



Village Voice

DENHAM, HOXNE, SYLEHAM &
WINGFIELD

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2022

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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Email: tgfarrow@btinternet.com
Nick Farrow
Kerina Jane
Duncan McGregor

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Gloria Elsdon (V-C) 01379 668409
David Goodwin
Gerald Lewis 01379 669258
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Robert Pilch 01379 668038
Steven Scott 07780 977518

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V-C Vice Chair
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Diary Dates

Friday 4th February
Open Mic evening SWH p14

Saturday 5th February
Platinum Cafe 10-12am SWH p15

Wednesday 9th February
Nick Black: The Battle of Barking Creek
Brockdish Old School p37

Thursday 10th February
J's Meadow together SW p14

Friday 11th February
Valentine's Karaoke SWH p14

Friday 18th February
Quiz evening SWH p14

Saturday 19th February
Friends' coffee morning, p18
Colin Campbell's Call My Bluff SWH p19

Thursday 24th February
Coffee, craft, chat SWH p14
Inc. gentle exercise session

Friday 25th February
Bingo SWH p14

Sunday 27th February
Robin Twigge, Toastmaster
Brockdish Old School p37

Tuesday 1st March
Pop-Up Pancake Café
Fressingfield Scouts p31

Wednesday 2nd March
Syleham Parish Council SWH p35

Thursday 3rd March
Hoxne Parish Council meeting HVH p35

Friday 4th March
'The Bear' by Anton Chekhov WB p11
Open Mic SWH p14

Saturday 5th March
'Robin Hood', pantomime HVH. p21

Tuesday 8th March
Phoenix: Forensic Scientist HVH p21

Wednesday 9th March
Martha Meek, Waveney River Trust
Brockdish Old School p37

Thursday 10th March
Hoxne Parish Council AGM HVH p34
J's Meadow get together SW p14

Friday 11th March
Karaoke SWH p14

Saturday 12th March
Peter Knight and John Spiers WB p11
'Spring cafe' SWH p14

Sunday 13th March
Friends' Spring lunch p18

Wednesday 16th March
Wingfield Parish Council SWH p36

Friday 18th March
Quiz evening SWH p14

Sunday 20th March
Hoxne litter-picking, St Edmund's Hall
car park 10.00am. P34 & p31

Friday 25th March
Bingo SWH p14

Saturday 26th March
Singer Marc James SWH p14

Sunday 27th March
Janette Robinson: Edith Cavell
Brockdish Old School p37

Thursday 31st March
Coffee, craft, chat SWH p14
Inc. gentle exercise session

Snowdrops at Hoxne Church by Graham Turner

Front Cover:

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HVH St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne
SWH Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall
WB Wingfield Barns

Letters

Changing times at The Voice

I have known and enjoyed our Village Voice for the best part of 40 years now, since it was a single-folded, four-page Parish Newsletter - the creation, I believe, of our much-missed Vicar, John Draper and the lovely John Ball.

Years passed as the magazine grew and developed. Funding, which was initially generated by a few stalwarts of the community putting their hands in their pockets, was gradually assumed by the revenue from a growing band of local advertisers. I for one always look at Village Voice first if I need a local tradesman!

It must be more than ten years now since I took over responsibility for the advertising side of things and I have enjoyed working with a number of Editors - notably Brian Chester then John Langley. Each one had his (yes, all men so far) own style and The Voice changed subtly to reflect that. Of course, the biggest changes (a Giant Leap Forward) came with Richard 'Bones' Whiting. I was sympathetic but very sad when he decided that after five years it was time to step down at the end of 2021. I was very much afraid that we would be closing down.

So I was delighted to hear that Lesley (Balian) is taking over! I wish her all the best and hope she enjoys the adventure. I am looking forward to working with her and our great delivery team under the tireless Sally Dudley.

Dawn Lodge

Noticeboard

Farewell Richard, with a really big thank you for all your hard work as Village Voice Editor.

You made huge improvements to the magazine – colour for the first time, new layout, super-smart finish.

A truly great job, and such good 'Bones structure' for the future.

Wish me luck!

Just a few words from me to say hello, and to thank Richard for all his help.

I have my neighbour Mike to thank for getting me into this. He was delivering December's edition of VV, and said no one had come forward to take over from our Editor, Richard. So rather than let the magazine disappear, I thought I'd volunteer. I do think Village Voice is important to our area, for news about what's going on and also, as Dawn says, for local services.

Our many contributors do a great job, keeping us up-to-date with news from all the clubs, churches, village halls and parish councils. I don't know where we'd be without them.

That said, it would be good to hear more individual voices. We have many accomplished artists and crafters in our area, for example. How about sending in a photo to show us what you're working

on, perhaps with an explanatory paragraph or two. If you would consider selling, include an email address. You never know, might prove lucrative.

Book recommendations would be good – have you read anything lately that you think others would like to hear about?

The history of our villages is always interesting, especially articles with characters from the past. Tommy Gee writes informative articles about Wingfield. Would anyone else be willing to share knowledge about their village's past?

And what are the youngsters doing? All on-line no doubt, and busy studying. But is there something you would like to see included in the magazine? How about sending in a photo of your favourite pet, with perhaps their best and naughtiest traits.

I would just like to mention our advertisers' contribution. They provide the revenue for distribution, so everyone can be in the Village Voice club for free.

I'll now carry on battling with Microsoft Publisher, and hope I can at least approach Richard's production standards.

With best wishes, and hope to hear from you,

Lesley

Syleham Carol Singing

It has become a tradition, and in spite of covid there was an excellent turn-out for carol singing round the village on a cold Tuesday evening, the Winter Solstice! All good fun, and a collection total of £375 by the end of the evening for the East Anglian Children's Hospice.

A big thank you to all involved, and hope to see you again next year.

Adrian and Jane Knott

Christmas Trees

Hoxne Playing Field Committee would like to thank everyone who bought a Christmas Tree from Market House Drive. We made a profit of £1300 which will go towards a new heating system in the Pavilion.

Thank you again, see you on the first Saturday of December 2022!

Carole Smith

Postie Pete's retiring



Our Postie in Hoxne for over 20 years, Peter Knights, is retiring. Thank you so much Pete, it won't be the same without you.

Time to enjoy yourself – hope you'll do some more of your beautiful landscape paintings!



Hoxne

Rising above the parapet

In a few short months the country will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen's Accession to the Throne. An extended bank holiday weekend covering the period **2nd to 5th June** has been set aside for celebrations.

Given a need for some co-ordination of events and given the number of groups within Hoxne and the diverse nature of the activities generated, a few of our number (names below) have set out a framework for events over the four day period. This, it is hoped, will be a basis on which all groups, working individually or together, can help to bring the village together to celebrate our Queen's remarkable period of service to the public.

