WB p10

Thursday 26th August

Mr G - Storytelling WB p11

Come for Coffee SWH p15

Friday 27th August

Mr G - Model Workshops WB p13

Bingo SWH p14

Saturday 28th August

Red Glass SWH p14

Thursday 2nd September

Hoxne Parish Council Meeting HPP p39

Friday 3rd September

Open Mic Night SWH p14

Saturday 4th September

Hoxne Village Fete, Abbey Farm p5

Elaine Murphy -Syleham Church History p20

Saturdays & Sundays, 4th - 12th September

Open Studios - Rosemary Elliot WB p13

Sunday 5th September

Messy Church SWH p21

Tuesday 7th September

Coffee & Cake SWH p20

Wednesday 8th September

Playing Fields AGM HPP p23

Thursday 9th September

J's Meadow Get Together p15

Friday 10th September

Purple Star Karaoke SWH p14

Saturday 11th September

Historic Churches Ride & Stride p7

Mosaic Workshop WB p10

Tuesday 14th September

Hoxne Phoenix Group HVH p37

Wednesday 15th September

The Time Machine WB p13

Thursday 16th September

Hoxne Garden Club HVH p28

Sunday 19th September

Hoxne Harvest Breakfast TBC p7

Tuesday 21st September

Rural Coffee Caravan, Wingfield p22

Wednesday 22nd September

Denham Parish Council Meeting p38

Friday 24th September

Bingo SWH p14

Saturday 25th September

Jacob & Drinkwater WB p13

Thursday 30th September

Come for Coffee SWH p15

Sunday 10th October

Autumn Festival WB p14

Saturday 23rd October

Harvest Supper SWH p20

For Church Services and events, see p17-21

For Mobile Library, see p22

HPP Playing Fields Pavilion, Hoxne

HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne

SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

WB Wingfield Barns

Notice Board

Much loved Hoxne Lady celebrates her 90th birthday

On Saturday 19th June neighbours and family joined together to celebrate Barbara Chenery's 90th birthday on the village green in Hoxne. Barbara is a local and long-standing Hoxne character who is well known and loved by all. Many neighbours contributed with food and it was well organised by Christine Hamilton and Gillian Short. They provided a great spread and there was a fantastic birthday cake fit for the occasion! The whole event shows just what a special community we have in Hoxne. Happy birthday Barbara!

Richard Giffin



Can anyone help please? Harleston Players need storage space!

We shall shortly be losing the space where we store our set, props and costumes and wondered if there is anyone out there who might be able to save the day. Ideally we would like a dry space of 120 -150 m² which has lights and a power socket, is rodent free, has a big enough entrance for large pieces of set and access for vehicles - we don't ask much! We are of course prepared to pay rent. If you think you might be able to help us, could you please get in touch with David Cumming on **01986 788439** or email: davidcumming75@gmail.com

Farmer Thanks

A big thank you to all farmers who have cut the verges around the villages and improved the visibility for road users. There does seem to have been less council verge cutting this year, so it's greatly appreciated.

Shoebox Appeal

This year I am doing shoeboxes for *Link to Hope* which sends them to Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Bulgaria. A box can be done for a family or for the elderly. The boxes need to be ready by **November 5th**. If you would like to do one, there will be leaflets in the Hoxne shop, the church and also at my house 10 Church Close, Hoxne. My phone numbers are **01379 669322** or **07444 388193**. I am happy to collect your box. You can visit the *Link to Hope* website at: linktohope.co.uk



Anne Swann

What's On...

Mexican Street Food Night

Due to popular demand, our theme nights are back. Starting with a Mexican Street Food night on Saturday 31st July from 6.30pm, £29.95 per person, all you can eat, includes a drink. To book your table call our fantastic team on 01379 388193.

The Good The Bad and The Hungry
GWC Equestrian Centre, Wingfield



Shotford Bowling Club

Shotford Bowling Club, Harleston, will be holding an open day on Saturday 4th September, 10am-2pm. Free coaching on the following six Saturdays for prospective new members. No experience needed. Bowls provided. Just turn up on the day.

Spirketts Lane, Harleston, IP20 9JL.
Contact us for more information on 01379 852368 or email:
secretary@shotfordbowlingclub.co.uk
shotfordbowlingclub.co.uk



**FUN FOR
ALL THE
FAMILY**

HOXNE VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 4th September
Abbey Farm Hoxne
2pm - 5pm

Teas, stalls and fun for everyone

Please bring your family & friends to enjoy a traditional village fete in a delightful country garden.

FREE ENTRY

All proceeds for Hoxne Church

Pole vaulting Hoxne tortoise found 1 mile away on the Oakley road

Yes she was mine!
Thank you everyone, Jenny

Hal I am
so clever



21st century

from this...



to this...



tortoise tracking

Art Workshops!



Gatehouse Farm
Syleham Road, Hoxne
IP21 5BZ

Free art workshops on theme of
God's created world.

Weds 28th July and 11th August
10am - 4pm with picnic lunch provided.

Experienced art teachers, Covid-safe

Weds 28th July 7-12 year olds

Weds 11th Aug 12 years and up

The artwork made will be used at a special service on Sunday 29th Aug.

Numbers limited so booking essential

Revd Eleanor 07876 143579

to book and for more details

Hoxne Benefice Churches

Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride



It's that time of year to prepare for the annual Church cycle ride. It will take place on **Saturday 11th September** between 9am and 5pm.

Everyone is welcome to either cycle or walk and visit our local churches with the aim to raise some money. All our local churches are registered to take part.

Why not get together with some friends, plan a route visiting churches (perhaps a pub on route) at the same time raising money for your local church.

At St Peter & St Paul in Hoxne, if you would like to act as a recorder, please let me know what time you can make as we still have various slots available. I look forward to hearing from you. For forms and further details please contact Rhona Bertie **01379 871850** or email: rhonabertie@gmail.com

For St Margaret's Syleham, please contact Mary Lewis on **01379 669258** or email mary.lewis43@icloud.com

At St John's Denham, sponsorship forms can be obtained from Hilary Castleden on **01379 668458**.

A full list of churches that are open and further details are available on the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust website:



shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride

Hoxne Harvest Breakfast

It is hoped that the Harvest Breakfast will take place this year on the Low Street Green on **Sunday 19th September**, 10am start. There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 4th August** at 7pm at Market Lodge to discuss if this is possible and any changes that might have to be made.

If you would like to help at this event please come to the meeting or contact me on **01379 668210**. Thanks for your help at all of the past Breakfasts.

Carole Smith

Arty Crafty Tuesdays

Arty Crafty Tuesdays is a safe, relaxed and friendly community art and craft group for all ages and abilities, run by local Artist, Julie Filmer. Bring along your own materials / project. Anything arty and crafty goes - knitting, drawing, embroidery, crocheting, colouring... whatever you like. A still life table will be set up for those who would like to draw or paint.

Drop in sessions (no need to book): £5 per session or five sessions for £20. Refreshments available at a small extra cost.

1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm, The Space, Burston
2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm, Waveney Heritage Centre, Brockdish

Julie is also running some taught art and machine embroidery workshops over the next few months - contact Julie for more details on **01379 309273** or the.peacock.emporium@gmail.com

Waveney Heritage

We've got started again:- We hope! It's all interesting and informative talks given by local experts on local topics and just what you want to prompt your interest, whether you have lived here for many years or have recently arrived and maybe wondering what happens in the sleepy Waveney Valley.