In Hoxne, starting **Thursday the 2nd June** we would hope to bring together displays in the Village Hall showcasing the reign. A number of groups including the Heritage Group and The Garden Club are looking at this.

On Friday we believe the Playing Fields committee will be instrumental in putting on a family day, as they did in 2012 to mark the Diamond Jubilee. On



Saturday the PCC will organise, as is normal for the time of year, the village Summer Fete. In the evening Stuart Jarrold is planning a dance in the Village Hall.

On Sunday (5th) the Church is planning a special Service. The Village Voices, our village based choir, has offered to sing songs covering the 70 year reign. Time and venue is to be decided. In support of the weekend in Hoxne, the Parish Council have set aside a funding allocation to assist in some of the costs associated with the weekend. The village Hall are content to make the hall available as



necessary and are in full support of such a programme of events.

This is a framework, it is designed to create space and opportunity for all of us in Hoxne to put their ideas forward to any of the village groups, all of which are key to the life of this lovely Village. It is not as yet "set in stone".

Offers of help are requested now to make bunting. There will also be need nearer the time for help with moving stuff around the village, eg the village has quite a number of chairs but they cannot all be in one place at the same time!

A number of us in Hoxne have Old Cars, some are Classics, some are just old! The sight of them all going up to the Playing Fields from [or to!] the Pub, dressed in



the Red, White and Blue is appealing. Is there someone to step forward and arrange it?

One of the difficulties of Covid over the last two years is that newcomers have found it difficult to engage with an otherwise friendly population because of the restrictions placed on us all. The object here is to be inclusive, so if I have missed reference to a particular group my apologies.

I have been asked about tree planting. This is something that is being particularly encouraged by the Queen's representative in Suffolk, her Lord Lieutenant. Hoxne Parish Council are to discuss this at their next meeting on **3rd March** and I am sure would welcome any thoughts on this. The drive towards going green is much in vogue. Tree planting in our own gardens, if that is what you wish, is not ruled out. A total of seventy (trees) seems about right.



If you want to help please contact me.

All good wishes,

Philip Flagg (member of Parish Council, Heritage Group and the Garden Club)

David Hyde (Heritage Group, Bowls Club and PCC)

Chris Parkin (Chair of the Garden Club, Member of Heritage Group and Parish Councillor)

Stuart Jarrold (Member of Playing Field Committee Member of the Heritage Group)



Wilf White (Churchwarden Hoxne Church, Member of the Heritage Group)

Duncan Macgregor (Member of the Playing Fields Committee)

Contact point: flaggphilip@gmail.com



Syleham and Wingfield

Celebration of Queen's Platinum Jubilee

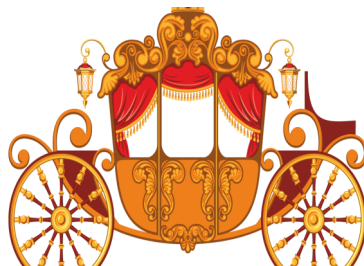
The Parish Councils of Syleham and Wingfield have agreed with the Village Hall Committee to co-ordinate this event.

If you wish to contribute to the planning, please contact your Parish Council or attend the next Council meetings.

Wingfield: March 16th

Syleham: March 2nd

All meetings will take place at the Wingfield & Syleham Village Hall at 7.30pm.



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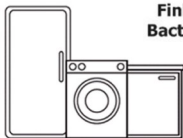
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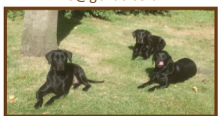
Village Voices Community Choir

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Hoxne Neighbourhood Development Plan



If you live in Hoxne and did not attend the consultation events in January, there is still time to take a look at the Draft Plan and submit your comments. The Regulation 14 Pre-submission draft Neighbourhood Development Plan will close at 5.00 pm on **Wednesday, 23rd February 2022.**

A copy of the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and other supporting documents can be found on the Hoxne Neighbourhood Development Plan website at:

www.hoxneneighbourhoodplan.co.uk
(where you will also find a survey to complete) or via the Parish Council website at: www.hoxne.onesuffolk.net.

Printed copies may also be available for inspection at the following local deposit points: Hoxne Telephone Box Lending Library, Hoxne Swan Public House, Hoxne Post Office Stores and St Peter & St Paul with St Edmund Church, or by request to the Parish Clerk by telephoning 07554 733621. Written representation only should be sent to the Parish Clerk. You can send these by e-mail to pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk or in writing to Hoxne Parish Council, c/o Church Hill, Hoxne, IP21 5AT but these must be received by the above deadline.

Wingfield Barns

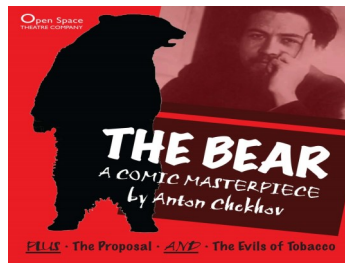
We are easing into 2022 with events from early Spring. All details can be found on the Wingfield Barns website and tickets can be booked online or by phone **01379 384505**.

Friday 4th March, 7.30pm

The Bear

A farce by Anton Chekhov presented by Open Space Theatre Co

A landowner calls on a young widow to request payment for a debt incurred by her late husband. When the money is not handed over, tempers fray with hilarious consequences. This fast-paced drama is a comic masterpiece. This 60-minute show includes two other hilarious comedies, *The Proposal* and *The Evils of Tobacco*.



Tickets £12 Online sales via www.wegottickets.com/event/516732

Saturday 12th March, 7.30pm

Knight and Spiers - Album Launch Tour

In 2016 Peter Knight, legendary violinist and ex-member of folk-rock band Steeleye Span paired with leading melodeon player and ex-Bellowhead member, John Spiers, for a special one-off performance. It bought together two of the most genuinely gifted musicians in their respective fields, playing to a packed audience. With a standing ovation and roars for more, and much to the delight of folk fans everywhere, Knight and Spiers decided not to leave things there, and have since become an established duo on the folk-roots scene.

The pairing of violin and melodeon is not a new one, but in the hands of Knight and Spiers, improvisation and invention meet the listener at every turn. Together they have created a musical document that resonates with history, but also something that should inspire future generations of musicians to engage with Britain's folk dancing heritage, and the beautiful, mysterious tunes that can be found within that heritage.



This tour sees the release of their much anticipated second album.

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

Tickets £18 Book online via www.wegottickets.com/event/528840/



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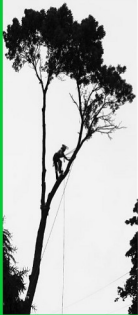
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Red Feather Club

Big 2022 plans for the Museum

Over the past twelve months the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association - Red Feather Club Museum - has seen the re-opening of its doors for the last two open days of our season, thanks to the lifting of COVID restrictions and the fact that the committee deemed it safe for our volunteers.