You might also like to have a look at our website to see details of our previous newsletters, our activities, details of who we are and what we hope to achieve.



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OPENING TIMES

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

Sunday and Bank Holidays
9.00am - 12 noon

The Good The Bad And
The Hungry
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& Late On Fridays

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GWC Equestrian Centre, Vicarage Rd Wingfield IP21 5RB

We've been a long time closed ,but that has given us time to keep working, improving and thinking. The Old School was leased to us 2018, four years after the school was closed and so there has been lots of work to do, refurbishing the building, dealing with the weeds, the cobwebs, decorating and all the many other tasks (and expenses!) associated with running a large old building, untouched for four years.

We have been sustained, as have many other small organisations such as ours, by several government grants, for which we have been very thankful. In our case it has enabled us to maintain the original ethos of the school when it was founded by the Rev George France in 1846 of providing a building for the education of local people, not only children:-quite a forward-looking aim in 1846.

We begin on **Wednesday 11th August** - 7.15 for 7.30 - 9.30pm. £5 non-member/ £4 member. *In East Anglia - Buffalo Bill - Wild West Hero.* Geoffrey Robinson, local historian and seasoned traveller, will tell his story.

Was he for real or was he a charlatan? Where did he appear in East Anglia in 1903? How is he viewed today in the U.S.A. and what is his legacy? What connection is there between the speaker and the Old Scout?

On **Sunday 29th August** - 2.15 for 2.30 - 4.30pm. Fiery Disasters in East Anglia by Stuart Bowell. In the past, in this region, many of the buildings were timber framed and had a thatched roof. These materials meant that fire was an ever present threat. We will look at some of the major fires that took place and the methods used to tackle them. The social and economic results will be considered, including financing and rebuilding.

On **Saturday 11th September** we have an open day from 11am to 4pm, where we formally open our vintage technology

exhibition upstairs. We have a lovely collection of radios and all things sound related which will evoke many memories for us "oldies".

Some of our items date right back to the early phonographs, just like the one which used to be pictured on *His Masters Voice* records. That really is a thing to be proud of! In addition our amateur radio group will be on hand demonstrating the world of amateur radio:-definitely a niche hobby!

Downstairs we'll have more displays of our archive material and of course drinks and cakes! The doors and windows will be open and you'll be able to sit in the garden if you wish.

Then on **Sunday 26th September** at 2.15pm, Rosemary Steer will talk to us on "*Children in Care, 1834-1929*" I think that might be a rather sobering experience as we compare how things were then and now, but we shall see. Rosemary has given us several talks, all of which have been entertaining and informative and shine a light on how communities coped before the advent of the welfare state.

Advance notice - many of you may know Roy Goodwin whose family have farmed on both sides of the Norfolk Suffolk border for five generations. He will be talking to us on **Wednesday 6th October** at 7.15pm and is sure to have lots of stories to tell.

I'm sure you will agree that is a lovely mixed bag of subjects and there is more to come in November and onwards, including our Christmas bash, but more of that later!

In view of the uncertainty re isolating and so-on, it would be really helpful if you could phone Jill **01379 669057** or me, Mary **01379 668279** beforehand to tell us you're coming. See you there!

**Mary Thompson, Waveney Heritage
Old School, Grove Road, Brockdish
waveneyheritage.com**



WINGFIELD BARNES



T: 01379 384505
www.wingfieldbarns.com

Wingfield Barns
Church Road,
Wingfield, Suffolk IP21 5RA

Summer at Wingfield Barns

BE INSPIRED THIS SUMMER

CHILDRENS WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY 19TH AUGUST

Make a Mosaic | 10am-12.30pm or 1.30-4pm

Get creative and make your own mosaic.

All materials provided and ready-cut for use.

£25 per child

FRIDAY 20TH AUGUST

Crafty Foxes Workshops

A fun-filled day of workshops including:

10am: Decorate your own hula hoop

11.30am: Make your own kite

1.30pm: Build your own clock

£8 per child per workshop

ADULT WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY 7TH AUGUST

Silver Clay Workshops | 10.30am-4pm

In this beginner workshop, you will learn how to make your own pendant and a pair of silver earrings.

£95 per person

SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

Mosaic Workshop | 10am-5pm

The opportunity to try out a range of wonderful materials and learn basic cutting and mosaicing techniques.

£66 per person

WEDNESDAY 18TH AUGUST

Gabriel's Garden Flower Arranging | 10.30am

Enjoy a morning immersed in the beauty of freshly picked, seasonal flowers, grasses, seed heads and foliage.

Bring a favourite vase or jug to this floral workshop and create a stunning arrangement to take home and enjoy.

£55 per person

**FOR ALL BOOKINGS PLEASE VISIT
WWW.WINGFIELDBARNES.COM**

WANT TO RUN A WORKSHOP OF YOUR OWN?

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Hoxne Village Hall

The Hall Committee met in June and we hope that by the time that you read this Government restrictions will be lifted and the Hall will have re-opened at last.

We are aiming for **Monday 2nd August** to welcome our regular hirers back and are also taking bookings for one off events -contact details below.

We have been approached by *Everyone Active* who are working in partnership with Mid Suffolk District Council to encourage more sports activities in villages. They offer support in organising new clubs so if anyone has a sport or activity they would like to see at the Hall please email or phone so we can consider asking *Everyone Active* to support such an activity.

Once again, bottles and clothes have been dumped by the banks in the Hall car park when they are full. When you see this please make the call to get them emptied and take your items home until there is room to put them.

We are still looking for a volunteer to operate our floor polisher in the Hall once every 2/3 weeks. If you have experience, or want to try out something new, then please contact us by email or phone - details below.

Email Sally & Sharon at:

hoxnevhbookings@outlook.com

Phone Sharon on **07876 215269**.

www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk

Wingfield Barns

In addition to our workshops this August (see left) and the Mini-print exhibition (see right), we have a varied range of events to look forward too. The **East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies** are holding a special Exhibition here at Wingfield Barns from **Saturday 14th to Tuesday 31st**

August. Due to Covid restrictions the prints and projected Digital Images are selected this year from the images judged at our 2020 Inter Club



Championships. There will be over 400 images on display, both Prints and Projected Digital Images. Open 14th to 31st August in the Great Barn and Gallery 1, **Wednesday to Sunday** 11am to 4pm, including **Bank Holiday Monday** and until 1pm **Tuesday 31st August**.

International Mini Print Exhibition 2021



31 July to 5 September

Open Wednesday to Sunday

11am to 4pm

Gallery 2



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



Mr G - Storytelling Event - Join Mr G for a rip-roaring time featuring a run away time-traveller, pirates, octopuses, a robotic bat, an orangutan and many, many more... all from the cockpit of 'Bell', a Timebubble Machine. Sessions at 9am, 11.30am and 2pm, **Thursday 26th August** £12 per child. Booking essential - please call **01379 384505**. Online booking is not available for this event.



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Mr G - Working Model Workshops - Join Mr G to make a working model before battling it out at The Captain's Table. Lots of options available - take a look and see which one takes your fancy! Sessions at 9am, 11.30am and 2pm, **Friday 27th August**. Prices vary depending on the model - see website for more details. Online booking is not available for this event - please call **01379 384505** to book. Pre-booking essential.

Whilst your little ones are enjoying their time with Mr G, why not visit one of our exhibitions open that day, or treat yourself to a cream tea from our tea rooms.