That said, there has been a hive of activity behind the scenes. We welcomed back to the committee, and our volunteer team, a great asset in Ray Howlett. Our museum in my opinion has never looked so good and this has been due to the efforts of Ray and other team members, who we thank for their time.

This has in turn led to the archiving of the museum, which in time will have digital and paper copies for ease of research and item tracking. Thank you to all who helped on this.

There has been a great deal of maintenance work - the blue room has had a new coat of paint and the gents and ladies toilets a new look. Thank you Reg for your efforts, and those of other volunteers.

Maintenance continues on the grounds with a hard-working team lead by Alan Johnson and Duncan. We have some new volunteers in this area that work well with them and we thank them all.

Looking forward, we are fitting new doors to the building and are looking to instal a CCTV system for the protection of our grounds and buildings.

Events are fundamental to the future of the RFC. Thank you to Linda Woodward and Beverly Abbot for their time and efforts arranging family and group visits.

Thank you also to Andy Garner for the dance and evening event organisation.



Of course, these events are never complete without lubrication from the bar. This has now been stocked by Robin Satwick and volunteers and is ready to go.

We also thank John Kirkum for his continued support on the financial and accountancy side.

Thank you also to the support from Alan Roper, whose family will always have a connection with the RFC.

Lastly, we say thank you for all the support we get from volunteers, for donations here in the Museum and Stateside, and for the advice and friendships built around this organisation - which all help to preserve the future of the history of Station 119.

Provisional dates for events at the Red Feather Club 2022:

Saturday, 23 April	Dance
Sunday, 24 April	Public Open Day
Sunday, 29 May	Public Open Day
Saturday, 25 June	Dance
Sunday, 26 June	Americana Open Day
Sunday, 31 July	Public Open Day
Sunday, 28 Aug	Public Open Day
Saturday, 24 Sept	Dance
Sunday, 25 Sept	Public Open Day
Sunday, 30 Oct	Public Open Day

Scott Bradley, 95th BGHA Chair

Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall IP21 4LT

Syleham and Wingfield village hall has a management committee as well as a sports and social club.

We have several interested people on our committees but would welcome some support from anyone with a finance-based background who could offer some support in researching and applying for grants, and working on plans for financial stability going into the future. Please initially contact Julie, details below.

Syleham and Wingfield Sports and Social club - SWSSC - put on activities and events to raise funds for the management committee to spend on upkeep of the hall. SWSSC also arrange events to raise funds for local charities - Waveney foodbank, Eye Opportunities Group - as well as having their volunteer staff opening the bar each Tuesday and Friday evening from 8pm.

Annual membership of the Sports and Social club remains £3.50 (£3.00 concs). We encourage you to join after a guest visit as this keeps us legal.

Carpet bowls continues on Monday evenings.

On Tuesdays and Fridays there's always darts, board games and pool available.

Tuesdays sees a small group of jive dancers in the Main hall - do come and join them.

There's room to sit and have a drink if you are not taking part in one of the Friday organised activities.

Open Mic on 1st Friday, Karaoke on 2nd Friday and Bingo for a locally nominated charity or good cause on the last Friday.



Quiz evenings on 18th February and 18th March will both start at 8pm so make your way to the village hall from 7.30 onwards. The bar will be open, chocolate and crisps available at the bar or bring your own snacks. Raffle to be drawn. Fiver per person, teams of 4. Contact **John on 07908222428** for details or to book a team.

Recent quiz and bingo evenings have raised funds for East Anglian Air Ambulance and Eye Opportunity Group.

Our J's Meadow get-together continues on the second Thursday of the month - so 10th Feb & 10th March. Drop in between 10 and 12am, bring your own refreshments, come for a quick chat, check on the hedge.

Our good friend Michael Harvey did just that in December and we were pleasantly surprised that of all those tiny plants, we will only need to replace about 25! They seem to have survived the heat of their first summer, the madly-growing weeds and grass that tried to engulf them, and are strong and healthy.

Thank you to all those who have regularly attended to all those little field maple, hawthorn, holly, etc. We are fortunate in being offered some replacements from one of our neighbouring gardeners.

The pedestrian gate at J's Meadow is always open - pop in for a quiet wander or to sit and look at the fantastic view over the Waveney. There's some donated seating, a bounce-back net, frisbees and badminton equipment to enjoy.

Our Open Mic evenings, on the first Friday of the month, offer a friendly place to have a go, bring your own equipment and instruments or use other equipment brought by the MC. Come along and

find out a little about the session, sit and listen to the intriguing line up - and all with free entry (just join the SWSSC, please.)



With the Jubilee celebrations starting we would love you to come along to our 'Platinum Cafe' on **Saturday 5th February** from 10 until 12pm. Enjoy a coffee or tea, a chat, one of our traditional games and a small exhibition of jubilee memorabilia.

All very welcome! Any funds raised will go towards the Syleham and Wingfield jubilee celebrations.

(The present situation makes it impossible to predict whether all activities and events will go ahead)

Friday 4th February
Open Mic

Saturday 5th February
Platinum Cafe 10-12am

Thursday 10th February
J's Meadow get together 10-12am

Friday 11th February
Valentine's Karaoke

Friday 18th February
Quiz evening

Thursday 24th February
Coffee, craft, chat 1.30-3pm

Friday 25th February
Bingo

Friday 4th March
Open Mic

Friday 11th March
Karaoke

Saturday 12th March
'Spring Cafe'

Friday 18th March
Quiz evening

Friday 25th March
Bingo

Saturday 26th March
Singer Marc James

Thursday 31st March
Coffee, craft, chat



Recent quiz and bingo evenings have raised funds for East Anglian Air Ambulance and Eye Opportunity Group.

Visit our website for the latest news:

sylehamandwingfieldhall.org

Julie Thompson

Text 07929 794636

juliethompson435@gmail.com



STOP PRESS - one of our regular activities has an addition! We would like to let you know that our Coffee, Craft and Chat sessions from 1.30 to 3pm on the afternoon of the last Thursday of the month - so 24th Feb & 31st March - will also include gentle chair-based exercise for the first half-hour.

Please do come and join us. There will be a very, very small charge.

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

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)

Please note: Revd Eleanor and Revd John will be away from 21st to 25th March.

Sunday 6th February

Celebration of HM The Queen's accession to the throne

Our church services will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II.

Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer -

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne

11.00 am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield

4.00 pm Messy Church in Syleham Village Hall

Sunday 13th February

Third Sunday before Lent

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield

9.30 am Café Church, Hoxne

Sunday 20th February

Second Sunday before Lent

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne

10.00 am Village Service, Syleham

11.15 am BCP Holy Communion, Horham

6.00 pm Evensong, Zoom

Sunday 27th February

Sunday next before Lent

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Syleham

9.30 am BCP Matins, Hoxne

11.00 am CW Holy Communion, Denham

4.00 pm All-Age service, Hoxne

Wednesday 2nd March

Ash Wednesday

7.30 pm Holy Communion with ashing (venue to be confirmed)



Sunday 6th March

First Sunday of Lent

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne

11.00 am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield

4.00 pm Messy Church, Syleham Village Hall

Sunday 13th March

Second Sunday of Lent

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield

Sunday 20th March

Third Sunday of Lent

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne

10.00 am Village Service, Syleham

11.15 BCP Holy Communion, Horham

6.00 Evensong, Zoom

Sunday 27th March

Mothering Sunday

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion, Syleham

9.30 am BCP Matins, Hoxne

11.00 am CW Holy Communion, Denham

4.00 pm All Age Service, Hoxne

Church News



Love is all around

Love is our theme this Spring, starting with the patriotic love we have for our long-reigning Queen. Although the main celebrations of her 70 years on the throne will be in June, we will be giving thanks on Sunday 6th February, the anniversary of her accession, for her service to us all.

Next comes St Valentine's day, of course, on 14th February, synonymous with lovers - the date when the birds are said to choose their mates. And on 27th March we will be rejoicing in the love we receive or have received from our mothers, or others who have been like mothers to us.

Most of all, though, we will be thinking about the love God shows us in his Son Jesus Christ. The season of Lent begins on 2nd March, six weeks when we prepare ourselves for the commemoration of Jesus's crucifixion on Good Friday and his mighty resurrection from the dead on Easter Day. For

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish but have eternal life". Love indeed!

How can we pass on all this love that we have received? We can be kind, we can be generous and we can show consideration for others in these difficult times. Who do you know who is particularly affected by the stresses on our society caused by Covid 19 or other issues? If you can help them, then love really will be all around.

Revd Eleanor Goodison

St John, Denham

The balmy December weather plummeted to traditional freezing conditions for our carol service on Wednesday 22nd December.

Many thanks to all of you plucky supporters who came and sang around two braziers outside the west door as dusk was falling. We used up all our supply of wood but were able to warm up afterwards drinking mulled wine huddled over the embers. We are reverting to services inside in 2022 with pews cordoned off to ensure a measure of social distancing.

We hope to resume the churchyard maintenance afternoons in the spring. Some of the larger grave sites have become enveloped in ivy to the extent of obliterating the names of those who lie within. There is a balance to be found between maintaining a ecological graveyard and preserving the memorials of former inhabitants of Denham.

We are very grateful to the builders who have been efficient, considerate and left the church tidy and renewed.

*Hilary Castleden
01379 668458*

St Peter & Paul, Hoxne

Club Create

We are hoping to hold another Club Create event for children aged 7+ during half term. If you have any ideas as to what you would like to do, please let Revd Eleanor know.



Lent Book Club

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 2nd March. This year we will be holding a Lent Book Club on Zoom at 7.30 pm on Tuesdays 8th, 15th and 29th March and 5th April. The books we will be discussing are:

Klara and the Sun, by Kazuo Ishiguro
The Promise, by Damon Galgut
Light Perpetual, by Francis Spufford
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,
by C S Lewis

For a Zoom invitation for any of these dates, please contact Revd Eleanor Goodison.

Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday falls on 27th March this year and we will be holding a special All Age service at 4.00 pm at Hoxne church to celebrate. All are welcome to come along and join in.

Debbie Harding
01379 668190
zebrainbexhill@yahoo.co.uk

Mothers' Union

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

Monday, 15 February - Branch meeting
Monday, 15 March - Branch meeting

New members always welcome.
We continue to share regular Newsletters with information from around the diocese and beyond.

Flower Rota

February 6th and 13th
Altar: Cathie McGregor

February 20th and 27th
Altar: Pru Day

The month of March is Lent, when there are no flowers in the church.

There is hand sanitising lotion 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, Branch Leader
01379 668434

The Friends of Hoxne Church

The Friends' coffee mornings at the Church recommenced in August 2021 and have been enjoyed by many. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who have supported us and look forward to seeing you at future coffee mornings.

For those who have not yet attended the coffee mornings, which are generally held on the 3rd Saturday of the month between 9.45am and 11.15am, we endeavour to put up a notice the week before on the village green, Low Street and at the well at the bottom of Nuttery Vale.

The next coffee morning will be on **Saturday 19th February**. Everyone is welcome.

Future fund-raising events include a quiz at the Village Hall and a Spring Lunch.

The Spring lunch will be on **Sunday 13th March at 1pm**. This is a new venture for us. To remain Covid safe, all meals will be served. The main course will be stews and baked potatoes and there will be a variety of sweets. Food will be accompanied by cider. Due to current Covid regulations there will be restrictions on numbers attending, so please book as soon as you can.

Tickets at £12 per head are available from:

**Caroline Abbott on 01379 668359
email: cabbott364@gmail.com**

Regrettably, the planned February quiz has been postponed due to the Covid restrictions. We hope that it will go ahead in May. There will be more details in the next edition of Village Voice.

Deborah Hooker, Secretary

St Margaret, Syleham

Christmas at St Margaret's—a wonderful and well attended Carol Service with grateful thanks to Amici for their evocative renderings of some ancient carols, and to soloist Eve Clifton-Thompson for a lovely 'O Holy Night'.

The church was beautifully decorated as always, including an eye-catching display on the font. Children celebrated with a busy Messy Church session, followed by a 'snowball' fight; and, for older children, a Christmas decorations workshop for Club Create. Both of these were in the Village Hall in Syleham but were for all



the churches in our benefice (group).

We finished the Christmas season with a happy Christingle Service at St Margaret's, with well decorated oranges and a 'scrummy' tea.

Fancy an evening of hilarity? With lots of wine? Book your place for Saturday 19th February, when Colin Campbell will be running another fun session of Call My Bluff (Wine)! at the Village Hall in Syleham. Tables of six are needed: tickets at £20 per person include a hot supper and can be obtained from Colin on darrsville@aol.com or 01379 668306. The event, at 7pm for 7.30pm, is being run in aid of church fabric funds. All enquiries to Colin, please.

St Margaret's remains open daily - visitors comment on the peaceful and welcoming ambience and often say they wish they had discovered it before.

Coffee & Cake is continuing monthly at the Village Hall, on first Tuesdays from 10am - 11.30am. A warm welcome awaits, with free coffee or tea and freshly home-made cakes, in an attractive setting and with table service.