Bungay to Brockdish enabling visitors to plan their journeys. Dog walkers and cyclists are most welcome on site and parking is free in Low Road, adjacent to the Barns. Accessible parking is also available on site. Refreshments and meals can be found at The Good, Bad and Hungry cafe in Vicarage Road, Wingfield, and the De La Pole Arms opposite St Andrew's Church, Church Road.

The Keeper's Daughter presents The Time Machine - An eccentric Victorian Time Traveller has crash-landed in the 21st Century. He has journeyed across time to escape the horrors of Earth's far-flung future. Join this mysterious traveller on an enterprising, heartfelt and amusing adventure where he must encounter alien species, explore brand new landscapes and battle the dreaded subterranean Morlocks in order to save the human race from catastrophe. Stunning puppetry, scintillating movement and a unique electronic soundtrack combine to create a visual feast that brings HG Wells' classic sci-fi story to the stage like never seen before. **Wednesday 15th September, 7pm**. Tickets £10 Adult, £6 Child.



Jacob & Drinkwater - UK alt-folk duo Jacob & Drinkwater have been called "*stand out new folk*" by BBC6 Music and "*inventive and thrilling*" by R2 Magazine. Jacob's sweeping vocals never fail to captivate, delivering many a spine-tingling



Harleston & Waveney Art Trail 2021

Rosemary Elliott

From Figurative to Abstract
Retrospective 2011- 2021

Studio 4

Saturday and Sunday
4-5 & 11-12th September
Open 10am - 5.00 pm

www.hwat.org.uk

Rosemary Elliott will be exhibiting a retrospective series of her paintings and prints in studio 4 as part of the September *Harleston and Waveney Art Trail Open Studios* this year. The exhibition will include her latest contemporary landscapes inspired by the rapid changes of light in coastal locations of East Anglia.

www.rosemaryelliott.co.uk

There will be a guide map on display showing all the artists' studios from

moment; the fluidity and precision of his finger-picking underpinned by Drinkwater's nimbly rhythmic double bass; at times sweetly soaring, haunting, percussive and driving, the layers of depth a perfect counterfoil. Featured numerous times on BBC Radio 2, BBC6 Music and lauded by their musical peers as one of the most accomplished acts touring the circuit today. **Saturday 25th September, 7.30pm, tickets £12.**



Advance notice - Autumn Festival, Sunday 10th October, 10am -10pm. Artisan Food Market; Craft demonstrations and stalls; Blacksmithing & Woodturning; Roving musicians; Heavy horses; Vintage machinery/vehicles; Evening concert with Harbour Lights; Evening Harvest Supper; Cider Bar.

**Wingfield Barns, Church Road
Wingfield IP21 5RA
01379 384505
www.wingfieldbarns.com**

Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

At Syleham and Wingfield village hall we have had joint Hall Management and Sports & Social club meetings in the hall under Step 3 guidelines in an effort to work out a way of opening.

We are pleased to say that our first, very small, event has been well received by those attending. This invitation only 'trial' coffee and chat group, held in conjunction with Syleham church, will evolve into an open event on the **first Tuesday** morning of the month, see page 20 for details.

The Sports and Social club hope to reinstate the usual **Tuesday and Friday** opening in the not too distant future, when the bar, manned by volunteers, will be open. The individual annual subscription remains at £3.50 (concs £3.00) running from July to July.

Tuesdays will see pool, darts and the jukebox available as well as board games, cribbage.



First Friday of the month will see a return to Open Mic, while the **second Friday** is Purple Star Karaoke - both have free entry. The **last Friday** sees the return of Bingo raising funds for locally nominated charities and good causes - we have supported Waveney Foodbank, Eye Opportunities Group, Meningitis Now, Fressingfield Thursday Toddlers and many, many more - the bar is open to non Bingo players!

We have a variety of music and entertainment pencilled in the calendar for the coming months with *Red Glass* coming to join us on **Saturday 28th August** at 8pm. This young band always give 100% in their performances.



Other acts include the easy listening of Marc James, punk glory of the Expletives, and Paul Birch as Buddy Holly - hopefully we will be able to confirm these bookings in the next month or so.

One of our popular weekly activities, Carpet Bowls, will be back too. Roll ups and matches are held on **Monday** evenings. Please contact Joyce Revell for further information **01379 668102.**

There is a possibility of some exercise sessions at a later date - look out for info.

J's Meadow Get Together
2nd Thursday of each
month 10am - 12 noon

Community open space down the footpath opposite Syleham and Wingfield village hall IP21 4LT

Planting, hedging, tidying, ideas, chat, fresh air!

Bring tools if you have them + your own refreshments.

More info - Julie
07929 794636



*J's Meadow Get Together in June
pictures: Charlie Pipe*



Syleham and Wingfield village hall provides an ideal venue for your family celebrations, meetings and events. It has a well resourced kitchen, main hall and bar area, pool table, jukebox, volunteer manned bar, level access and disabled toilet facilities.

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
07876 487294 / 01379 668361
donnaMariegoose@hotmail.co.uk



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Church Services

Denham, Hoxne, Syleham and Wingfield

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

If you need to get in touch with the Hoxne Benefice, tel.: **07876 143579**

Every Saturday and Sunday

8am CW Morning Prayer on:

[facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch)

Every Friday

6pm Compline on Zoom

For an invitation to our Zoom services, please email:

eleanor.goodison@gmail.com

Some services in church are also live streamed or uploaded to:

[facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch)

Sunday 1st August

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne
11 am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield + baptism

NB: Messy Church is taking a break in August.

Wednesday 4th August

6 pm Lammas service in aid of the Addington Fund, Hoxne (followed by hog roast)

Sunday 8th August

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield

9.30 am Café Church, Hoxne

Sunday 15th August

Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne

10.00 am Village Service, Syleham

6.00 pm Evensong, Wingfield

Sunday 22nd August

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Syleham

9.30 am BCP Matins, Hoxne

11 am CW Holy Communion, Denham

Sunday 29th August

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

11 am Benefice service, Denham + baptism

4 pm All-Age service using artwork from art workshops, Hoxne

Sunday 5th September

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne

11 am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield

4 pm Messy Church in Syleham Village Hall

Sunday 12th September

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am CW Holy Communion,

Redlingfield

9.30 am Café Church, Hoxne

Sunday 19th September

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne

10 am Village Service, Syleham

6 pm Evensong, Wingfield

Sunday 26th September

St Michael and All Angels (transferred from 29th)

11 am Benefice Holy Communion,

Wingfield - Revd Michael Womack to

preach (followed by reception)

Please note that Revd Eleanor and Revd John will be on holiday from **16th to 28th August**. For church enquiries during this period, e-mail:

hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

If you need a priest urgently, please contact Revd Richard Court:

rev.richard.court@icloud.com

to love one another as he has loved us. If we can follow that command and put others before ourselves, then there will be a “freedom day” indeed!

Revd Eleanor Goodison

eleanor.goodison@gmail.com

Tel: 07876 143579

Church News

Freedom

As I write this, many are looking forward to the lifting of all legal restrictions in relation to Covid 19 on 19th July. For some, “freedom day” is eagerly awaited and seems entirely positive. Others may feel more ambivalent, welcoming the possibility to travel, socialize, see loved ones and hold celebrations but still concerned about the rise in infections. For those who are clinically extremely vulnerable or otherwise at particular risk, the end of legally enforceable precautions may feel more like a threat.

We may ask: freedom for what? Is it freedom to return to the treadmill of getting and spending, always pursuing more than we need or than the planet can afford? Is it freedom to indulge ourselves, regardless of others? These so-called freedoms can be just a different form of captivity - to materialism, selfishness and greed.

Jesus shows us the way to real freedom: although he was divine, he gave himself up even to death for our sakes, in obedience to the will of God. At Morning Prayer we pray:

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom.

We can find that perfect freedom through obeying Jesus’s commands. And his command, as he told his disciples, is

St John, Denham

Very many thanks to everyone who supported our plant and book sale - and also to the working party who cleared out the stable. It was surprising what came to light such as the original hand held bier, an ecclesiastical weathervane and a vintage Elsan. You can now see the cobbled floor and that there were four stalls so it was not only the vicar who came to church on horseback.

The Historic Churches Bike Ride is taking place on **Saturday 11th September**. Please let me know if you would like a sponsor form. Our riders and sponsors did really well last year in spite of the pandemic. Hopefully this time we will be able to provide refreshments to sustain all participants.

Work on the chancel can go ahead towards the end of September as we now have enough funds. This is due to grants from the Scarfe and Ganzoni Charitable Trusts. We are very grateful for the generous support we have received for this project.

Hilary Castleden

01379 668458

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

Hoxne PCC recently held their Annual meeting in the Church, only ten Parishioners attended thus there were no issues with social distancing.

There were no advance nominations for the position of Churchwarden so Guy

McGregor and Wilf White volunteered to continue in that role, both were nominated by David Hyde and seconded by John Swann.

Cathie McGregor confirmed that there were 40 parishioners on the Electoral Roll; the number had not changed from the previous year.

All members of the PCC apart from John Brawn were willing to stand again. John supported by his wife Margaret has served on the PCC for many years and will be sorely missed. He was presented with a 'Bottle Brush' plant and Camelia to thank him for his sterling work.

Guy McGregor presented the accounts which showed a small surplus of £2372. He explained that due to Covid restrictions it had been a difficult year.

The Churchwardens report included an outline of the restoration plans for the church and bells, most of which were detailed in the last edition of Village Voice. It was explained that the pandemic had delayed plans for the restoration of the church, but some work had been done; Mick Procner had done an excellent job in replacing the guttering along the south side of the nave, Andrew Castleden had kindly replaced the collapsing gardener's shed in the churchyard and done some other minor repairs and Kristian Garnham and his team had done a great job pruning the cedar of Lebanon which had been shedding branches during the summer storms. Approval to repair the floor in the St Edmund's chapel (as soon as our mason can obtain the necessary stone) has been received. Overall the plans for the church are ambitious and we need to remind ourselves that they are subject to the necessary permissions being obtained and funds being raised.

The Revd Eleanor Goodison was licensed as our priest in charge for the next two years at a service in Wingfield church on Sunday 4 October and we are

very blessed by her ministry and the support we receive from her husband, the Revd John McCracken and the Revd Richard Court. Together they have ensured that services have been held somewhere in the benefice every Sunday throughout the pandemic, even if it did have to be held via Facebook or Zoom.

The Reverend Eleanor Goodison reiterated that the second lockdown had thwarted most plans for public worship. However Hoxne had managed both a Nativity Parade and Christingle Service despite inclement weather on Christmas Eve before the church was closed for the whole of January and February. Church services were resumed in March. It is hoped that we can keep some online services for those who cannot get out and about. Plans for the future include a Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving on **30th October** and a St Edmunds Day Evensong on the **20th November**.

There have already been some changes to the Deanery leading to a merger between the Hoxne and Hartismere Deaneries; more are expected later in 2022. And we will report on them when they happen.

Thankfully there have been no safeguarding issues at Hoxne.

Churchyard Maintenance

Many of you will be aware that John Brawn had continued looking after the management of the churchyard after he gave up the position of Secretary to the PCC last September. He has now handed the task to Caroline and Adrian Abbott. If you need to get in touch their phone number is **01379 668359**.

Hoxne Church Fete

The Hoxne Church Fete is back on **Saturday 4th September** at Abbey Farm, Abbey Hill, Hoxne, 2-5pm. Teas, stalls and fun for everyone. See page 5 for details.

Mothers' Union

The Hoxne branch of the Mother's Union normally meets on the **third Monday** of the month at 2.30pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne.

Monday 16th August - Garden meeting at Time House;

Monday 20th September - Garden meeting if possible or in house/church dependent on Covid restrictions.

We continue to share regular Newsletters with information from around the diocese and beyond. New members are always welcome. Cathie McGregor, Branch Leader **01379 668434**.

Flower rota

August 1st - Altar, Suzanne Lewis;
August 8th & 15th - Altar, Jenny Looome;
August 22nd & 29th - Altar, Prue Day;
September 5th & 12th - Altar, Cathie McGregor; **September 19th & 26th** - Altar, Cathie McGregor;

There is hand sanitising available for use in the church. 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

At last! Cheers as the congregation once again enjoyed their coffee and chat after the Village Service - albeit outside (dodging the showers!)

Sunday Services have returned to their normal pattern but online services via Zoom or Facebook will continue to be available. Full details are on Page 17.

Covid 19 precautions - We shall comply with whatever guidance may be in force

Coffee, cake and more! At Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall IP21 4LT. Drop in on your own or with a friend at any time between 10am and 11.30am for a chat

over coffee, tea and cake, with magazines to browse. On **Tuesdays, 3rd August and 7th September**. Planned to be monthly.

Events - Our first social event was an early drinks evening at Gatehouse Farm on 10th July, after this report went to press.

Saturday 4th September - Elaine Murphy, whose books on the history of Monks Hall and The Old Vicarage were so popular, will be giving a talk on the history of Syleham Church. This will be an early evening event at 6pm, with drinks and nibbles.

Saturday 11th September - Ride & Stride, the national fund-raiser for churches. We would welcome volunteers to participate to raise funds for the repairs we need to do to our church. You can choose which churches to visit and can cycle, walk or run between them! See page 7 for more details.

Saturday 23rd October - Harvest Supper in the Village Hall at 7pm.





Messy Church in June was great fun as families got busy building a bug hotel in the churchyard; in July, we had an energetic session with games on J's Meadow. Both followed by a well-deserved picnic tea before a short prayer time with Revd Eleanor. The

Messy Church team is taking a break in August and hopes to meet again in the Village Hall on **Sunday 5th September**.

Contact for all above: Churchwarden Mary Lewis on 01379 669258 / 07775 732259 or mary.lewis43@icloud.com



Jane Carter

Jane Carter, who lived in Hoxne for nearly 50 years, passed away peacefully at the beginning of June at the age of 92. Although she was born in Hampshire, she spent a large part of her childhood in Suffolk. Her father was a Squadron Leader in the RAF and the family moved constantly around the country from airbase to airbase, many of which were local to this area. She did farm work during the war before deciding to follow in her mother's footsteps and train as a nurse. Whilst training, she met her future husband, Ray, and, after they married, they moved to Nayland in Suffolk, then Stradbroke, before buying a small house on Green Street in Hoxne in the 1970s with a portion of land which allowed them to extend the house and for Jane to create a garden which was her pride and joy.

She was both an autodidact and someone who took advantage, whenever she could, of further education opportunities. This, combined with impressive practical knowledge and ability, meant that she became skilled at cooking and baking, upholstery, woodworking and furniture restoration,

and, especially, cake-decorating which she also taught to others. She created beautiful and intricate wedding cakes and cakes for many local events.