**Contact for all above:
mary.lewis43@icloud.com
01379 669258/07775 732259**



Hoxne Heritage Group

In mid November an enthusiastic party of our members enjoyed a visit to the Waveney Valley Heritage Centre in Brockdish.

This group which is located in the old Primary School building has excellent facilities for the display of local maps, photographs and historical information as well as the storage of artefacts. Much to the delight of several of our members it also features a comprehensive collection of vintage radios, audio devices and communications equipment much of which is in full working order.



As well as being a very social and enjoyable occasion the visit also provided an ideal opportunity for discussion on like-minded subjects and a useful exchange of heritage related information.

With concern about the spread of the new strain of COVID uppermost in people's minds our annual Christmas Party still went ahead in the Village Hall on December 9th. Inevitably this was a low key event but it was nonetheless enjoyed by all who were able to be present.

At the time of writing our next event will be on January 25th in the Village Hall when Ivan Bunn will be giving an illustrated talk on the history of the Lowestoft Fishing Industry. This will be a ticket only event, £4.00 for members and £5.00 for non-members. Sadly COVID is still very much with us and should we need to make any last minutes changes to this we will endeavour to let everyone know in good time.

David Hyde
www.hoxnehistory.org.uk
Margaret Sillis, Secretary
margaret.sillis@btinternet.com

Hoxne Village Hall

We are pleased to say that our showing of The Last Bus on Friday 10 December was a sell out! Maybe it was the free arrival of drink and mince pies that brought people out! Booking in advance worked well so we could put out the right number of chairs that could be spaced and we will do the same system next film.

We hope that might be Friday 11 February, although at time of writing we are not certain as Covid cases are still rising. Maybe we will wait until 11 March. Look out for posters around the village and in the Post Office.

Sadly Lisa has decided not to carry on with the monthly Hoxne Craft and Produce Markets and café. Her organic vegetable business is expanding and not leaving her time to run a craft market as well. We thank her for using the Hall and wish her well.

There was a Friends of the Church Quiz planned for the end of February, however due to uncertainty with Covid this has been postponed and hopefully can go ahead in May.

The Hall has been reserved for the Queen's Jubilee Celebration weekend in June and no doubt there will be more information about this throughout the magazine or in due course.

Covid allowing, we have Puzzlehouse Pantomime booked on 5 March. **Robin Hood**. Bookings strictly in advance only - for more details please contact **Roy Preston** on **01379 384656**.

If you would like to discuss a potential event please contact us, details below. We are sorry the website is currently not available - the host is changing which seems to have caused us problems!

hoxnevbookings@outlook.com
Phone Sharon on 07876 215269
www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk

Hoxne Phoenix Group

Unfortunately our December meeting had to be cancelled due to Covid but we hope to carry on this year with no hindrances!

We met in January with masks and socially distanced for our talk from Georgette Vale on 3D Flowers. This was also our 14th birthday so we had a small celebration after! As this article had to be in before our meeting a fuller report on it will follow in the next edition.

At our meeting on March 8 we will welcome Mary Newton to us once again. She was a Forensic Scientist and will talk to us again about some of the cases she dealt with. Our A.G.M. will also take place that evening, but hopefully it will be a short affair!

Looking forward - on 12 April we have Norma Howell coming to speak on the work of Medical Detection Dogs. For ten years these dogs have been trained to detect certain illnesses such as cancer, diabetes and we are given to understand they are working on the training for Covid. We hope, all being well to have a fundraising event later in the year to donate to this worthwhile cause.

We have planned a full programme for 2022 but just hope we can carry through with it - but who knows!

We have had several new members recently which is encouraging. If you are interested we meet on the **second Tuesday of each month** in Hoxne Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Members come from most of the surrounding villages so don't feel you cannot come if you live somewhere other than Hoxne.

Please contact me if you would like to know more.

Pat Green
patandbryan1@gmail.com
01379 668379

FINAL CALL

to save

HOXNE MUSIC FESTIVAL

After more than a decade of organising top-quality musical events and concerts, the curtain will come down on Hoxne Music Festival activities in June.

A final farewell event is being scheduled to coincide with the Jubilee celebrations on Saturday June 4th at Hoxne village hall.

Because of the pandemic there has been no weekend festival - usually held in May - for the past two years. Before that the original committee announced they would like to stand down and allow new people to take the festival on. But an insufficient number of people came forward.

However with an influx of newcomers to the Hoxne area in recent times, former HMF chairman Stuart Jarrold wonders if the festival could be revived.

"It would be nice to think new people with fresh ideas might be prepared to take over, rather than have what was a highly regarded festival sink without trace," he commented.

Anyone who might be interested can find out more by emailing

stuartjarroldassociates@gmail.com

Details of the final concert on June 4th will appear in the April/May issue of Village Voice.





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I keep seeing on the news that my bills could be going up soon. It's making me really worried, especially as I spent more on Christmas than I should have done. How can I get my spending habits back on track in 2022?

A lot of people will be asking themselves this question right now. The good news is there are lots of things you can do to be more in control of your money and better prepared for the future.

Firstly, find out exactly what money you have coming in and going out each month. Be realistic about what you need for essentials like food and travel. Then you can set yourself a budget that you can stick to - take a look at the budgeting tool on the National Citizens Advice website to help you do this. This can be found at citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/budgeting.

If any of your bills do go up in the coming year, you can go back to our budgeting tool anytime to create a new plan and stay in control. The website also has tips on how to reduce your regular living costs which you may be helpful if you find you have more money going out than coming in at any point.

If you've been using credit cards, your overdraft or store cards for your spending, it's understandable if these debts are causing you worry. It's important to prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council Tax. Not paying these has the most serious consequences. If you need further support on this, our advisors can explain which bills you need to prioritise and the support available for paying these and other bills. We can also make sure you're getting all the income you're entitled to, such as benefits or government grants.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at mid-suffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

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Hoxne Garden and Social Club

So, here we are in 2022 and still the virus is with us albeit mainly as a different variant and perhaps less devastating in its effects. Let us hope we can beat this thing and so stay sane. We must carry on and I think most people have a similar attitude. The fact that our village hall is still open for business is a good example of this. Our Club is also still open for business, and by the time you read this we will have had our first meeting of 2022 when we were introduced to the world of fuchsias by Kristopher Harper. Regulations at the village hall have tightened up as a result of the pandemic so we all had to wear masks which does interfere with conversation. However it is a small price to pay for being allowed to carry on with our club meetings.

In February we have our very own thatcher Graham Borrell giving a talk on his trade and hopefully giving us an insight into the complexities of using straw or reed to roof a house and make it watertight. Knowing Graham I can guarantee that it will be a very entertaining evening.