Jane worked as a State Registered Staff Nurse at Hartismere Hospital, and was the Chair of the Eye Country Market for many years. But, above all, she was a gardener and a consummate plantswoman. Her garden was opened as part of Hoxne Open Gardens and she would share generously both her knowledge and her plants with anyone who expressed an interest.

Jane had many friends and neighbours who stayed in touch and gave much support and her family would like to thank all of them for their kindness.

Gill and Alison

Rural Coffee Caravan

We'll be back at Castle Crescent Wingfield 10am - 12 noon on **Tuesday 17th August** and **Tuesday 21st September**. The caravan delivers information and friendship to rural communities across Suffolk. To get in touch:

Telephone: 01379 855338.
ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

Hoxne and Denham Calling every 4 weeks on **Thursdays**

Next stops: **26th August and 23rd September**

Hoxne, The Swan car park from 10:35 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: **6th August and 3rd September**

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

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

Hoxne Playing Field

Following eighteen months of the village being in Lockdown, at last the Hoxne Playing Field Management Committee are able to make plans. We are now looking for new members and fresh ideas to maximise the facilities that we all can enjoy.

Your Playing field with its children's play area, wide open grass area, football pitch and excellent Pavilion is a major asset for our village community. It is home for a number of clubs and has potential to be expanded further.

The Pavilion also complements our Village Hall by being a smaller more intimate social space with a comfortable lounge, bar, and kitchen area. It gives us villagers a choice of venues in Hoxne, which other villages do not benefit from.

The playing field is managed on behalf of the Parish council by a team of volunteers from our village. This team has maintained the open space and overseen refurbishments to the Pavilion. Recently a new kitchen was installed and currently a five-figure sum is being spent on repairing and improving the changing rooms and shower areas.

In the past, the team raised £50,000 to provide the play equipment and zipwire for our children to enjoy. Before the pandemic, we ran a weekly summer play café during the summer holidays and a Christmas party each year together with several social events and barbecues.

The management team valued the inspirational leadership of their Chairman, Phil Golding, who sadly died last year. With this and other losses, we need new members to reinvigorate the playing field for everybody, especially young people.

We are looking for people with new ideas, energy and enthusiasm to renew this fantastic facility, which we all can enjoy.

The Annual General Meeting of the Playing Field will be held on **Wednesday 8th September** at 7.30 at The Pavilion. Please come and give your support and ideas for the future development of our fantastic playing field.

Friends of St Peter & St Paul, Hoxne

At long last the Friends have something to report having been out of action due to Covid for the last 16 months. By the time you read this we will have held our AGM and the new committee are actively planning our future fundraising events. The first of these will be our Harvest Lunch in the village hall, details will be issued very soon when we have confirmation of the date and that we can go ahead in the hall. We have also provisionally booked a quiz to take place in January.

It is our intention to soon be able to restart our very popular coffee mornings and book sale in the church on a monthly basis.

Our main intention and purpose of the Friends is to raise money to maintain and improve the fabric of the church and at the top of this list is still the provision of a permanent toilet at the church, we are continually pressing the Parochial Church Council but they are still having problems from the church authorities.

It is very important that we continue our fund raising and to this end we are looking for more people to become a Friend, our annual membership is only £12.50 a year, if you'd like to become a member then please contact either our secretary, Caroline Abbott on **01379 668359** or our membership secretary Maureen Johnson on **01379 668478**.

John Brawn, Chairman of the Friends



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Wingfield Defibrillator

We are all aware recently of the 29-year-old Danish footballer Christian Erikson who suffered a cardiac arrest at a Euro 2020 competition match and was resuscitated by the prompt use of CPR and a defibrillator.

A sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone at any time. It occurs when there is an electrical problem with the heart which causes it to stop altogether. This results in a lack of oxygenated blood being pumped to the brain meaning victims will likely die unless CPR (CardioPulmonary Resuscitation) and a defibrillator is used straight away. How many people suffer from cardiac arrests?

Based on European data, there are around 60,000 cardiac arrests outside of hospitals every year in the UK. There

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were over 7.4 million people living with heart and circulatory diseases in 2019 alone. Thankfully with the increase in defibrillators in place around the country, more and more lives are being saved.

Some of you may be aware that the Wingfield Parish Council has used some of your Parish Council precept to fund the provision of a Defibrillator for the benefit of all. It is located at the entrance to the Wingfield Barns.

As you approach it can be easily identified as it is contained in a bright yellow cabinet. For security, the cabinet is locked and can only be accessed by a special code.

If a person becomes ill, call 999 as normal and ask for the ambulance. The ambulance service responder will ask questions about the symptoms e.g., is the patient responsive and breathing. If they are not put the phone on speaker mode and they will guide you through CPR. They are aware of the defibrillator's location at WINGFIELD BARNS and will tell you the access code to open the cabinet. **DO NOT** leave the patient but continue with CPR and ask someone else to go. If a second person is not available, continue with CPR. The responder will advise.

For households in outlying areas of Wingfield it may be quicker to consider the defibrillators at Syleham Village Hall or Stradbroke telephone box in front of the church - each defibrillator will have their own code.

After opening the cabinet with the code, the defibrillator can be found in a pouch hanging on a hook. An ambulance will of course have been immediately dispatched but you can maintain life until its arrival.

Remove the pouch and take it to the patient. In a zipped section at the back of the defibrillator pouch can be found items to help you prepare the patient for defibrillating (razor, scissors, gloves, CPR resuscitation face mask, etc).



You need have no fear of using the unit. It is remarkably simple to use, even by someone with no experience of using a defibrillator, as once it is turned on it completely verbally guides you

through the procedure. It is important though to maintain telephone contact with the responder until the ambulance arrives or the patient responds, and the ambulance responder is happy to end the call. **DO NOT HANG UP THE PHONE UNTIL TOLD TO.**

It is recommended that you familiarise yourself as to the defibrillator location to avoid delays. At night or during periods of poor light e.g. sunset, it is recommended that you take a torch to the Barns as lighting may not be sufficient to see the keypad clearly. But let us just hope that it will never have to be used!

It is recommended that you keep this notice handy for future reference.

Dennis Murray



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Sunday 12 till late with food between 12 and 4

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Remembering my friend Annie Fan

Annie Liversidge and I became friends during the late 50s. She was working at the telephone exchange in Diss and I was at Tooks Bakery. We met regularly at the Hoxne Swan with Jackie another telephonist. As time passed we both became involved with the Badminton Club and Youth Club which both met regularly at the Village Hall. This in turn led us to both being members of the Hall Committee and Playing Field Committee.

We had already begun fundraising for the Youth Club and were asked to fund raise for the Village Hall. This led us to co-opting friends who we met regularly in the Swan to help. Dances were very popular, each with a theme and with friends to help we decorated the Village

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Hall, drew posters, printed tickets booked bands (one being Annie's son in law Terry and his group) and created costumes. One dance in particular comes to mind when we were asked to raise money for the church bells. Again our friends came to the rescue and made enough bells to suspend from the hall roof!

Besides dances, the group also brightened up Boxing Day with Ladies v Men hockey ,hobby horse hunts etc. Easter bonnets also were produced for the Easter parade.

There are two occasions I remember when the village Hall Committee wanted volunteers to paint the gents loo both - Annie and I were named as volunteers. Another time the area for the playing field needed the stones to be cleared before the seed was sown... guess who obliged.