In March we have Darren Lerigo who has promised to give a talk on 'What to Do With My Space'. Hopefully this might inspire us to look at our gardens and see where we might make changes for the better. I believe there will be a particular emphasis on small gardens which in my view can be more of a challenge than planning and cultivating a larger garden. The talk will then be followed by our much delayed AGM.



If any of these talks interest you then please come along to our monthly meetings which always take place on the third Thursday evening of every month at 7.30p in the village hall. Don't forget to wear a mask!



Chris Parkin

Suffolk Libraries – Mobile Library Routes

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

Next stops: **10th February and 10th March**

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: **18th February and 18th March**

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

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



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New Reeding Woods Group

The woods are now in their winter guise with bare branches standing out against the winter sky. This shows the different forms of the tree growth clearly;

the oaks with branches that grow in bursts and turns whilst the ash has a slender form with trailing branches.



The fallen leaves are dusted with frost on cold mornings with a thin covering of ice on the pond. In the winter sun the woodland is peaceful and restorative.

Trees can still be identified in winter although deciduous trees will have shed their leaves. The tree will show its characteristic shape and branch form clearly. Further clues are given by thorns,



catkins, bark and fallen leaves.

A good guide can be found on Tree-guide.co.uk.

Up in the canopy it is now easier to see a squirrel drey. These look like a messy clump of twigs, moss, grass and leaves built close to the trunk or in the fork of a branch for support. Bird nests tend to be closer to the top of the tree or further out along the branches.



As the days lengthen signs of spring will appear. In the current winter days the hazel catkins show that quietly nature is stirring.

We hope that in 2022 we will be able to enjoy events and meetings at the woods once more. In the meantime 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:

Peny Conway on 07495 875299



Boxing Day tug-of-war, Hoxne



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Fressingfield Scouts

The Christmas and New Year break is a good opportunity to look back on everything we have achieved during the year. A year ago we were in lockdown and meeting online again having only been able to meet outdoors for a few months and the new HQ building seemed to be forever on the horizon but never to materialise.

This year we have a fantastic new HQ with wonderful facilities and we have been meeting inside and getting on with Scouting. The fundraising needed to run and maintain the building will be hard work but the position is a huge improvement on last year!

There is still much to do to complete the work. The first project is the kitchen where we have obtained a grant and been given a bequest that is being utilised to equip the kitchen with commercial quality fittings, some new and some second-hand. Outside construction of the air rifle shooting range has begun with the building of the clay wall as a back stop, this has been part funded by Hoxne Parish Council. Thank you to them. The design of the wooden shooting stand for the other end of the range is well advanced and Sport England are providing a grant towards that. We are very grateful to both these organisations. The design and estimates for the lighting are in hand and we will then be seeking help with funding for that from other organisations.

On Remembrance Sunday most of our members attended the Service and Parade in Fressingfield and there were smaller contingents in Laxfield and Hoxne. Afterwards we had an open afternoon with barbeque, refreshments and bar at the new HQ attended by members, parents, the District Commissioner, former members and well-wishers. The "Scout of the Year" tro-

phies were presented to all sections, some Chief Scout Commendations and a Woodbeads Leader qualifications were presented to Leaders. Everyone was very complimentary of our new facilities.

A couple of weeks later we had a Craft Fair which was well attended and money for Group funds. Again, the visitors were



impressed. Thank you to everyone that came and contributed to our fundraising.

Tiger Cubs have been focusing on First Aid and all achieved their badges, and have looked at cycles and cycling, learning about maintenance and road safety. The Wolf Cubs have looked at maps, symbols and map reading skills.

Explorers went on a night incident hike and used radios to communicate and Scouts have been working on Hobbies badge and their stalls for the Craft Fair.

Cont.

University of the Third Age

Harleston & District u3a will be hosting a talk by The Humanimal Trust on **Wednesday 16 February** at 2.00pm, entitled 'One Medicine'. The Humanimal Trust drives collaboration between vets, doctors and researchers so that all humans and animals benefit from equal and sustainable medical progress.

In view of the current Covid situation this talk will be either online or at St John's Church, Harleston.

For confirmation please visit our website: u3asites.org.uk/harleston or by contacting Kim Poulton on 01986 788149.

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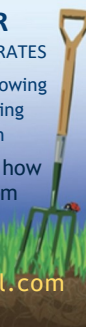
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Cont.

The various section Leader Teams have been busy planning evening sessions and outdoor activities for the New Year. We try to get the Young People involved by running short activities where they give us feedback on what they have been doing over the recent months and they suggest things that they would like to try, which we then do our best to accommodate. We have badge work, cooking, team building, short hikes, games



sessions, personal development, challenge evenings, skills training and equipment-checking until Easter.

Camps, camp cooking sessions, expeditions, joint activities with other sections and climbing are all being planned for later in the term and during the Easter break.

As it was a mainly outdoor activity the fund-raising Santa Run went ahead on the Saturday before Christmas. We were

really pleased with the turn out and we have raised around £1500 (with Gift Aid) for Group funds. Thank you to everyone that supported us.

The Group Executive have also been running cake stalls at the Hoxne Craft and Produce Market but unfortunately, this market is not continuing into 2022.

There will be many different events put on by the Executive, the Sections and the Leaders over the coming year, please support us where and when you can. The first of these to be announced (Covid restrictions permitting) is the **Pop Up Pancake Café** being arranged by the Pioneer Troop in the new HQ on **Shrove Tuesday March 1st**, fuller details will be on our website and Facebook nearer the time probably 7.20 to 8.30pm.

Pioneer Troop Scouts and Tiger Cubs both met in Hoxne during the period when we had to meet outside and couldn't access our site because of building work. They will be supporting the **Hoxne Litter Pick on Sunday 20th March**.

We have produced a video review of the Scout Group in 2021. It is available to view at: <https://youtu.be/X3jWVK4XgFw>

Please have a look to see what we have been doing.

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

<http://www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk>

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Hoxne Christmas tree display

This year with less COVID restrictions in existence than previously, planning for the Annual Festival of Christmas Trees in the church was a more orderly affair. As a consequence, we were able to have twelve trees trimmed with white lights ready for the Carol Service on December 21st and a full array of twenty-six trees trimmed and themed for the Christmas period between December 24th and 27th.



As always, we are indebted to the tree team who work so

hard before the event to prepare the church and ready the displays. Also our thanks go out to everyone from the village who continue to support us and without whom the event would not be possible.

Finally, special thanks to Rhona Bertie who has been the inspiration for the displays in recent years and who is now standing down. Ann Swann has very kindly agreed to take over from Rhona for next year.

Hoxne Bell Ringers

We have been ringing regularly at Oakley on Tuesday nights and we rang for their carol service. We also rung for a wedding at Brome and funeral at Oakley.

The Hoxne restoration is still waiting for a faculty (permission from the diocese) to move the organ and finish the St Edmunds chapel. Over this New Year we had a surprise offer of a free donation of a complete set of eight bells. This was made by the Keltec Trust which is a charity dedicated to re-purposing used church bells in order to maintaining full circle ringing with the best bells possible. This is an extremely generous offer and will be discussed by the Parochial Church Council soon.



We are going to start teaching some more bell ringers shortly so if you would like to join a friendly group for gentle exercise of both body and brain and learn an absorbing, traditional craft please contact me.

Andrew Castleden
fal@castleden.co.uk

01379 668 458, 07931



Santa's elves delivering presents in Hoxne on Christmas Eve

Parish Council Reports

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

Hoxne

At the January meeting, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Chris Parkin of Low Street to the Parish Council. One vacancy remains on the Council. If you are interested in finding out more please contact the Clerk or one of the current Councillors.

The Council considered the budget for the forthcoming financial year commencing 1 April 2022, and it was agreed to lower the precept request for this year to £14,000. Therefore, households will see a decrease in the contribution of the council tax they pay that goes to the Parish Council. This decision was made after consideration of a detailed budget for the forthcoming year, the council's statutory obligations, the level of reserves currently held and the noting that the Council is due to receive Community Infrastructure Levy from developments currently taking place in the village.

HM Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee - June 2022 and the Queen's Green Canopy Tree Planting – The Parish Council has agreed to make money available to established groups in the

village to support plans for events over the extended Jubilee celebration weekend (2nd to 5th June 2022). The Parish Council will welcome applications for payments from the allocated £1200 fund as well as hearing of ideas for village celebrations. It is now imperative that plans are taken forward and progressed to deliver events in the village in this commemorative year.

The Parish Council is also keen to plant trees in the village as part of The Queen's Green Canopy initiative. If you would like to be involved with the planting scheme and future maintenance of these trees, please do contact the Parish Council.

Annual Parish Meeting – This annual assembly of the village will take place on **Thursday 10th March 2022** in St Edmund's Hall. Before the meeting starts at 7.00 pm, there will be an opportunity from 6.30 pm to visit tables from a range of village organisations and clubs and find out more about all that our village has to offer. If you represent an organisation or club in the village and would like to book an exhibition table, please contact the Parish Council to make a reservation.

Village Spring Clean – This annual event is scheduled for **Sunday 20 March** with willing volunteers requested to congregate at the St Edmund's Hall car park from 10.00 am.

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Meeting Dates:

7.30 pm Thursday 3rd March. Annual Parish Meeting (as detailed above) From 6.30 pm (meeting proper begins at 7.00 pm)

Thursday 10th March both at St Edmund's Hall.

Syleham



A happy New Year to all Syleham residents. Welcome to 2022, a year of further planned improvements for the village.

Despite the Covid restrictions the Parish Council met five times in 2021, on-line and in the Village Hall and achieved:

- Re-establishment of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
- Installation of dog bins
- Acquisition of the speed sign for exclusive use in Syleham
- A Flood Prevention Plan
- Funding of a free taxi service to vaccination centres

We thank all those involved in these initiatives, particularly Malcom Flounders, our chairman, who works tirelessly for the village.

When the Council last met on December 1st it discussed:

- Opening up a dialogue with the Village Hall Committee and how we can work together in the future. Specifically, how we can help in the development of J's Meadow as a recreational centre and planning celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June (See

separate announcement in this issue of Village Voice)

- A Footpath Refurbishment Plan. This will start with a comprehensive survey alongside a discussion with Suffolk County Council's Rights of Way Department to rectify any problems identified.

We will also be in contact with funding agencies to source any monies required.

We target Spring as the publication date for the Draft Plan on the Syleham PC website. We encourage all residents and landowners to read it and contribute to its final version.

Our next meeting takes place on **March 2nd** at the Village Hall. An agenda will be posted on the noticeboard. Please come along.

Malcolm Flounders, Chairman.

Wingfield



A very Happy New Year to all Wingfield residents. We hope that when you read this you have all been vaccinated and are starting to live a more normal life despite Covid.

At the last Parish Council meeting on November 12th, pre-Omicron, we discussed more "normal" matters involving everyday life in the village:

- The state of our roads, particularly Low Road
- The overhanging trees that cause traffic to drive in the centre of roads
- Emptying the newly installed dog bins that have proved to be so *popular*
- Training in the use of our new defibrillator

Cont.

Cont.

- Alternative usage of the telephone box beyond housing the annual Christmas tree
- A new friendlier speed sign that will encourage drivers to slow down when entering the village
- Repair of the road sign at the junction of Church Road and Earsham Street
- A return to the Village Hall for Parish Council meetings in the “winter”

It is the job of the Parish Council to make these improvements and repairs but in some areas we need the cooperation of residents. Particularly ditches that need to be cleared, cutting hedges and trees blocking the roads and ideas for alternative uses of the phone box. Please get involved with making Wingfield an even better place to live.

The very best expression of a better future will be the celebration of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June this year. Please see the announcement in this issue of Village Voice.

Our next meeting takes place on **March 16th** at the Village Hall. An agenda will be posted on the noticeboard. Please come along with your ideas.

Lee Smith, Chairman

BROCKDISH *newsletter*

Waveney Heritage at the Old School, Brockdish

First the good news: we’ve now booked nearly all our speakers through to the end of July, Covid permitting of course!

AND – Bex Cross working for Norfolk

Wildlife Trust, ably assisted by hard-working local volunteers, has cleared some of the brambles and blackthorn blocking the footpath over the stretch of common which runs up from our drive, along Grove Road, laying woodchip to help with water absorption and thereby reducing the run-off which has been eroding the bank adjacent to the road and flooding the road itself. They were delighted to encounter two walkers keen to try it out, just as they had finished!

At the north end of the common is the woody copse where there were once nightingales. I heard one in about 1996 but not since. Some of the villagers who used to live on Grove Road remember lying in bed with the windows open, listening to them singing. If only we could hear them again. I think the Wildlife Trust are intending to preserve the area of scrub at the north end of the common where they used to sing, so let’s hope!

We had to cancel our two January events because of the uncertainties re Covid but have high hopes that we’ll be able to continue with our February bookings and the events we are planning during the summer. I think you can find a list of talks booked elsewhere in the magazine.

Events will include a craft fair, an open day, including the marvellous radio technology museum and of course exhibits from our own archive, to say nothing of a barbecue/garden party and, I hope, an exhibition of the work completed by the groups who rent our studio space.