Although I had moved away from Hoxne, I kept in touch with Annie and when I returned at weekends we always

met up either at her house or the Swan. As friends, we had holidays together, motoring around the North Norfolk coast, visiting Holland and cycling around Lisse as well as and visiting the Keukenhof Gardens.

Our last adventure was walking from Felixstowe to Lowestoft and then return to Hoxne. The money raised went to the Village Hall. We had several weeks for training which also included Monty my dog. We were dropped off at Felixstowe and off we went stopping at various places for bed and breakfast, Shingle Street, Dunwich, Walberswick, Lowestoft. Monty retired at Dunwich with split paws. We returned to Hoxne six days later, with blistered feet but relieved to be back with friends and family. We raised £750 for the Village Hall which was handed over at the Harvest breakfast.

Annie was a person who was always there to support her friend, she arranged for me to have visitors for my six weeks in hospital. She supported and raised money for all events in Hoxne, Church fetes, Open Gardens, Bowls Club as a member/ player, Harvest Breakfast, Carnivals and Festive events, Church Cycle Ride - I did 3 trips with her but my joints were not as good as hers!

I missed Annie when she went into the care home and I know she would have liked to participate in the Christmas Tree display

***Farewell Annie Fan from your friend
Rhona Jane***



Hoxne Heritage Group

Sometimes it's hard to realise that Heritage Group members have not been able to meet in person since February 2020. However that is all about to change. As society slowly moves towards the final lifting of restrictions we already have two events scheduled in the coming weeks.

On **Saturday 31st July** our Garden Party will provide the first opportunity this year for us all to gather in an informal setting and make up for lost time. This will be followed by our summer outing to Thelnetham Windmill and Pakenham Watermill on **Thursday 12th August**. Very soon thereafter we hope to recommence our regular meetings on the **first Tuesday** of the month in the Swan.

In the last issue of the Village Voice reference was made to the discovery in the church vestry of an old illustration depicting the Hoxne Oddfellows who used to meet regularly in the Swan. Now thanks to some diligent research by Pauline Rimmer it has been established that they were members of a Lodge under the patronage of Lt General Sir Edward Kerrison which was known as the Loyal Waveney Lodge. Full details of Pauline's research can be found on the Heritage Group website.

David Hyde
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk

Hoxne Garden and Social Club

Well, here we are with at least a chink of light, albeit flickering, at the end of the tunnel with the end of the latest lockdown restrictions imminent. There is a hope that the village hall might be opening again for business by the beginning of

August. That being so then local groups such as ours can start to plan for the future.

All being well Hoxne Garden and Social Club will start again by holding an open / social evening on **Thursday 16th September** at 7.30pm in the village hall when current and hopefully prospective new members can get together socially. We hope to provide some light refreshments and give details of our programme of speakers until March of 2022. If you might be interested in joining then please come along.

We will be having our much delayed AGM hopefully in March of next year giving members the opportunity to elect a new committee to run the Club. The current committee members are prepared to continue in their present roles until then when some of them may stand for re-election.

For the October meeting we have provisionally booked Helen Chen an avid collector of bamboos who will give a talk on Chinese Gardens. As it becomes clearer that lockdown restrictions will not be re-imposed then our programme for the rest of the year and beyond will be finalised. Here is to the future.

Chris Parkin

New Reeding Woods Group

Pound Lane Wood meadow is growing well, even with some rather odd weather experienced this year. A dry April was succeeded by a cool, damp May; a hot spell in early June gave haymakers a good chance but cooler, damper conditions have returned. Trees stressed by the long dry and hot summer last year are however finding conditions more to their liking and are recovering well, canopies dark with chlorophyll. Late Lammas shooting

(second growth spurt) on some oaks is visible as a haze of red, green and yellow. Ash is in places recovering from previous dieback events.

The meadow has not yet been cut, so we are now hoping for dry weather at the end of July or August. This late cutting will allow wild flowers to bloom and then set seed. Yellow-rattle has done especially well this year, which will certainly help the meadow to develop. Yellow-rattle is an annual plant which is parasitic and feeds off the roots of the meadow grasses. This reduces the vigour of the coarser plants and grasses, allowing the more demanding meadow flowers to become established and to spread.

The weather pattern seems to have encouraged Bee Orchids to prosper in several new places and they have done well on the meadow. Bee Orchids offer a



colourful, intricate and beautifully shaped flower, closely resembling a female bee. Although designed to encourage males to pollinate them, sadly the bee species needed to do this is not actually present in the UK! These plants are entirely self-pollinated here, although this has not prevented a relative abundance this year. The lovely crimson Pyramidal Orchids have also bloomed on the meadow this year.

Reports and observations locally indicate both these orchids are appearing in gardens and verges - in greater profusion than of late - and in new sites, which is all very encouraging.

Orchid seeds are very small and consequently contain very little in the way of food for the developing plant. The orchid seedlings cannot grow on their own as a result; instead they rely on fungi present in the soil to provide the food they need to develop. This symbiotic relationship means orchids will only flourish in areas containing the fungi they require.

Whilst the ongoing COVID restrictions means we have not undertaken any group activity work so far this year, we hope to meet up again later in the season after the July 19th 'release date'! If you are interested in joining us and getting hands on experience of helping improve our local environment and enjoying outdoor activity, please contact our secretary Penny Conway on **07495 875299**.

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Fressingfield Scouts

Scouting is slowly returning to normality though, as at the time of writing, residentials, camping and travelling as a group in a minibus are still so restricted as to be very difficult; the rules for schools seem to be much more relaxed. Unfortunately, but perhaps not surprising, the Explorers have had to postpone their next trip to Mothers Mercy Mission in Kenya from next Easter to Easter 2023. We are all hoping that the world will have returned to something like normal by then.

To comply with the restrictions, it is much easier to remain outside so all our activities for this term are outdoors. For the first half term we have been having activities where we can all get used to each other again - air rifle shooting, crafting, knife skills, checking tents and shelters, fire lighting and games and challenges. All of which have to be socially distanced -which can be tricky. Since half term, Cubs have been clay modelling, den building, playing frisbee golf and relay games. Explorers have been playing wide games, learning and practicing radio communications and checking tents and the Scouts have been doing bike maintenance, more wide games and a series of Patrol challenges including putting up a gazebo without instructions, taking photos identical to the examples and building mini dens. The Scouts did spend a very windy evening spread out along the bank crabbing at Walberswick. In excess of 200 crabs were caught in a two hour period. The sizes ranged from as big as an adult hand to the size of a finger nail, everyone had a good time and apart from some Leaders' feet, (after retrieving a dropped line), no one got wet!

Normally in early May we have a Group Camp for the whole Scout Group. Last year this had to be completely virtual

and online and was very different but hugely successful. This year we waited until late May in the hope that the restrictions would be eased a bit and we were able to have a blended camp where Friday evening and Sunday were online but the Saturday was mainly actual activities.



The weather changed for the better and three teams of Leaders and older Scouts and Explorers ran three bases locally. The young people attended which ever they wanted in whatever order suited them for two hour sessions. This turned out to be an excellent way to run the camp and everyone had a fantastic time. Activities included firewood preparation (use of axe and saw), fire lighting, backwoods cooking, camp ovens, map reading exercise, assault course, air rifle and air pistol shooting, archery, frisbee golf, tracking, nature walk, relay games, wide games and camp fires. Here are some pictures from the day, the camp video is available on this link:

[youtube.com/watch?v=QTDvUCd8AOI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTDvUCd8AOI)

We are making good progress with the New Headquarters project and we have started work on the foundations and hope to have the modular building ready to use by the end of the summer.