We also have a table-tennis club which meets on Tuesday evenings.



If you fancy taking part in any of this, just give me a ring on 01379 668279 for more information.

I'm also hoping that Bex might give us a talk and maybe a walk on the restored piece of common and also introduce us to the other piece of common just off Common Lane, where they have already done a magnificent job.

So, lots to look forward to. Look out for notices around the village or visit our website, waveneyheritage.com.

We look forward to seeing you!

Weds 9th February Nick Black: The Battle of Barking Creek. About an aircraft collision between two RAF planes in 1939, resulting in the more rapid development of radar.

Sun 27th February Robin Twigge: owner of the Swan Hotel in Harleston on his career as a Toast Master - suitably dressed, we hope!

Weds 9th March Martha Meek: Waveney River Trust. Continuing work on dealing with pollution in the river and work to provide solutions.

Sun 27th March Janette Robinson: Edith Cavell

Weds 6th April Richard Griffin: Hoxne. Harriet Pentney "The Angel of Hoxne"

Sun 24th April Stephen Poulter: Memories of an auctioneer (?)

Weds 4th May Steve Bell: A little history of Flixton Aviation Museum

Sun 22nd May TBA

Wed 8th June TBA

Sun 26th June TBA

Phone **Mary at 01379 668279** or email **marygthompson@aol.com** for more details.

We will be maintaining social distancing, wearing of masks and good ventilation as always. Drinks and home-made cakes always on hand!

*From erstwhile Wingfield resident,
Tommy Gee*

"Workaway" carers

When my wife Anne died 12 years ago, my daughter discovered a website called Workaway which identified carers and matched them with people in need of care. The programme had 20,000 hosts and 40,000 guests. It was not a dating agency - references were needed. I said I needed a driver/companion and not a wife! The essential requirement was the provision of accommodation by the host for a traveller in need.

My daughter Sarah chose the first two Workaway carers and then left selection to me. The first was an elderly builder from France and he helped with providing shelving to accommodate my books.

His successor was a Classics graduate from Edinburgh who took over the shelving work, and also planted trees. She moved on to a job with TUI, in the Med.

One came over from the Hague by ferry and could not adjust to driving on the left-hand side of the road!

The most superb Workaway came from Brazil, a civil servant lawyer from Minhas Gearais who invited me to stay with her in Belo Horizonte and took leave to show me this remarkable country and meet her family.

When I no longer had Abbey Cottage as a base for Workaway, I went to live with my daughter in Sussex in a granny flat. As yet, there is no plan for community care - a market solution may not be affordable!

Tommy Gee

Note: Wingfield Church held a Millennium concert, covering its 500-year history, with a brochure entitled "Wingfield Blue". Do you still have a copy? If so, could Tommy have a photocopy, please?

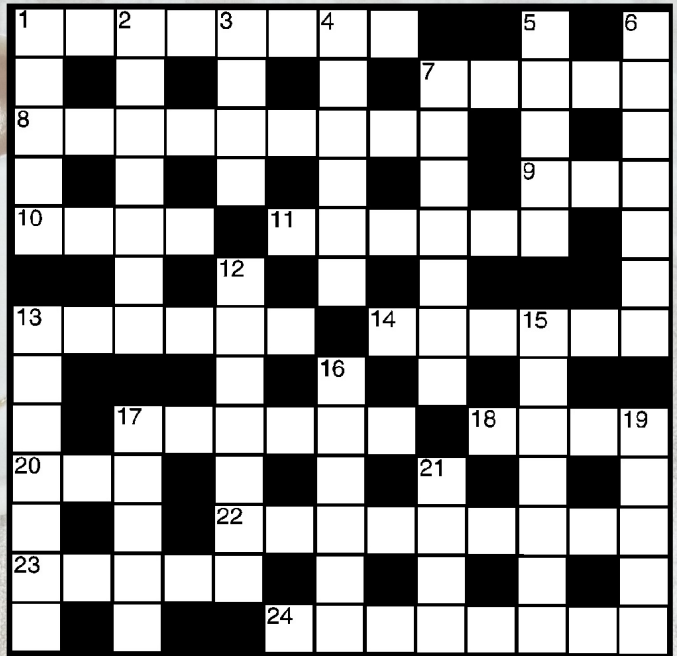
Ed.

Crossword

Puzzle No. 145

To enter the crossword competition, send* your solution to the editor for a chance to win £10. The winner will be the first correct entry picked at random from those received by **Tuesday 8th March** latest.

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



Across

- 1 Bribe with a tennis shot (8)
- 7 Sounds as if a Scottish river just missed a medal (5)
- 8 Reform rep to be an actor (9)
- 9 Quiet parent (3)
- 10 Avid but confused singer (4)
- 11 Gratuity containing vase for a vegetable (6)
- 13 Frank is sugar coated I hear (6)
- 14 Changeable finger of fate (6)
- 17 Minor highway overseas? (6)
- 18 Use front of boat to stop progress (4)
- 20 Short measure at back of boat (3)
- 22 Both later became confused about engagement (9)
- 23 The best of the best (5)
- 24 Unwilling guest of her majesty (8)

Down

- 1 Two footed (5)
- 2 Mobile holiday home moving across a desert (7)
- 3 On which to hang a pirate (4)
- 4 Denim bustier conceals a cloud (6)
- 5 Muscular spasm to spoil one's style (5)
- 6 Digital protection (7)
- 7 Frenzied behaviour in craft (7)
- 12 Confused brides hide nothing when they undress (7)
- 13 Liza Minnelli's floor show (7)
- 15 No place for those who dislike heat (7)
- 16 Bandage from Barnet (6)
- 17 Place for the high life (5)
- 19 Broken tooth is ethical (5)
- 21 Behold a ship - too late it has gone (4)

The winner of crossword puzzle no. 144 was: **B. Chester**

Answers - **Across** 7) Cutter 8) Figure 10) Upright 11) Iraqi 12) Reef 13) Pique 17) Scope
 18) Coma 22) Toast 23) Apostle 24) Rusted 25) Manner
Down 1) Acquire 2) Starter 3) Hedge 4) Minimum 5) Mural 6) Begin 9) Ethiopian 14) Scatter
 15) Fortune 16) Madeira 19) Stern 20) Waist 21) Nomad

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EDITOR

Lesley Balian

Blackberry Cottage, Cross Street, Hoxne IP21 5AH

Tel: 01379 669221

E-mail: vsuffolk@live.co.uk Website: vsuffolk.co.uk

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

DEADLINES

Issue	Copy Date
April/May	8th March
June/July	8th May
August/September	8th July
October/November	8th September
December/January 23	8th November
February / March	8th January 23

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