To find out more about 1st Fressingfield Scout Group have a look at our website or speak to any Leader.

1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk



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Hoxne Bell Ringers

We have had about four practises and rung for a service at Oakley since the approved bell ringing restrictions came into force. There can only be six ringers, 45 minutes maximum time, face masks, hand sanitiser etc. We now have more ringers who wish to join us because the Eye church bells are no longer being rung so six ringers only has been a problem. Oakley tower is now undergoing renovation so ringing there has stopped until at least mid September. We are, as ever, very grateful to Oakley for the use of their bells.

We have had a very positive visit to Hoxne by members of the Diocesan Advisory Committee so we are looking forward to progress on our various faculties. These are permissions to do alterations and improvements to the church and are necessary before work can be done.

The repairs to the louvers on the south side of the Hoxne tower have now been considered by the architect and with a couple of improvements should now proceed. We are looking forward to more 'normal' ringing and experiencing some different towers when the restrictions are reduced or removed.

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St Edmund's School

My name is Lakeisha Mansfield and I teach Acorns class. In Acorns, we have Nursery and Reception children. When Nursery children start attending school it means that they have a chance to settle into the routine of school life before attending Reception. In effect they almost get two years of Reception!

Each day is often different in Acorns with lots of opportunities to work and play outside. We follow the Development Matters curriculum and work towards our Early Learning Goals. We also follow whole school topics like Great Britain or Extreme Earth.



The Nursery children have a mixture of small group work, one to one activities and opportunities to safely direct their own learning. Often the Nursery children act like little sponges in the classroom environment soaking up all of the

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
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Hoxne early stages team for the last two years. They are a wonderful team and my daughter has come on leaps and bounds in every possible way, but - most importantly - she thoroughly enjoys her time at school and in the class. She always talks about the things they have been doing and what they have learnt. I



What our parents say...

“Both my children really enjoyed the nursery and reception at St Edmunds Primary, Hoxne. The small class sizes enabled my children to have more one to one time with the teaching staff and they both started reception with foundation knowledge in reading and maths. The nursery and reception class have their own small playground where they do lots of fun learning and science activities such as making potions. One of the best things about the class is that the integrated nursery enables your child to have a great introduction to school life from the age of 3 so when they start formally in reception it is a very smooth transition.”

‘My daughter has been with Mrs Mansfield and the

cannot recommend them enough - a brilliant foundation for school life.”

“St Edmunds Primary School, is a wonderful school. All the staff are adored by the children and it’s not hard to see that this is returned to them in bucket loads. A diverse and wide ranging approach to the curriculum ensures that the children are given a balanced and well -rounded education. The children are excited by school and want to be there

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For more information or to book your stay and play session, please contact the school office:
Hoxne: 01379 668283, email: office@hoxne@wypschools.org

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every day, which is a credit to the environment and atmosphere at the school. They come back with stories of the days adventures, together with the fun and varying ways the staff have challenged them in their learning. The teaching staff are so in tune with the children and really bring their education to life. The Children are engaged and enthusiastic about their education and what each day holds. All the teaching staff are wonderful, caring, and focused on making this school great. I'm sure that all schools are seen by the community as a real asset however St Eds is a real hive of happiness, smiles and laughter together with innovative and accessible approaches to education we couldn't ask for more for our children."

**Waveney Valley Partnership
St Edmund's Primary School
01379 668283
waveneyvalleypartnership.org**

Hoxne Phoenix Group

Like many others, the members of Hoxne Phoenix Group are waiting to restart their regular programme as soon as we are able. In anticipation, we held a social afternoon in Viv and



Nigel Bradford's garden on the first sunny day for sometime. About 20 Phoenix members (and some possibly new members) joined together to enjoy a cup of tea and homemade cakes made by members. The clouds rolled over threatening us, but it stayed dry and the two hours went quickly. A programme has been planned up until Christmas and we are now working on 2022.

On **Tuesday 10th August**, we are having a talk by Dr Ian Bedford, entitled "*The trouble WITHOUT wasps*" (for me it is a problem with them!) and then on **Tuesday 14th September** we welcome a volunteer speaker Patrick Mahoney from the National Trust to talk about the Hervey family of Ickworth House.

Going on to **Tuesday 12th October**, we are having a fun evening - Jean Musgrave (one of our talented members) is encouraging us to "*make and take*" - an evening when we all help each other in some form of craftwork. These evenings evoke the best in some people and most of us end up in laughter and, like me, in frustration!

The Phoenix Group is open to ladies, in any village in the locality - its not just Hoxne! We meet in Hoxne Village Hall (lounge) at 7.30 pm. on the **second**

Tuesday of each month. If one particular topic interests you, you are welcome to come along as a Visitor (we charge a Visitor Fee of £2) and you may find you wish to join, or not. If anyone has any queries, please contact me and I will try and answer them! Look forward to seeing members who were not able to come to the Social Afternoon, at our next meeting in August.

**Pat Green (Secretary)
01379 668379
patandbryan1@gmail.com**

Parish Council Reports

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

Denham

Fund-raising efforts continue in order to raise enough cash to bring the Village Hall back to life.

Applications to local organisations have started to bear fruit with a very welcome donation of £2,500 and individual sales of surplus “stuff” have raised a very impressive £600 so far. The village WhatsApp group has been busy and very effective.

The community as a whole really is coming together over this and it’s just about possible to see light at the end of the tunnel. The first target continues to be enough money to get the roof done, because that will basically secure the building for the future. A village get-together on the site on July 17 will also have added to the fund.

We are in detailed talks with the grant-giving team at Mid Suffolk District Council, who are being extremely helpful, as is our individual District Councillor, Matthew Hicks. Our newly elected County Councillor Peter Gould is also working with us.

At the May meeting of the Parish Council Duncan McGregor was co-opted

to fill a vacancy on the council; he is very welcome and existing councillors are looking forward to working with him.

The Quiet Lanes project in the village, progressed in collaboration with Hoxne, has now passed through its public consultation phase without objection and is on track to be formally approved in the near future, following the July Parish Council meeting. Hopefully residents will see the signage appearing along Low Road and Church Road before too long.

But we hope to see residents at the Church for our Parish Council meetings at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 22nd September** and **Wednesday 24th November**.

Hoxne

Footpaths (Public Rights of Way) it is appreciated that during the last difficult year, the PROW have been used more and more as residents walk to take daily exercise and enjoy some fresh air. The responsible authority for the maintenance of PROW is the County Council and they have provided the following update on this season’s cutting programme:

‘Unfortunately, with the combination of warm and wet weather causing a considerable up-tick in growth, Suffolk

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County Council contractors have been delayed a little this year. The growth is simply so thick that they are moving through it at a slower pace. It is anticipated that the contractor cutting Hoxne should be finished by the end of this week (9 July). It is then anticipated that the second round of cutting will start early August. As there will have been one cut this year by then, we are hopeful the second round should be completed within six weeks of starting, so anticipate a finish of mid-September - subject to weather and growing conditions. Please note there are only two cuts per year.'

Information on which PROW are cut can be found on either the County Council or Parish Council website and to report any concerns with the PROW in Hoxne, please visit:

suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/report-a-public-right-of-way-issue

The draft **Neighbourhood Development Plan** is nearing completion and, following the initial rounds of consultation with the village, the plan will be designating sites for development as well as protecting areas of local green space. More details are available at:

hoxneighbourhoodplan.co.uk

Heritage Walk - the Parish Council is currently undertaking a condition audit of the signs that make up the trail through the village. These were first erected in 2010, with accompanying leaflets available from the Church or the dispenser at the Village Hall car park. Many of the signs are now in need to repair or replacement. There will be a cost for this project which the Parish Council will budget for and publicise via meeting agendas, but before embarking on any work, the Parish Council are also keen to seek your views on if the walk should be retained and its value to the village.

The Council - Philip Flagg and Iain Gibson have recently been elected to the Parish Council. There are still vacancies and the Councillors are keen to welcome new members who are interested in their work. There is much to do including development and maintenance of several assets in the village, finalising and delivering a Neighbourhood Development Plan, consideration of traffic calming and responding to planning applications to give the views of the parish to the local planning authority. Please get in touch with the Clerk or speak with one of the existing councillors for more information

Our next meetings are Thursday 5th August and Thursday 2nd September at Hoxne Playing field Pavilion, 7.30pm start.



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Closing Word

Erstwhile Wingfield stalwart Tommy Gee deliberates new education and houses...

Two stories about Eton broke last week. The Minister of Education said he was delighted to see that *Star Academies* which runs 30 Muslim schools in some of the poorest parts of the country started by Hamid Patel (just knighted) would be opening sixth forms under the free schools programme to which Eton would be making a significant and ongoing contribution. These sixth forms would be opened in three schools yet to be selected in deprived parts of the north or west Midlands to admit 240 pupils per annum whose teaching virtually by Eton staff and in-person teacher exchanges is not ruled out and a chance to learn Latin. It will be

focussed on young people on free school meals.

The intention is to blend Eton's educational philosophy and rigorous curriculum with the ethos and approach of *Star Academies*.

Dr Hastings Banda had a similar vision for Malawi. As President he decided to build an Eton in the poor remote north of the country. Banda had lived and worked in Edinburgh as a GP for much of his life and was keen to establish an academy near his birthplace which would educate high fliers who would become loyal servants of him and the state - a *corps d'elite*.

His first appointment was a Housemistress from Eton who would make sure that the boys lived the privileged life of Etonians. The cost was huge for a very poor country and the implications were vast. I sat next to David Kimble, the then University Vice Chancellor at a degree

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ceremony when Banda also announced that Latin and Greek were to be taught there. Kimble was taken aback as Banda had said nothing to him about it. It was part of his pursuit of excellence. I was involved at that time with Tanzanian academics whose topic was the impact of Overseas Education on poor countries.

A recent short paperback memoir by Okwonga Musa related how he, a refugee Ugandan managed to enter Eton, and the challenges he had to face. His mother widowed by the assassin Amin brought him to the UK where she worked as an NHS GP and scrimped and saved to pay his fees there. Eton was set up by Henry VI in 1440 as a charity for 60 poor boys and gave her a 50% rebate - before he left he became a scholar which supported him.

The current aim of Patel (not Priti) and the Provost of Eton is to get poor pupils (boys?) into Russell Universities and Oxbridge.

Back in the 1930s my grammar school appointed a new Head from Oundle with similar ambitions. Today I call it the pursuit of excellence. My school was an early victim of the abolition of the 11+ and a major change in education policy with the closure of many grammar schools, including my own to whom I owed so much. I still subscribe to the pursuit of excellence in education rather than levelling (think Oxford's lead in

making the vaccine). This dichotomy is at the heart of education policy.

Also this week, perhaps a coincidence, it was announced that Eton had a large estate north and close to Lewes in East Sussex which is to be developed under what I call the "new towns" policy yet to go to Parliament, and a kite flyer for the biggest change in planning legislation since the 30s. Its environmental impact will be enormous and protest posters have appeared. The land owner, Eton, already well endowed, may gain even more funds enabling it to make its planned "*significant and ongoing financial contribution*" to these northern academies.

This arms length project may soften public opinion about Eton privilege and please some Asian voters, and side step critics of centralised land planning by Ministers rather than local government. It is early days. The proposed legislation has not yet been published.

Before moving to Wingfield, I helped produce a strategic plan for West Sussex with complete local agreement, but it was rejected by the Minister who sent me a terse letter saying that it was flawed. Is this the shape of things to come? Houses are needed more then ever and have to built somewhere. Who will decide and by what criteria? Us the people, or our Government?

Tommy Gee

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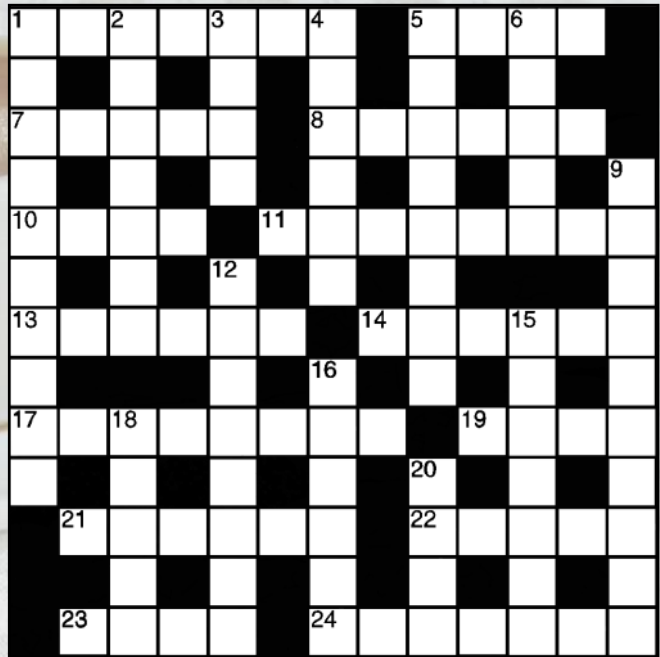
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Crossword Puzzle No. 142

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 September** latest.

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



Across

- 1 Crammed into watertight lycra (7)
- 5 Treaty is reportedly stowed away (4)
- 7 Follow on from open Suez area (5)
- 8 I trod a way skilfully (6)
- 10 Just a lake (4)
- 11 How an optimistic drinker views life (8)
- 13 U.S description of football (6)
- 14 A strut strengthens royal house (6)
- 17 Pre dinner drink suggests dentures (8)
- 19 Sport big in Japan (4)
- 21 Suitable wear for a Pacific atoll (6)
- 22 Doing damage to a wild dog (5)
- 23 Yield to top ranked player I hear (4)
- 24 Lubricates possession of Hellenic country (7)

Down

- 1 Aid to being hot or cold (10)
- 2 Saga strictly refers to stomach in part (7)
- 3 Secured a farm hand's cottage (4)
- 4 Per annum (6)
- 5 Does scrounger live in French capital? (8)
- 6 I join head cook as boss (5)
- 9 Stout lug on very greedy eater (10)
- 12 Define it for certain (8)
- 15 Latin description of college old boy (7)
- 16 On horseback in old part of Yorkshire (6)
- 18 Banish to former French Island (5)
- 20 Lied about being lazy (4)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 141 was: M Hawes, Hoxne

Answers - **Across** 7) Rector 8) Chewed 10) Warfare 11) Tenor 12) Eden 13) Otter 17) Lobby
18) Arms 22) Exact 23) Adviser 24) Corona 25) Dragon

Down 1) Trawler 2) Scarlet 3) Nomad 4) Chutney 5) Swine 6) Adore 9) Vertebrate
14) Content 15) Presage 16) G-String 19) Beach 20) Bairn 21) Overt

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